

**School 'Research in Progress' Seminars
Semester 1 2021**

Convenor: Daniel Talbot
Day and Time: Tuesdays 12.45-1.45 pm (unless otherwise specified)
Place: Zoom

Week	Date	Paper
8	20 April	Substances and powers: a problem for contemporary powers ontology Angus Brook
9	27 Apr	The Theological Turn in International Relations John Rees
10	4 May	Night of the People-Cats: An Experiment in Practice-Led Research Ari Mattes
11	11 May	Presentation Title TBA Chris Lamb
12	18 May	Presentation Title TBA Christian Santos
13	25 May	TBA

Substances and powers: a problem for contemporary powers ontology

Dr Angus Brook

It is often assumed, in the approach to contemporary metaphysics called 'powers ontology' that somehow powers are qualities or properties of substances. However, there has been some debate about the relationship between powers and substances: are powers somehow properties of substances, or are substances merely a bundle of powers, or are substances rather bearers of powers? I am currently engaged in some research investigating the question of the relationship between substances and powers. I suspect, although I may be wrong, that an Aristotelian (and even Thomist) response to these questions would be to claim that substances are, in essence, powers thought of in a particular way. This presentation of research in progress would aim to offer some arguments and explore some of the basic questions and problems needed to be dealt with in order to figure out the relationship between substances and powers.