UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Sistemi di Pensiero e Storia della Mentalità

2324-1-F0101R010

Course title

Subjects and Power

Topics and course structure

Taking its lead from the research of Foucault, this class aims to examine and discuss processes of subject formation and forms of resistance to power.

Objectives

Through this teaching, by means of an active attendance to lectures, we intend to promote:

- Knowledge and understanding of the models of self-understanding of the human being - understood both as a singularity and in relation to different social formations - developed within the Western philosophical tradition, with particular reference to the ontological, ethical, political, religious and cultural variables in general that structure the fields of experience and sediment in collective mentalities;
- Ability to put into relation different paradigms, grasping the recurring tension between historical and transcendental approaches;
- Ability to apply knowledge and models, contributing to the development of critical skills for interpreting cultural contexts, and to the autonomy of judgment with respect to the theoretical tools and research protocols deployed.

Methodologies

The course makes use of different methodologies: lectures; class discussions on materials such as texts (including those scheduled for the exam), slide presentations, audiovisual documents provided by the lecturer or independently proposed by students; participation of scholars presenting current research.

Online and offline teaching materials

Texts, PPP slides, videos.

Programme and references

Reading list:

- G. Deleuze, *La soggettivazione. Corso su Michel Foucault*, Ombre corte 2020;
- M. Foucault, *La volontà di sapere*, Feltrinelli, 1978 o successiva ristampa;
- M. Foucault, *L'uso dei piaceri*, Feltrinelli 1984 o successiva ristampa (solamente *Introduzione*);
- M. Foucault, *Tecnologie del sé*, Bollati Boringhieri 1992 (solamente i contributi di Foucault);
- G. Agamben, *L'uso dei corpi*, Neri Pozza 2014 (solamente Parte 1, cap. 3 e Intermezzo 1)

In addition, a text of your choice from amongst:

- D. Haraway, *Manifesto Cyborg*, Feltrinelli 1995 o successiva ristampa;
- R. Braidotti, *Il post-umano*, DeriveApprod, 2014;
- J. Butler, *L'alleanza dei corpi*, Nottetempo, 2023;
- S. Bubeck et alii, *Sparks of Artificial Intelligence: Early Experiments with GPT-4* (disponibile sulla pagina e-learning dell'insegnamento).

Other short texts may be uploaded and made available on the course elearning page.

Assessment methods

The examination consists of an oral exam aimed at verifying the knowledge acquired through the critical study of the texts listed in the syllabus and the work done in class (the latter only for those attending). The acquisition of specific disciplinary language and the ability to draw appropriate connections between the course topics will also be assessed.

Office hours

By appointment, writing to: giorgio.bertolotti@unimib.it

Programme validity

Programs are valid for two academic years.

Course tutors and assistants

Dr. Giacomo Clemente

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS