

**Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 14:45:09 Pacific Standard Time**

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**Subject:** EM: CMC Philosophy Department Speaker Colloquium Presents: Nina Emery, Friday, Feb 7, 2025  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 2:45:09 PM Pacific Standard Time  
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**Attachments:** image002.jpg

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**CMC's Philosophy department invites you to their Spring Colloquium Series  
featuring Nina Emery. See below for details.**

CMC Philosophy Department Presents:

# Nina Emery

Mount Holyoke College

“Explanation As a Guide to What  
There Is and What It’s Like”

07

February 2025

4:15-6PM

Kravis 164



#### Abstract:

There is a long tradition in philosophy of using principles of explanatory inference to determine what there is and what it's like. Prominent examples include Leibniz's Principle of Sufficient Reason (PSR) and contemporary philosophers' use of inference to the best explanation (IBE). The goal of this talk is to argue for a principle of explanatory inference that is more limited than the PSR and IBE but also more powerful. The strength of this alternative principle is its justification by way of naturalistic commitments that are widespread (though not always widely appreciated) throughout contemporary philosophy.