Department of History and Philosophy of Science
University of Lisbon
Integrated History and Philosophy of Science
Instructor: Theodore Arabatzis (e-mail: tarabatz@phs.uoa.gr)
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DESCRIPTION
How are history and philosophy of science related to each other? How can historical studies of science be brought to bear on the philosophical interpretation of scientific practice? Conversely, how can philosophical reflection on science enrich the historical understanding of scientific development? In this short course we will discuss these questions and examine various ways of blending history and philosophy of science (HPS). We will first review the debate on the “marriage” between history and philosophy of science. Then we will discuss some attempts to practice HPS, from the 1970s to the 2000s. Our focus will be on particular topics that call for an integrated HPS approach, such as the dynamics of theory change, the structure of scientific discovery, and the autonomy of experimentation. Our main aim will be to identify the merits and difficulties of integrating HPS.

SCHEDULE
Introduction: an overview of the history of HPS

Topic 1: The rationality of scientific change
- Tuesday, 23 September: Lakatos 1976; Musgrave 1976, Kuhn 1980

Topic 2: The structure of scientific discovery

Topic 3: The history and philosophy of experimentation

The current state of play: the prospects of philosophical history of science
- Friday, 26 September: Giere 2011, Golinski 2011, Chang 2011

READINGS


