



## Causalism

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### ABSTRACT

“Causalism” is sometimes used to pick out the leading conception of action. On this view, having a certain kind of causal history—one that includes the relevant mental events or states—is what makes a behavior an action. In this talk I sketch and motivate a form of causalism that goes beyond the basic causalist view in that it also covers free action. According to “big picture” causalism, having the relevant kind of causal history is both what makes a behavior an action and what makes it a free action. This central thesis provides the skeleton of the view. But I then discuss possible enrichments of the view that focus on the grounds of the relevant causal facts. In particular, I lay out a version of a powers-enriched causalism.

**Carolina Sartorio** is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Arizona. She works at the intersection of metaphysics, the philosophy of action, and moral theory, exploring such issues as causation, agency, free will, and moral responsibility. Her most recent book, co-authored with Robert Kane, is *Do We Have Free Will? A Debate* (Routledge).



### DATE AND TIME

26/27 AUGUST 2021

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