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# Summer Fellowship Program June 15-19, 2009

**"Reduction,  
Emergence,  
and Essence"**

Starts Monday,  
June 15th at MIT



*Institute for  
the Study of Nature*

## Ask the Tough Questions

- Since all things are composed of atoms, hasn't Aristotle been resoundingly defeated in his old argument with the atomists?
- Newtonian physics and modern cosmology fundamentally contradict Aristotle's "appetitive physics" and the scholastic dictum that "all that moves is moved by another," don't they? What value is left in the outmoded "physics" of Aristotle?
- Living things are built of "living atoms" (cells) and their development and operations directed by "genetic program"; what's left for the anti-mechanistic notions of "formal cause" and "final cause" to explain?

The Institute for the Study of Nature invites you to join us in a Summer Seminar the week of June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 on the campus of MIT to begin considering these questions with the care they deserve.

Final deadline for all applications (including scholarship essays) is March 16th, 2009.

**Initial Deadline:  
Monday, March 16th**

## Honor Scholarships

Three competitive Honor Scholarships will be awarded that cover full tuition, room, and board. See website [www.isnature.org](http://www.isnature.org) for requirements.



## What's the Deal for 2009?

At this year's Seminar we'll devote four days of study and dialog to exploring questions of science, natural philosophy, and their intersection: the efficacy of reduction, the appeal of emergence, and the necessity of postulating essences. The course spans from the beginnings of science in the ancient Greeks, through the early moderns like Descartes and Newton to more recent modern results that have signaled a rebirth of interest in the notion of emergence.