UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Philosophy of Art

2526-1-F5702R005

Course title

Philosophy of Art: Life, Theater, Formation

Topics and course structure

The course focuses on theater as total art, in the perspectives connected with creativity and staging as well as in its formative dimensions and ethico-political implications. It will consider certain moments in the history (or histories) of theater and cast light on their semiotic and symbolic structures. From ancient Greek theater, examined in Aristotle's *Poetics*, to Nietzsche's *Birth of Tragedy*, to figures in XX c. and contemporary theater such as J. Grotowski, we shall encounter crucial themes such as *mimesis* in its irreducibility to mere reproduction, emotional and affective involvement and hence learning through *pathos*, the exploration of the possible and of human potentialities and hence the relation to the discipline of history. Thus, the trajectory of the course leads to traditions and practices of perceptual-imaginal refinement and amplification, to the pedagogical resources inherent in dramaturgy and actor training, to an understanding of theater, of art and aesthetic experience broadly speaking, as a genuine path to knowledge.

The course is taught in Italian.

Objectives

In general, the course aims at developing: reading and interpretive abilities; capacity for autonomous articulation; critical and dialectical skills; self-awareness and formative abilities; listening and dialogical ability in pedagogical contexts.

Methodologies

Lectures and discussion (both plenary and in small groups) in equal measure. The course will include corporeal practices as well as the fruition of works of art (movies, music, poetry, etc.).

A few lectures, about 3-4, may be recorded (no live streaming) and posted on the e-learning page of the course.

During the semester we will also welcome outside guests from philosophical as well as artistic contexts.

Online and offline teaching materials

During the semester, materials in various formats may be posted on the homepage of the course, regarding themes addressed in the lectures.

Programme and references

Aristotle, *Poetics*
F. Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy*
Gregory Scott, *Dance Theory of Plato and Aristotle*, ExistencePS Press

Assessment methods

- Oral exam, in Italian, or English, or French
- Evaluation criteria: Clarity of exposition, Adequate knowledge of themes and reading assignments, Capacity for critical analysis and interpretation.
- No mid-term exam.
- The exam will include a reading exercise, a thematic exposition, and critical assessment of a theme addressed.
- The bibliography will be the same for attending as well as non-attending students, however the oral exam for students who attended the course may include topics or experiences treated in the classroom.

Although this course will be held in Italian, for Erasmus students the bibliography will also be available in English or French (an English bibliography is included here, for French the student should contact the teacher). Erasmus students will then be able to take the exam in English or French is they wish to do so.

Office hours

By appointment.

Programme validity

2 years.

Course tutors and assistants

Dr. Roberto Bartoccioni

Dr. Elena Bartolini

Dr. Andrea I. Daddi

Dr. Laura Rosella Schluderer

Dr. Alice Venditti

Dr. Giulia Zaccaro

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION | GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS