



## Bucharest–Princeton–Hamburg HIAS Summer School in Early Modern Philosophy

**Controversies vs. collaboration in the scientific revolution: societies, experiments, and the “common language” of science across seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Europe**

Hamburg Institute of Advanced Study, Hamburg (Germany), 14–21 July 2024

Organized by: Dana Jalobeanu (University of Bucharest, HIAS Alumna), Daniel Garber (Princeton University), Matthias Schemmel (University of Hamburg), Rodolfo Garau (University of Hamburg).

*Dana Jalobeanu was a Universität Hamburg Fellow at HIAS in 2022/23.*

### Program

#### Monday, July 15

9–9.30 Introductory remarks

9.30–10.15 Roger Ariew, Much Ado about Nothing: The Weight of the Air.

10.15–10.30 Coffee Break

10.30-12.00 **Reading group 1** (Roger Ariew, Dana Jalobeanu) – Descartes, Mersenne, Pascal, the atmospheric pressure and the possibility of a vacuum. Collaborations leading to controversies.

*The group will be divided into two subgroups, working separately.*

12.00-12.30 Coffee Break

12.30-13.30 Reading group 1: Conclusions

Lunch break

15-17.00 **Collaborative session 1:** Early Modern Debates about Method (Alireza Fatolahi (Princeton University/Bilkent University), Ovidiu Babes (Vrije Univ. Brussels), Elodie Cassan (Paris/Rouen))

17.30- 18.30 **Evening lecture: Matthias Schemmel (University of Hamburg), A Common Language Beyond Europe? Early Modern Chinese-Jesuit Scientific Collaboration**

18.30-19.30 Questions and challenges: Forms of early modern collaboration and `to do` lists for the week

19.30 Welcome reception at HIAS Rothenbaumchaussee 45

## **Tuesday, July 16**

9.30-10.15 Dana Jalobeanu, Bubbles, bladders and the elasticity of air – stretching the limits of mechanical philosophy (introductory talk)

10.15-10.30 Coffee Break

10.30-12.00 **Reading group 2** (Roger Ariew, Dana Jalobeanu) Collaborative 'mercurial experiments' and the emergence of a notion of 'elasticity' [Jean Pecquet, Henry Power, Robert Boyle & the Royal Society]

12.00-12.30 Coffee Break

12.30-13.30 Reading group 2: Conclusions

Lunch break

15.00- 17.00 **Collaborative session 2:** The Epistolary Communication of Experimental Observations (Simone Bresci, Dinh-Vinh Colombar, Omar Hraoui, Elisabetta Rossi)

17.00-17.30 Coffee break

17.30–18.30 Evening lecture – Sophie Roux, *The Two Comets of 1664–1665: Collaborations and Controversies*

### Wednesday, July 17

9.30–10.30 Sophie Roux, Collaboration and consensus: scientific societies in early modern France (introductory talk)

10.30–12.00 **Reading group 3** (Sophie Roux, Rodolfo Garau) Collaboration and consensus: scientific societies in early modern France

12–12.30 Coffee Break

Lunch Break

15–17 **Collaborative session 3**: Collaboration in the Leibniz/Arnauld Correspondence (Brendan Kolb, Ethan Millar, Leonardo Moauro)

17.00–17.30 Coffee break

17.30–18.30 Evening lecture: Elodie Cassan, *Early modern disputes on disputes: on the philosophical need of controversy*

### Thursday, July 18

9–10 Scott Mandelbrote, Newton as a collaborator

10.00–10.30 Coffee Break

10.30 – 12.00 **Reading group 4** (Scott Mandelbrote, Grigore Vida) Newton as a collaborator (based on epistolary evidence): optics, mathematics, alchemy, theology

12–12.30 Coffee Break

12.30–13.30 Reading group 4: Conclusions

Lunch break

15.00–17.00 **Collaborative session 4**: Small and Large Group Discussion: Representation and Persuasion in the Early Modern Study of Life (Benjamin Goldberg, Guillermo Willis (Warburg Institute), Benjamin Goldberg (University of South Florida), Lena Kreynman (Humboldt University), Melania Tucureanu (University of Bucharest))

17.00–17.30 Coffee Break

17.30–18.30 **Evening lecture: Daniel Garber, Leibniz as a collaborator**

19.30 Reception at HIAS Rothenbaumchaussee 45, with guests

### **Friday, July 19**

9–10 Daniel Garber, Descartes and Henricus Regius: A collaboration gone bad

10–10.30 Coffee Break

10.30–13.30 **Reading group 5** (Daniel Garber, Roger Ariew) Descartes & Regius

Lunch Break

15–17 **Collaborative session 5**: Ewa Zakrewska (European Institute), Alexandru Liciu (University of Bucharest), Ted van Aanholt (Radboud University), The conceptualization and practice of shared knowledge in the seventeenth century: three interactive case studies

19.30 A collaborative dinner *[participants will be cooking together]*

### **Saturday, July 20 (venue: HIAS Rothenbaumchaussee 45)**

10–12 **Panel discussion**: Balancing collaboration and controversy today

12–13 Closing remarks and conclusions

Funded by:

AKADEMIE DER  
WISSENSCHAFTEN  
IN HAMBURG