



Department of Philosophy *presents*



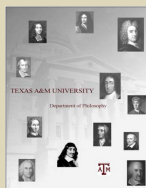
Daniel Garber

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Jan. 19, 2012
Thursday
3:45pm
YMCA 401

*"Divine Laws and Laws of Nature: Descartes,
Hobbes, and Spinoza"*

We all take for granted the idea that the world is governed by overarching laws of nature: this is fundamental to our scientific view of the world. But it wasn't always so. This talk explores some aspects of the history of this idea. We will begin with Descartes and the way in which he grounds the laws of motion in God. We will then turn to Hobbes and Spinoza, whose conceptions of God and his relation to the world lead them to rather different ways of conceptualizing the order of nature.



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