



Universität Hamburg
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FAKULTÄT
FÜR RECHTSWISSENSCHAFT



A MIRACLE CREED - THE PRINCIPLE OF OPTIMALITY IN LEIBNIZ'S PHYSICS AND PHILOSOPHY

Image from The Book of Comets (1587); source of image: <https://orka.bibliothek.uni-kassel.de/viewer/!image/1336039708836/1/-/>

Prof. Dr. Jeffrey McDonough

Harvard University, Department of Philosophy

A rival to Isaac Newton in mathematics and physics, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz believed that our world – the best of all possible worlds – must be governed by optimality principles. This lecture will give an overview of Leibniz's pursuit of optimal form through five of his most important works in natural philosophy, arguing that his principle of optimality bridges his scientific and philosophical studies.

Invited by:

Prof. Dr. Matthias Armgardt
Universität Hamburg
Faculty of Law
Nucleus Professor for Global Legal
History and Private Law

Tuesday, 18th of April 2023, 18:00

Gästehaus der Universität Hamburg, Vortragsraum