

Leibniz

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Senior Seminar

Professor Helman

Topic:

Even though its looking like a cliché now, for my final paper I will describe Leibniz's position on freedom and hypothetical possibilities. For this paper, I will use as a primary source passages from Leibniz' Discourse on Metaphysics and the Letters to Arnauld. Secondary sources will be "Freedom, Contingency and Things Possible in Themselves" by David Blumenfeld and "Leibniz on Divine Foreknowledge of Future Contingents and Human Freedom" by Michael J. Murray.

Prospectus:

So...yeah, freedom and free will are what really grab my attention in Leibniz despite the fact that it's also already grabbed so many others attention. Leibniz holds apparently contradictory positions and reconciling these positions will not be easy. I, however, will try to do so anyway. I'm not quite sure where my paper will take me but it will take me somewhere.