# PHIL 4153 Philosophy of Culture 文化哲學

#### **Course Outline**

| Time: Mon 13:30-16:15 | <b>Location:</b> | To be confirmed |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
|                       |                  |                 |

#### Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)

This course provides an introduction to philosophy of culture. Topics include: the distinction between culture and nature; the differences between cultural and natural sciences in terms of goal and method. Emphasis will be put on the diversity of methodological approaches. Comparative study of different cultural fields and their philosophical bearings will also be treated.

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 various theories in philosophy of culture.
- 2. Grasp the contribution of philosophical reflections of culture to the understanding of the human condition.
- 3. Develop critical view on theories in philosophy of culture themselves.
- 4. Grasp the potential of philosophy of culture in reflections on intercultural understanding.
- 5. Enhanced ability to research independently on the issues taught.

Topics: What is a culture? How do we reflect philosophically on the idea of "culture"? What does it mean to be "embedded" in a culture?

Learning activities: Lectures; class discussions; presentations; oral exam

# Assessment scheme as prescribed on CUSIS (revise if necessary)

| Task nature       | Description | Weight |
|-------------------|-------------|--------|
| Mid-term exercise |             | 25%    |
| Oral exam         |             | 40%    |
| Final Essay       |             | 35%    |

Remarks on Assessment Scheme: The course works on the assumption of class attendance and participation. 5% automatic reduction for failure to attend a scheduled session (unless an exemption has been requested beforehand, and approved in writing by the instructor).

## **Grade Descriptor**

Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade descriptors.pdf

## **Recommended learning resources**

### Course schedule

| Week                 | Topics  | Teaching Mode      | Required reading  | Tutorials | Remarks                             |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|---|-----------|-------------------------------------|
|                      |   | Online / in-campus |   |           |                                     |
| I (Jan.<br>8)        | What is "culture"?  | In-campus          | Introduction to the notion of "culture"                     |           | Text will be made available on-line |
| II<br>(Jan.<br>15)   | "Nature" and "Culture" I  | In-campus          | Geertz, On the<br>Interpretation of<br>Cultures, pp. 3-30   |           | Text will be made available on-line |
| III<br>(Jan.<br>22)  | "Nature" and "Culture" II   | In-campus          | Husserl, <i>Ideas II</i> ,                                  |           | Text will be made available on-line |
| IV<br>(Jan.<br>29)   | The crisis of the "human" and "natural sciences"                        | In-campus          | Husserl, <i>Crisis</i> , pp.;<br>The Vienna lecture;<br>pp. |           | Text will be made available on-line |
| V<br>(Feb.<br>5)     | Culture as a "world"  | In-campus          | Heidegger, <i>Being and Time</i> , Div I, Chapter Three     |           | Text will be made available on-line |
| VI<br>(Feb.<br>19)   | Husserl on "Home-world" and "foreign-world"                             | In-campus          | Husserl texts from various sources                          |           | Text will be made available on-line |
| VII<br>(Feb.<br>26)  | The "renewal" of culture  | In-campus          | Husserl, Kaizo I  |           | Text will be made available on-line |
| VIII<br>(Mar.<br>11) | The renewal of<br>self as the<br>analogical "base"<br>of the renewal of | In-campus          | Husserl, Kaizo III  |           | Text will be made available on-line |

|                      | culture                  |           |                   |                                     |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| IX<br>(Mar.<br>18)   | The renewal of community | In-campus | Husserl, Kaizo IV | Text will be made available on-line |
| X<br>(Mar.<br>25)    | The history of a culture | In-campus | Husserl, Kaizo V  | Text will be made available on-line |
| XI<br>(Apr.<br>8)    |                          | In-campus |                   | Text will be made available on-line |
| XII<br>(Apr.<br>15)  |                          | In-campus |                   | Text will be made available on-line |
| XIII<br>(Apr.<br>22) |                          |           |                   |                                     |
|                      |                          |           |                   |                                     |

### **Details of course website**

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

| Teacher          |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Name:            | Buckley, Philip                  |
| Office location: | Fung King Hey Building: Room 417 |
| Telephone:       |                                  |
| Email:           | philip.buckley@mcgill.ca         |

| TA               |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Name:            | Agne Veisatite        |
| Office location: |                       |
| Telephone:       |                       |
| Email:           | agnveisaite@gmail.com |

## Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/</a>

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed <u>declaration</u> that they are aware of these

policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.