



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Psicologia dell'Arte

2425-2-E2004P013

Learning area

2: Study of the psychological aspects underlying communication.

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- Theories and methods in psychology of art.
- The relationship between style, shape and content.
- Structure and aesthetic appreciation.
- The relationship between art and communication.

Applying knowledge and understanding

- Declination of the aesthetic experience: perceptual, cognitive and emotional components.
- Ability to relate to works of art regardless of one's own taste.
- Implementation of practical exercises for the development of 'soft skills' related to classroom lessons, communication in artistic contexts and communication practice in general. The purpose of these exercises, which are optional, are to: highlight issues concerning revolving around art creation and art consumption; critically connect students to their own territory; connect students to their creative skills,, prompt students to write short analytical essays.

Contents

How psychology approaches the arts will be analysed, as well as the similarities and differences between the practices of art and science. The following relationships will be discussed: 1) shape, content, and style; 2) art and communication; 3) the role of beauty and the ugliness in art; 4) style versus taste.

Detailed program

- Definitions of 'art' and 'psychology of art'.
- Psychological theories on art. Materials and methods.
- The origins of art: a hypothesis.
- The problem of verisimilitude.
- Art and Science.
- Form e content; style and taste.
- Art and communication.
- Short monographic theme: The role of light in visual art.

Prerequisites

It is assumed that the student already passed a course such as Introduction to Psychology and that s/he possesses basic knowledge about history of art.

Teaching methods

56 hours total. Classes are in-person lecture based.

Lectures, discussions, video presentations, optional exercises. Optional exercises allow to accumulate bonus points. If the student accumulates at least 10 bonus points, these may positively affect the final score of the exam.

The course is in Italian. Non Italian speakers can discuss an alternative program with the professor.

Assessment methods

Written exam with optional oral integration.

The exam is written, with thirty multiple-choice questions and three essay questions. With regards to the essay questions, the accuracy of the answers, the ability to discuss the issue, and the ability to summarize and create connections will be evaluated. Students who attend lessons on a regular basis are allowed to carry out the optional exercises, which allow to accumulate bonus points. If a student accumulates at least 10 bonus points, s/he will receive an exam point if the written exam totalized at least 18/30. Oral integrations are possible and can lead to an increment of maximum 3 points on the exam score.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

For erasmus students who are unable to read in Italian:

Rudolf Arnheim, *Art and visual perception* (The entire book).

All materials published on the course's webpage (lesson slides, movies, images, papers, documents) are also material of study.

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION | GENDER EQUALITY | SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
