Handout 3

Leibniz's World: Basic Principles of the <u>Monadology</u>

(1) Principle of Systematicity: The world is a unified whole, having universal and necessary laws connecting its constituent parts.

(2) Principle of Atomism: The world contains a set of simple, basic entities (the monads).

(3) Principle of Essentialism: Basic entities are constituted by their individual essences.

(4) Principle of Dependency; Every non-basic entity depends directly for its existence on the basic ones: it is either an attribute of a basic entity, or else a composite of basic entities.

(5) Principle of Continuity: Any apparent gap in the world always contains more sub-entities into which it is resolvable.

(6) Principle of Sufficient Reason Every entity has a sufficient and intelligible reason for its existence, such that it logically or causally follows from this reason.

(7) Principle(s) of Identity:(a) An entity is itself and not something else. (Simple identity); (b) No entity has both the attribute of being F of and the attribute of being not-F (Non-contradiction); (c) Two entities sharing all the same properties are identical. (Identity of Indiscernibles); (d) Two identical entities share all the same properties (Indiscernibility of Identicals).

(8) Principle of Relativity: Every basic entity reflects the whole world , from its own perspective, so that every entity is what it is only by relation to everything else; or: every change occurring in a single entity is propagated throughout the world.

(9) Principle of Teleology: Every basic entity has a purpose or aim towards which it tends.

(10) Principle of Appetition: Every basic entity is purposively moved <u>from within </u>by its own essence.

(11) Principle of Panpsychism: Basic entities possess mental attributes: the primary relations between and among entities are perceptual relations, and all basic entities possess appetition. Space, time, and matter exist but are derivable from psychological relations between and among monads.