

Research Project

Testing a Multi-Disciplinary Approach to an Unexplored Body of Literature: The Case of Cartesian Dictations

Third-party funded project

Project title Testing a Multi-Disciplinary Approach to an Unexplored Body of Literature: The Case of Cartesian Dictations

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Organisation / Research unit

Departement Künste, Medien, Philosophie / Fachbereich Philosophie

Department

Project start 01.02.2020

Probable end 31.01.2021

Status Completed

The project aims at three overall gains: 1) to shed new light on the ways philosophical and scientific knowledge was produced and disseminated in the early modern age; 2) to refine our views on the relations of printed and handwritten texts; 3) to reconsider the reception of Descartes. It does so by pursuing a main objective, namely to provide a systematic assessment of the ways Cartesian philosophy and science were taught and evolved in academic handwritten sources (viz. dictated commentaries and notes on Descartes's texts). This objective is pursued by three sub-goals: 1) localizing unretrieved handwritten sources; 2) providing their edition and textual mapping; 3) studying them from the standpoints of intellectual history and history of philosophy and science, in order to answer a main question: how do they challenge our views on early modern teaching practices and on the reception of Descartes?

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