

## **Tkach, Colleen**

---

**From:** Inform  
**Subject:** EM: Invite: CMC Philosophy Department Guest Speaker Jessica Moss (NYU) - Monday, 11/6/2023 at 4:15p

---

**From:** Tillman, Dorlisa

## **The CMC Philosophy department is hosting Jessica Moss (NYU) on Nov 6th for a talk from 4:15-6pm in Kravis 164**

**Title:** "Belief-that is Belief-in"

**Abstract:** The original meaning of the English 'belief,' like that of its Ancient Greek ancestor *pistis* and equivalents in many languages, is faith or trust – as in "I believe in America/the power of love/you." Only later are the words used with that-clauses to denote the propositional attitude of taking-to-be-true. I propose that the trust sense of 'belief' is conceptually as well as etymologically prior. Belief-that is just a species of belief-in: to take *p* to be true is to believe in *p* – that is, to trust it. This yields a promising account of propositional belief, one that can explain its relation to truth, certainty, knowledge, and action.

# Jessica Moss

“Belief-That is Belief-In”

06

NOVEMBER 2023

4:15-6PM

KRAVIS164



**Abstract:** The original meaning of the English ‘belief,’ like that of its Ancient Greek ancestor *pistis* and equivalents in many languages, is faith or trust – as in “I believe in America/the power of love/you.” Only later are the words used with that-clauses to denote the propositional attitude of taking-to-be-true. I propose that the trust sense of ‘belief’ is conceptually as well as etymologically prior. Belief-that is just a species of belief-in: to take *p* to be true is to believe in *p* – that is, to trust it. This yields a promising account of propositional belief, one that can explain its relation to truth, certainty, knowledge, and action.



CLAREMONT  
MCKENNA  
COLLEGE

**Dorlisa I. Tillman**

Director of Faculty Support Services &  
Support Coordinator for Philosophy &  
the Center for Writing and Public Discourse

850 Columbia Ave, Kravis Center 108b

Claremont, California 91791

Phone: 909-607-8019

Fax: 909-621-8419

Email: [dtillman@cmc.edu](mailto:dtillman@cmc.edu)

Web: [www.cmc.edu](http://www.cmc.edu)