

25124 - History of Aesthetics

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2019/20

Subject: 25124 - History of Aesthetics

Faculty / School: 301 -

Degree: 278 - Degree in Fine Arts

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 2

Semester: Second Four-month period

Subject Type: Optional

Module: ---

1.General information

1.1.Aims of the course

1.2.Context and importance of this course in the degree

1.3.Recommendations to take this course

2.Learning goals

2.1.Competences

2.2.Learning goals

2.3.Importance of learning goals

3.Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

3.1.Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

4.Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1.Methodological overview

The methodology followed in this course is oriented towards achievement of the learning objectives. It combines theory, which is based on the projection of different materials, text, explanations and audiovisual material (music, videos and Power Point presentations...) to present the concepts and their key aesthetic reflection, with student participation in the form of research, class discussion, guided readings, commentaries and the problematization of the fundamental topics.

Other activities consist on discussions and exhibitions in class, presentations of supervised research assignments.

4.2.Learning tasks

The course includes the following learning tasks:

- **Lectures.** Presentation or explanation by the teacher (and, to the extent possible, of external collaborators as appropriate to a specific topic) accompanied by images (videos, slides, etc.).
- **Contributions** from the students themselves about the main problems associated with aesthetic reflection, through class discussions and written assignments.
- **Reading** comprehension and analysis of texts which develop and complement the course contents.
- **Presentation** of a guided research assignment. Students present the assignment they elaborate under the

supervision of a teacher on a previously agreed topic.

- Content explanations through **materials** of interest for the students such as videos, movies or documentaries.
- Participation in a web **forum** which presents relevant texts for the understanding of the main aesthetics ideas in order that students can make their contributions, discussions and opinions in an open format.

4.3.Syllabus

The course will address the following topics:

Topic 1. Introduction to aesthetics. Aesthetics in Greek culture. Objectivity of what is beautiful. Plato. Beauty and art. Aristotle. Mimesis, likelihood and catharsis. The aesthetic sensibility of the middle ages. The transcendental aesthetic.

Topic 2. Aesthetics in the enlightenment. Kant. The criticism of the trial. The genius. *Sturm und drag*. Hegel. The historicity of aesthetics.

Topic 3. The crisis of modernity. Nietzsche and the vitality of art. The artistic avant-gardes.

Topic 4. The aesthetic thought in hermeneutics. Art and poetry. Heidegger.

Topic 5. Analysis of the creative process. The notion of creativity.

Topic 6. The contemporary sensibility. Impressionism, neo-Impressionism and post-impressionism. German expressionism.

Topic 7. The aesthetics of the war. Political-artistic projection of the aesthetics of the war. Futurism and Dadaism. Art at the service of the complaint and the social criticism of the war.

Topic 8. Postmodernity and Liberation of the subject. Nietzsche and post-modern aesthetics. Surrealism and exploration of consciousness. Everyday life and the possible freedom.

Topic 9. New social imaginaries. The monsters in the contemporary social imaginary. Science fiction films. The superheroes in the comic. The comic *underground*.

Topic 10. Counterculture, beat generation, and more beyond. Social and political response from the counterculture.

Topic 11. Art, culture and new media. Youth culture. Fashion, music and video games. Incidence in the new representations.

Topic 12. Violence and alienation in the modern city. Automation and control of the media. The society of the spectacle. Art and secularization. Human existence to the silence of God.

4.4.Course planning and calendar

Provisional course planning

- 1st week: topic 1. INTRODUCTION TO AESTHETICS. AESTHETICS IN GREEK CULTURE. OBJECTIVITY OF WHAT IS BEAUTIFUL. PLATO. BEAUTY AND ART.
- 2nd week: topic 1. ARISTOTLE. MIMESIS, LIKELIHOOD AND CATHARSIS. SENSITIVITY AESTHETICS OF THE MIDDLE AGES. THE TRANSCENDENTAL AESTHETIC.
- 3rd week: topic 2. AESTHETICS IN THE ENLIGHTENMENT. KANT. THE CRITICISM OF THE TRIAL. THE GENIUS. *STURM UND DRAG*.
- 4th week: topic 2. HEGEL. THE HISTORICITY OF AESTHETICS.
- 5th week: topic 3. THE CRISIS OF MODERNITY. NIETZSCHE AND THE VITALITY OF ART. THE ARTISTIC AVANT-GARDES.
- 6th week: topic 4. THE AESTHETIC IN THE HERMENEUTIC THOUGHT. ART AND POETRY. HEIDEGGER.
- 7th week: topic 5. ANALYSIS OF THE CREATIVE PROCESS. THE NOTION OF CREATIVITY.
- 8th week: topic 6. THE CONTEMPORARY SENSIBILITY. IMPRESSIONISM, NEO-IMPRESSSIONISM AND POST-IMPRESSSIONISM. GERMAN EXPRESSIONISM.
- 9th week: topic 7. THE AESTHETICS OF THE WAR. POLITICO-ARTISTICA PROJECTION OF THE AESTHETICS OF THE WAR. FUTURISM AND DADAISM. ART AT THE SERVICE OF THE COMPLAINT AND SOCIAL CRITICISM OF THE WAR.
- 10th week: topic 8. POSTMODERNITY AND LIBERATION OF THE SUBJECT. NIETZSCHE AND POST-MODERN AESTHETICS. SURREALISM AND EXPLORATION OF CONSCIOUSNESS. EVERYDAY LIFE AND THE POSSIBLE FREEDOM.
- 11th week: topic 9. NEW SOCIAL IMAGINARIES. THE MONSTERS IN THE CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL IMAGINARY. SCIENCE FICTION FILMS. THE SUPERHEROES IN THE COMIC. THE UNDERGROUND COMIC.
- 12th week: topic 10. COUNTERCULTURE, BEAT GENERATION, AND MORE BEYOND. SOCIAL AND POLITICAL RESPONSE OF THE COUNTERCULTURE.
- 13th week: topic 11. ART, CULTURE AND NEW MEDIA. YOUTH CULTURE. FASHION, MUSIC AND VIDEO GAMES. INCIDENCE IN THE NEW REPRESENTATIONS.
- 14th week: topic 12. VIOLENCE AND ALIENATION IN THE MODERN CITY. AUTOMATION AND CONTROL OF THE MEDIA. THE SOCIETY OF THE SPECTACLE. ART AND SECULARIZATION. THE EXISTENCE HUMAN BEFORE THE SILENCE OF GOD.

- 15th week: information and doubts regarding the final assessment.

Further information concerning the timetable, classroom, office hours, assessment dates and other details regarding this course will be provided on the first day of class or please refer to the "Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y Humanas" website.

4.5. Bibliography and recommended resources