

# How Sciences End, University of Oxford, 11-12 July 2025

July 11: Radcliffe Humanities Building, Woodstock Road

## Morning Sessions

**Welcome (Coffee/Tea/Refreshments)** 9.00–9.30

**Mind, Body, Soul** 9.30–11.00

Chair: Ludmilla Jordanova

**Grace Whorrall-Campbell (University of Oxford)** 9.30–10.00

*The Rise and Fall of Organisational Psychoanalysis: The Tavistock Institute of Human Relations in Mid-Twentieth-Century Britain*

**Rakel Gunnemark (University of Gothenberg)** 10.00–10.30

*The Seismograph of the Soul: The Decline of Graphology at the End of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*

**Yoav Beirach (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science)** 10.30–11.00

*On Perception, Mathematical Violence, and the Afterlife of Sciences: Did the 17th Century European 'Science of Music' Really Come to an End?*

**Break** 11.00–11.30

**Ends of Sciences in Conversation 1** 11.30–12.50

Chair: Alex Aylward

Scientific Atheism 11.30–12.10

**Katarzyna Jarosz (University of Wrocław)**

*The Soviet War on Faith: The Rise and Decline of Scientific Atheism*

**Eva Guigo-Patzeltz (EHESS/CNRS Paris)**

*'Marxist-Leninist religious science', or How to Pass on Scientific Atheism beyond the Collapse of Real Socialism*

Classifying People 12.10–12.50

**John Shepherd (Durham University)**

*Trying to End Lombrosian Criminology in the United States*

**Charlotte Dewarumez (Université Toulouse Jean-Jaurès)**

*Did Physiognomy Disappear?: Anthropology and the Idea of Beauty in the Late 19th Century*

**Lunch** 12.50–14.00

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## Afternoon Sessions

<b>Physics</b> Chair: Joe Martin	14.00–15.30
<b>Hiroto Kono (National Museum of Nature and Science, Japan)</b> <i>New Practices from a Dissolved Tradition: The Rise and Fall of ‘Terada Physics’ in Early 20th Century Japan</i>	14.00–14.30
<b>Jaume Navarro (University of the Basque Country)</b> <i>The End of Aether Physics: Historiographical Perspectives</i>	14.30–15.00
<b>Arne Schirrmacher (Humboldt University of Berlin)</b> <i>The End of Naturforschung?: Philipp Lenard’s Plea Not to Become a Scientist</i>	15.00–15.30
<b>Break</b>	15.30–15.45
<b>Astronomy and Astral Science in India</b> Chair: Michelle Pfeffer	15.45–16.45
<b>Shaan Kashyap (Ravenshaw University)</b> <i>The End of Siddhānta Astronomy: Text and Apparatuses of a Naked Eye Indian Astronomer</i>	15.45–16.15
<b>S. Prashant Kumar (University of Chicago/NCBS Bengaluru)</b> <i>Seeing as Believing: Observation and Evidence in Jyotihśāstra, 1837–1903</i>	16.15–16.45
<b>Break</b>	16.45–19.00
<b>Conference Dinner</b> Location: Linacre College, St. Cross Road	19:00

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July 12: Faculty of History, George Street

## *Morning Sessions*

**Early Modern Ends** 9.00–10.30  
Chair: Michelle Pfeffer

**Xinyi Wen (University of Cambridge)** 9.00–9.30  
*Beyond the Invention of Tradition: A Reversed History of the Doctrine of Signatures*

**Rodolfo Garau (University of Hamburg)** 9.30–10.00  
*The Fronde, the Court, and the Cosmos: Morin, Gassendi, and Astrology's Decline in 17th-Century France*

**John R. R. Christie (University of Oxford)** 10.00–10.30  
*The Ends of Alchemy*

**BREAK** 10.30–11.00

**Ends of Sciences in Conversation 2** 11.00–12.20  
Chair: Joe Martin

Psychical Research and Parapsychology 11.00–11.40

**Luis Fernando Bernardi Junqueira (University of Cambridge)**  
*Imperialism, Civil War and Psychical Research in Wartime China: Fall or Transformation?*

**Alicia Puglionesi (Johns Hopkins University)**  
*The Once and Future Parapsychology: 'The Telepathy Tapes' and the Rebirth of Parascience in the Post-Truth Era*

The Human Sciences 11.40–12.20

**Julia Gustavsson (University of Oxford)**  
*'[A] changed and changing world': Professional Expertise and the Fading of Child Study as a Science in Mid-Twentieth-Century Britain*

**Lufeng Xu (EHESS Paris)**  
*The End of the 'Science of Man'?: Marcel Maus's Quest for the 'Science of Total Man'*

**LUNCH** 12.20–13.30

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## Afternoon Sessions

**Sciences of Inheritance** 13.30–15.00  
Chair: Greg Radick

**Wessel de Cock (Humboldt University of Berlin)** 13.30–14.00  
*The Contingent Demise of Classical Genetics in the Molecular Revolution (1958–1962)*

**Vedran Duančić (University of Klagenfurt)** 14.00–14.30  
*The End of Lysenkoism in Socialist Yugoslavia*

**Mia Levenson (Johns Hopkins University)** 14.30–15.00  
*The End of Eugenic Science in the United States*

**BREAK** 15.00–15.30

**Fragmentation and Consolidation** 15.30–16.30  
Chair: Alex Aylward

**Jarrod Hore (University of New South Wales)** 15.30–16.00  
*Three Challenges in Space/Time: Planetary Consciousness and the Disintegration of Nineteenth-Century Geology*

**Hansun Hsiung (Durham University)** 16.00–16.30  
*How Did Neo-Confucian Nature End?*

**BREAK** 16.30–16.45

**ROUNDTABLE** 16.45–17.30  
Chair: Michelle Pfeffer

**Rob Iliffe (University of Oxford)**  
**Ludmilla Jordanova (Durham University)**  
**Greg Radick (University of Leeds)**