

**METHODS OF CAUSAL INFERENCE AND
SCIENTIFIC REPRESENTATION (MCISR) SEMINAR**

SEMINARIO SOBRE MÉTODOS DE INFERENCIA CAUSAL Y
REPRESENTACIÓN CIENTÍFICA (MICRC)

THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2017

JUEVES 26 DE ENERO DE 2017

Seminar Room B-011 / Seminario B-011

Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science / Departamento de Lógica y
Filosofía de la Ciencia

Faculty of Philosophy, Complutense University/ Facultad de Filosofía (UCM)

11:30 – 13:30 Vanessa Triviño (Universidad de Murcia): “**Towards a Metaphysics
of Biology**”

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U N I V E R S I D A D
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RESUMEN: **Towards a Metaphysics of Biology**

Vanessa Triviño (Universidad de Murcia)

During the 20th century, and in part, due to the neopositivist tradition, the philosophy of science has been centered on questions about the methodology and epistemology of science. In recent years, however, there has been an increasing interest at the intersection between metaphysics and science. Classic issues at this intersection are those concerning the laws of nature, causality and dispositions. In most cases, the work focuses on theories and concepts in physics and their implications for the characterization of metaphysical concepts such as laws of nature or causality, for example. The cross fertilization between metaphysics and biology has been less common. However, this situation is starting to change and the interaction between metaphysics and biology is becoming more common. Some questions that are emerging in this respect refer to the way species (considered as ontologically being individuals) persist along time (Crane 2004, Reydon 2008, Triviño and Cerezo 2015).

The aim of this talk is to attend this interaction between metaphysics and biology and to study the implications of this relation. In particular, I will focus on two questions: 1. is the intersection between metaphysics and biology given rise to a new form of doing philosophy of biology, one that could be called 'metaphysics of biology'? and if so, 2. what is the relation between philosophy of biology and metaphysics of biology? I will offer a positive answer to the first answer and I will consider metaphysics of biology as, on the one hand, a discipline that uses metaphysical theories, concepts and relations (emergence, supervenience, grounding...) in order to clarify and/or solve biological concepts and problems. And, on the other hand, as a discipline that studies the metaphysical implications that the metaphysical conceptualization of some biological problems and concepts have.