The rise of scepticism in the early modern period led to new and innovative theories on both the sceptical and the anti-sceptical sides of the debate. This workshop aims to investigate the sceptical and anti-sceptical elements in the philosophies of David Hume, Thomas Reid, and Baruch Spinoza. In particular, the questions to be addressed are first, in what respect these philosophers embraced scepticism or made use of sceptical strategies, and second, how, and by which means and at what cost, they resisted sceptical arguments.

Convenors: Stephan Schmid, Lukas Lang

Programme

10:00 – 10:15
Welcoming Remarks

10:15 – 11:30
Are Fictional Persons a Problem for Hume?
Ramona Winter
(Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

11:45 – 13:00
The Status of First Principles for Reid
Lukas Lang
(MCAS, Universität Hamburg)

14:00 – 15:15
Two Ways to Skin a Sceptic:
Reid’s Realism and Kant’s Idealism
James Van Cleve
(University of Southern California, Los Angeles)

15:30 – 16:45
Spinoza on Adequacy and Common Notions
José María Sánchez de León Serrano
(MCAS, Universität Hamburg)