

SÉMINAIRE SPINOZA À PARIS 8, 2017-2018

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Université Paris 8 Vincennes Saint-Denis, Salle J103

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« What are modes for Spinoza? »

(Conférence en anglais. Le texte sera distribué)

According to Spinoza, every particular finite thing, including human bodies and minds, are modes of a single substance, God or Nature. But what does this curious doctrine mean? On the standard interpretation, modes are properties that inhere in and are predicated of substance. Human bodies and minds, however, are concrete particulars. How could they inhere in and be predicated of anything? In this paper, I argue that Spinozistic modes are not properties. Rather they are dependent concrete objects that inhere in but are not predicated of substance. ML.

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