

PHIL3313
Aesthetics 美學

Course Outline

Time :	M 10:30-13:15	Location :	ERB 408
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Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)

This course is an introduction to the history of philosophical aesthetics from Plato to Dewey. The primary topics are the nature and value of art, the concept of beauty, and taste and aesthetic judgment.

Advisory to Majors: to be taken in year 2 or above.

Learning outcomes (as shown on CUSIS)

1. Understand the historical and cultural conditions of the emergence of aesthetic theories.
2. Grasp the contribution of aesthetic to the understanding of the human condition.
3. Develop a critical view on aesthetic theories themselves.
4. Grasp the potential of aesthetic theories in promoting intercultural understanding.
5. Develop students' ability to research independently on the issues taught.

Topics

Beauty and the arts in Plato

Aristotle on tragedy

Beauty and the arts in Plotinus

Taste and sublimity in 18th century aesthetics (Burke, Hume)

Kant, *Critique of Aesthetic Judgment*

Hegel, *Lectures on the Philosophy of Fine Art*

Schopenhauer on beauty and the arts

Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy*

Dewey, *Art As Experience*

Assessment scheme

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Writing assignment 1	Write an answer (about 1000 words) to a question on Plato, Aristotole, or Plotinus	30 %
Writing assignment 2	Write an answer (about 1000 words) to a question on Hume, Kant, or Hegel	30%
Writing assignment 3	Write an answer (about 1000 words) to a question on Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, or Dewey	30%
Attendance and participation	Regular attendance in the class, questions, discussion	10%

Recommended learning resources

Instructor will provide PDF file with all required readings

Additional useful information on all topics of the course is available on the *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*

<http://www.iep.utm.edu/>

And on the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*

<http://plato.stanford.edu/>

Course schedule

Week	Topics	Required reading	Tutorials	Remarks
1	Classical Philosophy of Art and Beauty	Plato, <i>Symposium</i>		
2		Plato, <i>Republic</i>		
3		Aristotle, <i>De Poetica</i>		
4		Plotinus, <i>Concerning the Beautiful</i>		
5	Aesthetics in Modern Philosophy	David Hume, <i>The Standard of Taste</i>		
6-7	Kant's Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art	Kant, <i>Critique of Aesthetic Judgment</i>		
8-9	Hegel's aesthetics and philosophy of art	G. W. F. Hegel, <i>Philosophy of Fine Art</i>		
10	Schopenhauer	Schopenhauer, <i>Metaphysics of Fine Art</i>		
11	Nietzsche on Tragedy and Greek philosophy	Nietzsche, <i>Birth of Tragedy</i>		
12	Dewey: Pragmatism and the Philosophy of Art	Dewey, <i>Art As Experience</i>		

Contact details for teacher(s) or TA(s)

Teacher	
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