UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Estetica

2021-2-E2001R006

Course title

Fundamental concepts of aesthetics: beauty, art, society

Topics and course structure

The course will explore some of the most significant concepts and moments of modern aethetics. In the first part, after an introduction on the birth of modern asthetics as a philosophical discipline, we will focus on Kant's conceptualisation of the beautiful the sublime and on Schopenhauer's aesthetics. In the second part, we will consider the rethinking of the notion of the beautiful and the role and function of art in industrialised societies in Adorno-Horkeimer and Benjamin, then moving to the problematisation of the Western idea of the beautiful to be found in Jullien's intercultural aesthetics.

Objectives

Methodologies

Due to the measures for the containment of the Covid-19 pandemic, lectures will be either recorded or streamed online using the WebEx platform.

Online and offline teaching materials

Slides and selected passages will be provided during the lectures

Programme and references for attending students

· Three of the following texts:

1. I. Kant, *Critica della capacità di giudizio*, a cura di L. Amoroso, Milano: BUR, 2013, only the Introduction and sections from §1 to §30.

2. A. Schopenhauer, *Il mondo come volontà e rappresentazione*, Torino: Einaudi, 2013, only vol. 1, book III (pp. 227-348)

3. W. Benjamin, *L'opera d'arte nell'epoca della sua riproducibilità tecnica*, Torino: Einaudi, 2014.

4. F. Jullien, *Quella strana idea di bello*, Bologna: il Mulino, 2012.

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Further readings:

Vercellone, A. Bertinetto, G. Garelli, *Lineamenti di storia dell'estetica. La filosofia dell'arte da Kant al XXI secolo*, Bologna: il Mulino, 2008, capp. 1, 2, 7.

L. Amoroso, *Il battesimo dell'estetica*, Pisa: ETS, 1993

T.W. Adorno, M. Horkheimer, "L'industria culturale", in *Dialettica dell'illuminismo*, Torino: Einaudi, 2010.

Programme and references for non-attending students

Same as for attending students

Assessment methods

Oral examination. Candidates will be able to choose between two formats:

1) Brief discussion of topic of their choice (among the topics discussed within the course) + two questions

2) Three questions

NB During the Covid-19 pandemic, exams will be online, on the WebEx platform. A link will be made publicly available before the day of exminations.

Assessment criteria: knowledge of topics and themes discussed in class; knowledge of texts; critical thinking; terminological precision

Office hours

Please email the teaching staff to organise

Programme validity

Two academic years

Course tutors and assistants

N/A