



Seminar on the Origin and Evolution of the Web Summer Semester 2025

The Web is more than 30 years old, and it has evolved substantially from the initial proposal of 1989. Why did the Web emerge? How did it become successful? How did it evolve and adapt over time? The seminar looks into this question from a technological and philosophy of science point of view. Taking the Web as a prototypical example, the students will work on information technologies and study how one specific example has been successful (or not), why, and how it evolved over time.

Notes on the process: Students can propose their own related topic (only at the **beginning** of the course). The language of the seminar is **English**. The concrete seminar topics will be presented in a preliminary discussion at the beginning of the semester (presumably the first week of lectures) and distributed according to the preference of the seminar participants. During the semester, the student is expected to research the topic, write a report and prepare a presentation. All presentation will take place at the end of the lecture period in a block event. Accordingly, there are **no** weekly sessions during the semester. Please note that the reports are to be submitted **before** the presentations. The preliminary meeting is expected to take place during the first week of the lecture - the exact date will be announced to the seminar participants in a timely manner.

Material: The seminar is based on the book: The Web Was Done by Amateurs: A Reflection on one of the Largest Collective Systems Ever Engineered, Springer; 1st ed. 2018 edition, ISBN-10: 3319900072.

