

Machamer/ McGuire

Descartes Seminar

Thursdays, 3 pm, G-28 CL, Spring 2000

Jan. 6, Introduction

13 Descartes, *Meditations* (1640 Latin)

secondary: Harry G. Frankfurt, *Demons, Dreamers and Madmen: A defense of reason in Descartes' Mediations*. Bobbs-Merril, 1970

***operative, exhaustive knowledge of the *Mediations* will be presupposed from this point onwards.

20 Francesco Suarez, *On Efficient Causality*, ed. Alfred J Freddoso (Yale UP, 1994) (part of *Disputationes Metaphysicae*, 1597)

Helen Hattab, *The Origins of a Modern View of Causation: Descartes and his Predecessors on Efficient Causation*. Dissertation, U. Pennsylvania, 1998. (324 pp.)

27 Pedro Amaral, *Descartes' Sixth Meditation*, mss. (287 pp.)

Secondary: Etienne Gilson, *Etudes sur le role de la pensee medievale dans la formation du system cartesien*. (Paris: J. Vrin 1951)

3 Feb. The Causes: 2nd (Mersenne) and 4th (Arnauld) Sets of Objections and Replies

Secondary: Machamer "Descartes and the Causes" in Machamer and Turnbull, *Motion and Time, Space and Matter*, (Ohio State University Press, 1976), 168-199;

Roger Woolhouse, *The Concept of Substance in Seventeenth Century Metaphysics* (Routledge, 1993)

N. Kemp Smith, *New Studies on the Philosophy of Descartes*. (London: Macmillan 1952)

10 Method. Demonstration and Simple Natures: *Regulae* 11-15. *Discours V*

Secondary: J L Marion, article in *Cambridge Companion to Descartes*, ed. Cottingham.

L. J. Beck, *The Method of Descartes*, Chaps 1-8, (Oxford: Clarendon, 1952)

17 God: PP Book I; Letters, Descartes to More (5 Feb 1649); to Clerselier, 23 April 1649; to Mersenne, 27 May 1630; to Mersenne, 18 March 1641; to Mesland, 2 May 1649; CB 19, 24, 50

Secondary: Gary Hatfield, "Force (God) in Descartes' Physics" *Studies in HPS*, (1979) 10, pp. 113 -40

25 Creation and Atomic Time: Med. III; Letters to More (1649), 1st Set of Replies, 5th Set of replies, PP I.21; CB 6, 23.

2 March, Substance: PP I, 2nd Set of Objections and Replies; CB 22, 25

Secondary: Marleen Rozeman, *Descartes' Dualism* (Harvard, 1998)

16 Mind and Body as substances: reread Med VI, PP I, 54 f.; II, 11,

23 The Physical World: Extension: Med. II, PP II; To More 15 April 1649; to Gibieuf, 19 Jan 1642; Phil Writings, Vol II, 298, 114.

Secondary: D. Garber, *Descartes' Metaphysical Physics* (Chicago, 1992); D. Des Chene, *Physiologica...*; Edward Slowik "Descartes, Spacetime, and Relational Motion", *Philosophy of Science* 66, 1999; W. Anderson, "Cartesian Motion" in Machamer and Turnbull 1976, 200-223; Alan Gabbey "Force and Inertia in Seventeenth Century Dynamics" *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, 2 (1971), 20 -31.

30 Mind: Innate Ideas: Comments on a Certain Broadsheet

April 6 Mind/Body interaction: Passions of the Soul; PP I 54-60; To Elizabeth, 21 May 1643; to Hyperaspistes, Aug 1641; Clerselier, 12 Jan 1646; to Arnaud, 21 July 1648; to More, 5 Feb 1649.

13 Is Descartes a Dualist?

M+M Seminar
00.2
2/18/00

25 Creation and Atomic Time: Med. III; Letters to More (1649), 1st Set of Replies, 5th Set of replies, especially reply to 3rd Med, pp. 254-255, PP I.21; CB 6, 23.

2 March, Substance: PP I, 2nd Set of Objections and Replies; CB 22, 25

Secondary: Marleen Rozeman, *Descartes' Dualism* (Harvard, 1998)

16 Mind and Body as substances: reread Med VI, PP I, 54 f.; II. 11, 4th reply to Arnauld, pp.157-161

23 The Physical World: Extension: Med. II, PP II; To More 15 April 1649; to Gibieuf, 19 Jan 1642; Phil Writings, Vol II, 298, 114.

Secondary: D. Garber, *Descartes' Metaphysical Physics* (Chicago, 1992); D. Des Chene, *Physiologica...*; Edward Slowik "Descartes, Spacetime, and Relational Motion", *Philosophy of Science* 66, 1999; W. Anderson, "Cartesian Motion" in Machamer and Turnbull 1976, 200-223; Alan Gabbey "Force and Inertia in Seventeenth Century Dynamics" *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, 2 (1971), 20-31.

30 Mind: Innate Ideas: Comments on a Certain Broadsheet

April 6 Mind/Body interaction:

Passions of the Soul; PP I 54-60; To Elizabeth, 21 May 1643; to Hyperaspistes, Aug 1641; Clerselier, 12 Jan 1646; to Arnaud, 21 July 1648; to More, 5 Feb 1649.

13 Is Descartes a Dualist or Trialist? General Discussion

Rozemond, Chap. 6

Cottingham "Cartesian Trialism" *Mind* 94 (1985), pp. 218-30

D Garber (1992), pp. 88-93.

Readings from Descartes,

Most readings in *The Philosophical Writings of Descartes*, Vols. I and II, translated by John Cottingham, Robert Stoothoff, Dugald Murdoch (Cambridge UP, 1984)

Principles of Philosophy (Latin 1644; French, Abbe Picot translation 1647)

Discourse on Method (French 1637)

Optics (and *Geometry, Meteorology* with *Discours*, 1638)

Rules of the Mind, Regulae (unpublished, c. 1628)

The World (Le Monde) (unpublished, worked on until 1632, but some additions later)

On Man (De Homine) (meant as part II of *Le Monde*)

Objections and Replies to Mediations, (1641 onwards)

Comments on a Certain Broadsheet, 1647 (to Regius)

The Passions of the Soul. 1649 (*Le passions de l'ame*)

Letters [Anthony Kenny, transl. and ed., *Descartes: Philosophical Letters*, Oxford, 197.)

The Correspondence, *Philosophical Writings of Descartes*, Vol III., Ed J. Cottingham (Cambridge)

CB: Descartes' Conversations with Burman, (1648), ed. J Cottingham (Oxford; Clarendon, 1976)

Edition of Works, Charles Adam and Paul Tannery, *Oeuvres de Descartes* (also copy in Grunbaum Philosophy reading room; donated by Jerry Massey)

Also useful, Etienne Gilson, *Lexicon Scolastico- Cartesienne*

John Cottingham, *A Descartes Dictionary*, Blackwell 1993

Course Requirements:

1. One seminar presentation, should be on a specific Descartes text, exegetical, analytic, and relating it to other relevant texts. Note: Copy of presentation must be distributed to class the day before the seminar!
2. Term paper; topic to be discussed with M and/or M before.