Title: How not to end philosophy: Wittgenstein and naturalism

Speaker: Prof. Martin Stokhof (University of Amsterdam)  
  
Abstract: Naturalism poses a challenge to many disciplines in the humanities, but for philosophy it appears to be particularly pressing. One place where this becomes apparent is in the debate on Wittgenstein’s meta-philosophy. Although the issue is not often discussed explicitly, a particular form of naturalism seems to inform various parties in that debate, viz., scientism. This strong form of naturalism poses a special challenge to philosophy.  In this talk we will investigate whether Wittgenstein’s later work offers a possibility for meeting the challenge in a way that leaves room for substantial philosophy. We will argue that in his analysis of certainty, religious belief, and aesthetic experience Wittgenstein employs a notion of content that is in line with moderate naturalistic assumptions, yet avoids the challenge that scientism poses.

主讲人介绍：

Martin Stokhof，世界知名的语言哲学家、逻辑学家、维特根斯坦专家，现为荷兰阿姆斯特丹大学哲学系哲学教授。曾担任阿姆斯特丹大学逻辑、语言与计算研究所（ILLC）的主任（98-04），Linguistics and Philosophy 编委（91-11），荷兰科学基金（NWO）人文科学委员会主席（04-10）。2006年被选为荷兰皇家科学院院士，现任欧洲科学基金人（ERC）文科学常务委员会成员。个人主页：<http://humanities.uva.nl/~stokhof/>