Hill W 2:30-5:30

Empiricisms across Early Modern Philosophy

Early modern philosophy is often portrayed as a battle between rationalists and empiricists. This graduate level course will debunk (or, if you prefer, nuance) this narrative theme by uncovering and exploring a variety of empiricisms the cut across the traditional rationalist-empiricist dichotomy. Commitments and problems among the various empiricists will be explored to determine what (if anything) is common to all early modern empiricisms and where fruitful contrast(s) with other thinkers might lie. Philosophers studied may include: Suarez, Descartes, Cordemoy, Digby, Cavendish, Locke, Berkeley, Condillac, or others.