

Academic Year/course: 2022/23

## 25124 - History of Aesthetics

### Syllabus Information

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**Academic Year:** 2022/23

**Subject:** 25124 - History of Aesthetics

**Faculty / School:** 301 - Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y Humanas

**Degree:** 278 - Degree in Fine Arts

**ECTS:** 6.0

**Year:** 2

**Semester:** Second Four-month period

**Subject Type:** Optional

**Module:**

### 1. General information

### 2. Learning goals

### 3. Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

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

The student must demonstrate that he/she has achieved the expected learning outcomes through the following evaluation activities.

Students who opt for a continuous evaluation system must attend class regularly (3 absences maximum). In addition, they will carry out the following tasks:

1º Accredit a basic knowledge of each of the topics exposed in class. The student will elaborate a summary of each one of them and the teacher will evaluate his knowledge by means of a test. These actions will be valued with a maximum of 5 points. To pass this test the student must, at least, demonstrate that he/she is able to make by him/herself a written summary of each of the topics and to know, understand and know how to explain basic concepts of his/her own summary.

2º Preparation by groups of one of the offered topics. Presentation in class and dialogue about it with the teacher and classmates. The elaborated topic will be written in an academic work, individually or in groups. These activities will be valued with a maximum of 5 points. To pass this test the student must demonstrate that he/she can do a basic academic paper on the chosen topic, that he/she has worked in a team and that he/she is able to explain in public the basic aspects of the chosen topic. 50% of this grade will be obtained for the group presentation.

Students who opt for a global evaluation will have to take a final global test on one of the topics of the subject program. This test will have a duration of two hours and will be graded from 0 to 10 points. To pass this test the student must, at least, summarize and explain correctly the concepts expressed in the development of the corresponding topic of the program.

### 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

Introduction: Aesthetics and Philosophy of art in its history.

TOPIC 1. Aesthetics in Greek culture. Objectivity of the beautiful. Plato. Beauty and art. Aristotle. Mimesis, verisimilitude and catharsis.

TOPIC 2. Aesthetics in the Enlightenment. Kant. The critique of judgment, the beautiful, the sublime and genius.

TOPIC 3. German idealism: Hegel, Schiller and Hölderlin.

TOPIC 4. The crisis of Modernity. Nietzsche and the vitality of art. The artistic avant-garde.

TOPIC 5. Aesthetics, phenomenology and hermeneutics: Merleau Ponty, M. Dufrenne and H. G. Gadamer.

TOPIC 6. Critical aesthetic theory: Adorno, W. Benjamin.

TOPIC 7. The dehumanization of art in Ortega y Gasset.

TOPIC 8. Postmodernity and liberation of the subject. Aesthetic deconstruction. Derrida and Lyotard.

TOPIC 9. Artur Danto and the end of art.

TOPIC 10. Art and objects. Graham Harman and the object-oriented Ontology.

The course will address the following topics:

Introduction: Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art in its history.

ITEM 1. Aesthetics in Greek culture. Objectivity of the beautiful. Plato. Beauty and art. Aristotle. Mimesis, plausibility and catharsis.

ITEM 2. The aesthetics in the Enlightenment. Kant. The critique of judgment, the beautiful, the sublime, the genius.

ITEM 3. German idealism: Hegel, Schiller and Hölderlin.

ITEM 4. The crisis of Modernity. Nietzsche and the vitality of art. Artistic avant-gardes.

ITEM 5. Aesthetics and phenomenology. Merleau Ponty and M. Dufrenne.

ITEM 6. Aesthetic thinking in hermeneutics. Heidegger and Gadamer.

ITEM 7. Critical aesthetic theory: Adorno, W. Benjamin

TEMA 8. The 'dehumanization' of art in Ortega y Gasset.

ITEM 9. Postmodernity and release of the subject. Aesthetic deconstruction. Derrida.

ITEM 10. Arthur C. Danto and the end of art.

### 4.4. Course planning and calendar

#### Provisional course planning

First, second and third weeks :Introduction: Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art in its history.

Week 4: ITEM 1. Aesthetics in Greek culture. Objectivity of the beautiful. Plato. Beauty and art.

Aristotle. Mimesis, plausibility and catharsis.

Week 5: ITEM 2. The aesthetics in the Enlightenment. Kant. The critique of judgment, the beautiful, the sublime, the genius.

Week 6: ITEM 3. German idealism: Hegel, Schiller and Hölderlin.

Week 7: ITEM 4. The crisis of Modernity. Nietzsche and the vitality of art. Artistic avant-gardes.

Week 8: ITEM 5. Aesthetics and phenomenology. Merleau Ponty and M. Dufrenne.

Week 9: ITEM 6. Aesthetic thinking in hermeneutics. Heidegger and Gadamer.

Week 10: ITEM 7. Critical aesthetic theory: Adorno, W. Benjamin

Week 11: ITEM 8. The 'dehumanization' of art in Ortega y Gasset.

Week 12: ITEM 9. ITEM 9. Postmodernity and release of the subject. Aesthetic deconstruction. Derrida.

Week 13: ITEM 10. Arthur C. Danto and the end of art.

Week 14: Delivery of papers and summaries of the topics

Week 15: Interviews of continuous evaluation