

οὐσία

Centre for the Philosophy and Theology of Being
University of Lucerne



swissuniversities

organised on behalf of
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Leibniz in Ligerz

workshop in Ligerz, Wednesday 27 June – Sunday, 1st of July 2018 (noon)

As part of its [Swiss Doctoral Programme in Philosophy](#), the Centre for the Philosophy and Theology of Being at the University of Lucerne: *οὐσία*, is organising a small and informal workshop in beautiful Ligerz.

Please consult the website for additional information:

<http://philipp.philosophie.ch/workshops/Leibniz.html>

For all questions and inquiries, please write to the workshop organiser, philipp.blum@philosophie.ch.

CfP. Recent work in metaphysics bears in many ways on traditional debates about the ontological and cosmological proofs of God's existence. Of potential relevance are, among many others, the following themes: grounding as a form of ontological explanation and its relation to the PSR, light-weight existence and modes of existence, the acceptability of infinite regresses, causal/temporal loops and 'ontologically infinite' (e.g. gunky or junky) worlds, distinctions between different 'modes' or 'degrees' of being, non-standard relations between essence and existence for non-standard entities (fictional entities, lesser/dependent entities, 'total' entities such as the world), dispositionalist and structuralist accounts of physical entities. In light of these and related developments in contemporary metaphysics, we will revisit two families of traditional arguments for the existence of God.

Location. The conference takes place in the beautifully located bilingual village of Ligerz / Gléresse, on the shores of the lake of Biel/Bienne (also bilingual):



Talks and meals are at the Aarbergerhaus, where a beamer and facilities to print out handouts are available. Participants stay at the so-called "Louis Haus", where there's also a small bar for late-night drinks. When you get out of the train arriving either from Neuchâtel or from Biel/Bienne, and you face the mountain and the church (turning your back to the lake), the Aarbergerhaus is to your right (in the direction of Biel), about 150 m along the main road. You reach it after passing by the hotel "Kreuz" and by going through a garden door located at your left (facing Biel), just before there is a street for cars on your right going over a small bridge (in the direction of the lake). Please come there when you arrive. (The Louis-Haus, in contrast, is to your left, about 50m through the pedestrian street, on your right just before the fountain).

Please note. While towels and bed-sheet are provided, for some reason shampoo and shower cream are not (though there is soap). If you need these, bring them along.

Arrival. It would be good if participants arrive at the Aarbergerhaus by **Wednesday, 27th of June, 19.00** for dinner. If you arrive late, please let me know. Ligerz is mid-way between Biel/Bienne and Neuchâtel and reachable by train in 1h43 from Zurich Airport, in 1h50 from Geneva Airport and in 1h55 from Basel EuroAirport (cf. www.sbb.ch – no need to plan in too much time, Swiss trains are never late and all three airports are reasonably small).

Reimbursement. Please buy your tickets yourself; you can also buy in advance the train tickets you need (they are valid for a whole day) and have them sent to you by email. Please see to it that you have pdfs or scan-able documents for all your expenses.

There are two paper boards, and a beamer for ppt presentations (bring an adapter); there is also an opportunity to make last-minute photocopies.

Discussion sessions. Discussion sessions should be introduced by the moderator (5-25 min.) and then also chaired by that person. They may focus on a recent article or discussion (not necessarily written by the moderator or any of the other participants) or on a specific question of interest to the moderator (and, hopefully, the audience).

Reading material. It would be good if as much as possible of the reading material could be made available to participants in advance (via a dropbox folder, for which I have hopefully sent you an invitation). This includes (i) abstracts / drafts; (ii) background reading, e.g. articles by others specifically discussed or older texts not easily available.

Program: 9 talks (1h30 min sessions, perhaps 45 min talk, 45 Q&A, but that's up to you), 6 discussion sessions (1h, briefly set up / 'animated' by some volunteer):

time	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
9-10.30	talk1	talk4	talk6	talk9
10.45-11.45	disc1	disc3	disc4	disc6
13.30-15.00	talk2	talk5	talk7	
15.15-16.45	talk3	free	talk8	
17-18	disc2	free	disc5	

Participants: Philipp Blum, Sjoerd van Tuinen, Osvaldo Ottaviani, Evelyne Perron, Lawrence Wang, Lorenzo Cammi.

Proposal for 'free' time. On Friday afternoon, we could either take the cable-car up to Prêles, have a drink there and take a (quite leisurely) walk back down to Ligerz (passing by the beautiful church); or, we could take the boat to the St Peter island (where Rousseau was), and have a walk there.

Costs. The costs of simple accommodation and food will be covered. In principle, participants should be prepared to pay for their own drinks (excl. coffee and tea), though some of this might be covered as well.

Programme:

Thurs, 9-10.30 Osvaldo Ottaviani: Distinct Perception and Theory of Action. Pragmatic Strands in Leibniz's Account of Existence

Thurs, 10.45-11.45 discussion: Well-funded Phenomena, animated by Philipp Blum

Thurs, 13.30-15 Philipp Blum: Leibniz, Essence and Existence

Thurs, 15.15-16.45 Lorenzo Cammi: Leibniz on 'Why is there Something rather than Nothing?'

Thurs, 17-18 discussion: Different notions of haecceitism, animated by Philipp Blum

Fri, 9-10.30 Lawrence Wang: Mereology, Identity and Worldly Interaction

Fri, 10.45-11.45 discussion: Leibniz on the Contingency of the World, animated by Philipp Blum

Fri, 13.30-15 Sjoerd van Tuinen: Animal Monadology

Fr, 15.04 departure of the cable car to Prêles

Sat, 9-10.30 Philipp Blum: Leibniz on the Reduction of Relations

Sat, 10.45-11.45 discussion: The Indiscernibility of Identicals, animated by Philipp Blum

Sat, 13.30-15 Eve-Lyne Perron: Leibniz and the Problem of Extrospection

Sat, 15.15-16.45 Philipp Blum: Reduplication in Leibniz

Sat, 17-18 discussion: What are Monads?, animated by Philipp Blum

Sun, 9-10.30 Philipp Blum: Leibnizian Space and Incongruent Counterparts

Sun, 10.45-11.45 wrap-up discussion