PhD Thesis Project Offer

(valid during the calendar year 2025)

Provisional Title of the Doctoral Thesis

Essentialism within the biological framework

Subject area* / Research line

Humanities / Philosophy of science / Metaphysics / Philosophy of Biology

Summary of the Doctoral Thesis (maximum 300 words)

Generally, the notion of 'essence' has been characterized as referring to necessary and sufficient properties that characterize an entity. This essentialist thinking, although also prevalent within the biological framework during some decades of the 20th century, has currently been put into question due to the acknowledgement of the changeable nature of organisms (e.g., evolving, developing…), that can manifest completely different properties at different stages of their development. The goal of this thesis consists of exploring the way in which essentialism can play a role within the biological framework, maybe reconsidering the notion of the essence, or accepting that, in fact, the biological world is full of processes, and the notion of essence is not able to play a role in it.

Is the development of this thesis associated with the execution of any research project? If so, provide details of the project (title, funding entity, and execution period)

This dissertation will be included within the project "Metaphysics of Biology: Processes and Dispositions" and related with the work performed within the research group BioKoinos.

Academic Profile of the Student (maximum 200 words)

Philosopher with interests in the philosophy of science, metaphysics and philosophy of biology

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*See the Subject Areas at https://www.urjc.es/informacion-practica#oferta-proyectos-de-tesis. **Each project will be included in a single subject area.**