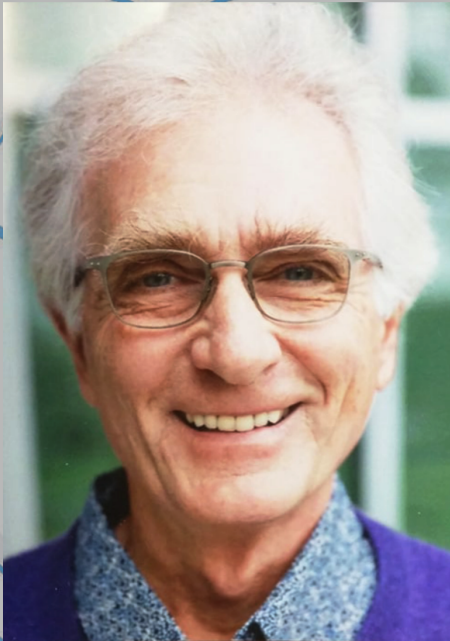


The Philosophy Club



proudly presents



Professor

**David
Woodruff
Smith**

Thursday, May 17

7:20 PM

HG1002



Where am I?

René Descartes (1596-1650) asked, "What am I?" (if I am under the delusion of an evil demon), and answered, "A thinking thing". From *Meditations on First Philosophy* (1641).

David Hume (1711-1776) held a famous view on personal identity:

"For my part, when I enter most intimately into what I call myself, I always stumble on some particular perception or other, of heat or cold, light or shade, love or hatred, pain or pleasure. I never can catch myself at any time without a perception, and never can observe any thing but the perception." From *A Treatise of Human Nature* (1739).

Edmund Husserl (1859-1938), founder of phenomenology, set out in search of "the pure I", which philosophers had posited in the spirit of Descartes and Kant. As first he could not find it (like Hume), but later exclaimed, "I have since managed to find it [the pure I], i.e. have learnt not to be led astray from a pure grasp of the given through corrupt forms of I-metaphysic [Ichmetaphysik]."

In this talk I'll home in on exactly "where" in the stream of one's consciousness we find "the pure I", according to Husserl's detailed theory of intentionality, *Ideas I* (1913).

Free Admission
Snacks & Beverages

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