



Workshop

Spinoza's Anti-Sceptical System and Its Aftermath

January 14–15, 2020

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Abstract

Spinoza is famous for his rigorous metaphysical system, according to which there is only one substance that gives rise to infinitely many modes that can be conceived under infinitely many attributes and that provides the ultimate cause and explanation for all kinds of phenomena, such as the nature of God, freedom, and the nature of laws. What is less appreciated, however, is that Spinoza's metaphysical system comes with an elaborate optimistic epistemology, which justifies our ability to know this system and its implications in the first place, at least in principle. As an explanatory powerful and inherently anti-sceptical system, Spinoza's metaphysics influenced many philosophers after him. This workshop will bring together a range of scholars who work on different facets of Spinoza's wide-ranging anti-sceptical metaphysics and on different receptions of his thought. All contributions discussed at the workshop will be published in the forthcoming *Blackwell Companion to Spinoza*.

Programme

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

10:00–10:15	Introduction <i>Stephan Schmid (Universität Hamburg)</i>
10:15–11:15	Spinoza on Infinity <i>Luce DeLire (Johns Hopkins University/Universität Hamburg)</i>
11:15–11:30	Break
11:30–12:30	Spinoza's <i>Causa Sui</i> <i>Yitzhak Melamed (Johns Hopkins University)</i>
12:30–13:30	Lunch
13:30–14:30	Spinoza on Diachronic Identity <i>Dominik Perler (Humboldt-Universität Berlin)</i>

14:30–14:45	Break
14:45–15:45	Spinoza Against the Sceptics <i>Stephan Schmid (Universität Hamburg)</i>
15:45–16:00	Break
16:00–17:00	Spinoza's <i>Amor Dei Intellectualis</i> <i>Clare Carlisle (King's College London)</i>
19:00	Dinner

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

10:00–11:00	Schelling with Spinoza on Freedom and Necessity <i>Daniel Dragicevic (Universität Hamburg)</i>
11:00–11:15	Break
11:15–12:15	Hegel and Spinoza <i>José María Sánchez de León Serrano (Universität Hamburg)</i>
12:15–13:30	Lunch
13:30–14:30	Nietzsche: Spinoza's Best Critic Jason Yonover (Johns Hopkins University)
14:30–14:45	Break
14:45–15:15	Final Discussion <i>Yitzhak Melamed (Johns Hopkins University)</i>