UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Filosofia Teoretica - M-Z

2425-1-E1901R016-MZ

Course title

Hannah Arend and education

Topics and course structure

"The problem is admittedly more complex than the awkward question, 'Why can't Johnny read?' suggests." So wrote Hannah Arendt referring to the crisis of the U.S. school-education system in the mid 20th century. And she tried, in a text full of light and shadow, to account for this complexity, questioning the function of education and the obstacles it faces since the "thread that binds past and future has been broken."
This year's course intends to start precisely from Arendt's reflections to understand whether this situation, diagnosed more than 70 years ago, still concerns us.

Objectives

Knowledge and understanding

The first objective of this course in theoretical philosophy is to accustom students to a style of inquiry suited to critically analysing the categories of thought that explicitly or implicitly underpin discourses in the human sciences and the associated research practices and forms of intervention. Students will be led to recognize and problematize the interpretive approaches and conceptual distinctions underpinning understandings of the world in real-life contexts.

Application of knowledge and understanding*

The second objective of the course is to help students develop the capacity to reflect on the less obvious, and thus even more crucial, assumptions underlying their actions (whether theoretical or practical) in typical educational situations and settings. The expected learning outcome is enhanced awareness of the horizons of meaning that come into play in diverse sociocultural contexts and the main cognitive and normative structures underpinning mutual expectations in educational settings, which in turn will inform educational action.

Transferable learning outcomes

The third objective of the course is to enhance students' capacity to revisit and organize their knowledge, using their own independent judgement, while attending to underlying concepts, the layers of semantic meaning implicit in key terms, the logical-formal structure of arguments, and different possible regimes of truth.

Methodologies

28 lectures (2 hours each) in DE mode. The lectures will therefore comprise: introductory sessionesand discussions on the fundamental themes and perspectives of the theoretical pathway; guided analysis of the texts; comments on audiovisual materials.
The course is delivered in Italian.

Online and offline teaching materials

Course books, PowerPoint presentations, audio-visual materials.

Programme and references

Reading List:

Arendt H., *Tra passato e futuro*, tr. it. Garzanti, Milano 1991 (only Premessa, and chapters: La tradizione e l'età moderna; Che cos'è l'autorità; Che cos'è la libertà; La crisi dell'istruzione).

Further information about reading list and teaching materials will be posted at the beginning of the class.

Assessment methods

The examination, which is oral only, consists of an interview designed to test the knowledge acquired through critical study of the texts included in the examination program and the content of the lectures. It will also assess the acquisition of the specific disciplinary language and the ability to make appropriate connections between the topics of the lectures and the scientific and professional expertise that the degree course aims to form.
No in itinere tests will be administered.

Office hours

By arrengements with the instructor (e-mail: giorgio.bertolotti@unimib.it)

Programme validity

The programme is valid for two academic years.

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION