

Bucharest-Princeton Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy

Bran, July 2-7, 2011

Collaborative aspects of Early Modern Thought: Philosophical Correspondence and the Republic of Letters

Programme

July 2

9.30 Departure to Bran from Hotel Flowers, Plantelor str. 2, Bucharest (lunch on the way in Braşov)

17.00 Arrival in Bran (Vila Andra)

19.00 Dinner

July 3

9.30-10.30 Conference: Igor Agostini (Lecce): **La correspondance Descartes-Elisabeth et la traduction Picot des *Principes de la philosophie* (1647)**

10.30-10.45 Coffee break

10.45-13.00 **Reading group (I): The Descartes-Henry More Correspondence.**
Convenors: Igor Agostini, Vlad Alexandrescu, Sarah Hutton

Texts: Descartes Correspondance avec Arnauld et Morus, texte latin et traduction, éd. Geneviève Lewis, Paris, Vrin, 1953, p. 94-187; english translation of Descartes' letters in **The Philosophical Writings of Descartes**, vol. III, translated by J. Cottingham, R. Stoothoff, D. Murdoch, A. Kenny, CUP, 1991, p. 360-367, 371-375, 380-382.

[Link to the English file](#) (only Descartes' letters)| [Link to the Latin-French file](#) (all the selected letters)

13.00-15.00 Lunch break

16.00-16.35 Alexandra Anisie (Cluj): **On substance in Bruno's *Concerning the Cause, Principle, and the One***

16.35-16.50 Coffee break

16.50-17.25 Katherine Dunlop (Brown): **Gassendi on the Ontological Status of Spatial Dimensions**

17.25-18.00 Michael Funk-Deckard (Lenoir-Rhyne): **The act of admiration: wondrous women in early modern philosophy**

19.00 Dinner

July 4

9.30-10.30 Conference: Sarah Hutton (Aberystwyth University): **The correspondence of seventeenth-century women philosophers: Anne Conway and Damaris Cudworth Masham**

10.30-10.45 Coffee break

10.45-13.00 **Reading group (II): The Leibniz-des Bosses Correspondence**, Convenors: Daniel Garber, Lucian Petrescu, Vlad Alexandrescu

Texts: G.W. Leibniz, The Leibniz-Des Bosses Correspondence, latin texts and english translations, introduction by Brandon C. Look and Donald Rutherford, Yale University Press, 2007:

Leibniz to des Bosses, 15th February 1712, p. 220-235

Des Bosses to Leibniz, 20th July 1715, p. 340-347

Leibniz to Des Bosses, 19th August 1715, p. 347-357

Leibniz an des Bosses, 29th May 1716, p. 365-378

[Link to file \(Latin and English\)](#)

Monadologie, 1714, ed. A. Robinet, Paris, P.U.F., 2e éd., 1986

[Link to the French text](#) | [Link to the English translation](#)

13.00-15.00 Lunch break

16.00-16.35: Barnaby Hutchins (Ghent), **Subvisible mechanical systems in Descartes' late physiology**

16.35-16.50 Coffee break

16.50-17.25 Alexander Xavier Douglas (Birkbeck): **Dutch Cartesianism and the Separation Idea**

17.25-18.00 Lucian Petrescu (Ghent): **Salt, silver, oxygen. Real Qualities in Descartes' and Fromondus' *Meteors*.**

19.00 Dinner

July 5

9.30-10.05 Radu Toderici (Cluj): **"Communication d'imagination": Pascal, Malebranche and the Social Transmission of Knowledge**

10.05-10.40: Anton Matytsin (Pennsylvania): **The Specter of Skepticism and Sources of Certainty in the Early Enlightenment Interest: philosophical and historical skepticism in the early 18th century**

10.40-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-13.00 **Reading group (III): The Newton-Hooke Correspondence**,
Convenors: Katherine Dunlop, Dana Jalobeanu, Grigore Vida

Texts: Newton's letter, Hooke's, Linus' and Pardies' letters

[Link to file](#)

13.00-15.00 Lunch break

16.00-16.35 Kristin Primus (Princeton): **Immanent Causation in Spinoza's *Ethics***

16.35-16.50 Coffee break

16.50 -17.25 Filip Buyse (Paris I): **The Gunpowder Reaction: A Controversy between Boyle and Spinoza**

17.25-18.00 Jo Van Cauter (Ghent): **The betrayal of Christ: Jesus as statesman (Spinoza, *Tractatus Theologico-Politicus*)**

19.00 Dinner

July 6

9.30-10.30: Sorana Corneanu (Bucharest), Koen Vermeir (CNRS, Paris): **The magician's imagination in Francis Bacon**

10.30-10.45 Coffee break

10.45-11.20 Doina Rusu (Bucharest): **Baconian natural histories in the correspondence and in *The Instauration magna***

11.20-11.55 Madalina Giurgea, Laura Georgescu (Bucharest): **Bacon and Descartes : The Creative Role of Experiments**

11.55-12.30: Dana Jalobeanu (Bucharest): **Francis Bacon's Senecan natural history of the heavens or the case of 'missing' natural history**

12.30-13.00: Raphaele Garrod (Cambridge): **Whales, Starfishes and the John Dory in Pierre Viret's Instruction Chrétienne (1564): From Natural Theology to Natural History?**

13.00-15.00 Lunch

16.00-16.35 James Lancaster (London): **Natural history of religion: a new form of natural history?**

16.35-16.50 Coffee break

16.50-17.25 Mihnea Dobre (Bucharest): **Jaques Rohault and Samuel Clarke**

17.25-18.00 Grigore Vida (Bucharest): **The Changing Fate of Newton's Cosmology and the Interaction between Theology and Natural Science**

19.00 Dinner

July 7

9.30 Departure to Bucharest