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Presents:

The Interpretive Mode of Knowing
Based on Thomas Kuhn’s
*Structures of Scientific Revolutions*

Thursday, September 20th
Liberal Arts Building, Room 114
3:45 – 5:00 pm

In two previous colloquia, I have presented the basic concepts and structures of two other modes and methods of knowing. These were the juridic and empirical modes. In this colloquium I will present basic concepts of the interpretive mode based on Kuhn’s momentous and much discussed book *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. Kuhn takes the position that knowledge is generated first and foremost by interpretive schemes, which he calls paradigms. Secondarily, the getting of knowledge is based on observations and the collecting of facts. His point of view is antithetical to the empirical mode, which places facts before theories. I have recast and expanded some of the main theses in his account of scientific revolutions, and my lecture includes some of his criticisms of empiricism. I myself employ the interpretive mode in my philosophic work, and I very much admire and accept Kuhn’s exposition of this mode as it is used in science.

For more information, please contact the Philosophy Department at 523-2648.