

# Presentism and Eternalism in Perspective

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## Abstract

The distinction between presentism and eternalism is usually sought in some formula like 'Only presently existing things exist' or 'Past, present, and future events are equally real'. I argue that ambiguities in the copula prevent these slogans from distinguishing significant opposed positions.

I suggest in addition that one can find a series of significant distinctions if one takes spacetime structure into account. These presentisms and eternalisms are not contradictory. They are complementary elements of a complete naturalistic philosophy of time.

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