

# Hylomorphism

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Hylomorphism What is Hylomorphism? Hylomorphism refers to philosophical concept that holds that natural bodies/ beings are inherently made of two principles; matter and form. Aristotle developed the Hylomorphism theory under the philosophy of nature. The two principles help define the nature of being and how change actually occurs. Matter in nature refers to the make-up of a being; that which a being, let's say X, is made or composed of. Consequently, matter becomes a relative term when talking about a being. Matter becomes essential to being since it is the element/ principle that undergoes change. Form on the other hand is a factor that is derived from the way that we perceive an object. It is what is seen and judged to be the nature of a being. In relation to change, form is subject to change once matter undergoes the process; matter changes form when subject to the elements of change. Understanding how the two principles exist makes it relatively easy to determine the effect that a certain change factor could have on a being (The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica).

How does it differ from substance dualism?

Substance dualism is a philosophical concept classified under the general dualism class (argues that there are essentially two substances that exist; the mental and the physical). Substance dualism postulates that the physical and the mental elements are separate and they exist independent of each other. Taking this view is inherently different from that taken by Hylomorphism, given the nature that change can take place in either of them. Under substance dualism, physical change can take place without affecting the mental and vice versa. On the other hand, Hylomorphism holds that change in matter must affect form and the alternative holds true.

Works Cited

<https://assignbuster.com/hylomorphism/>

The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. Hylomorphism. 23 December 2013.  
Web. 4 March 2014.