

SINTA and ICS | Public Lecture

Ethics, Politics, and Epistemology of Care

1 December 2025 | online

Prof. Dr. Vrinda Dalmiya



Ethics, Politics, and Epistemology of Care

with Prof. Dr. Vrinda Dalmiya

professor in the Philosophy Department at the University of Hawai'i,
Mānoa

When?

Mon, 1 December 25

19.15–20.45 CEST

via Zoom

Registration

To receive the Zoom link,
please register by email:

hannah.ambuehl@unibe.ch

This lecture traces how feminist care ethics—rooted in the recognition of shared bodily fragility—must be expanded to include what can be called epistemic vulnerability: the openness to being cognitively undone. Care, understood as an in-time embodied practice, unfolds under conditions of uncertainty, producing an 'emergent normativity'—an 'ought' that is shaped through ethical encounter and cannot be prescribed in advance. This challenges conventional belief-desire models of action, inviting alternative accounts of the rationality of acts of care. A theory of knowing built on such caring practice, decenters the quest for certainty and embraces not-knowing in various ways. Could such epistemological shifts loop back to re-theorize fundamental care-concepts beyond their Eurocentric articulations? How might an epistemology reimagined in this way, open up new horizons for thinking, making, and being together in more-than-human worlds?



Vrinda Dalmiya is a professor in the Philosophy Department at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa. She has been a Fellow at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla in India. Her research interests are in analytic feminist theory with a focus on care ethics, feminist epistemology, environment and gender, and comparative philosophy. She is the author of several articles in these areas, the author of the monograph, *Caring to Know: Comparative Care Ethics, Feminist Epistemology, and the Mahābhārata* (2016), and co-editor of *Exploring Agency in the Mahābhārata: Ethical and Political Dimensions of Dharma* (2018).



SINTA

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