



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Pratiche Filosofiche

2627-1-F8502R005

Course title

Philosophical practices: Philosophical Life, creativity, *ethos*

Topics and course structure

What is the relationship between life, action (*praxis*), and thought? In what way is the human being itself the result of an architectonic and formative process? How can we deepen our reflection on the human condition? And how can we approach the still unapproachable question concerning human nature? Is the human being, then, an enigma to itself?

The course introduces students to philosophical practices—that is, to philosophy as a way of life (and thus as a process of formation, of giving form to the living) and to philosophical-spiritual exercises. In the systematic developments of the late ancient philosophical schools, as well as in Platonic and Aristotelian thought, philosophy, understood in its originally practical dimension, sheds light on the crucial issues of formative processes and relationships of care. The course then explores modern and contemporary reflections of these ancient insights, with particular attention to the thought of Martin Heidegger and Hannah Arendt.

The course is taught in Italian.

Objectives

Developing: reading and interpretive abilities; capacity for autonomous articulation; critical and dialectical skills; self-awareness and formative abilities; listening and dialogical ability in pedagogical/analytical contexts.

The following outcomes are expected:

1. Acquisition of in-depth knowledge with respect to the relationship of the pedagogical sciences with the other human and social sciences.
2. Development of knowledge and applicative capacities, and therefore:
 - (a) the capacity to use the theories and models of the human and social sciences to read the concrete contexts of intervention;
 - (b) the capacity to design and realize pedagogical interventions in relation to the dimensions that structure pedagogical work.
3. Development of individual autonomy of judgment, and therefore:
 - (a) the capacity for analyzing the complexity of the situation in which one will intervene;
 - (b) the capacity for constructing autonomous judgments and evaluations of the situation, on the basis of which to design and oversee the pedagogical intervention, acting reflectively in the light of ethical and deontological principles and in compliance with the regulations of the sector.
4. Development of communicative abilities, clarity in articulation and in showing the concrete implications of the philosophical posture.
5. Capacity to learn, and therefore:
 - (a) the capacity to identify the areas that it is necessary to deepen in one's own path of professional development;
 - (b) the capacity to organize the modalities necessary to access sources and support tools adequate to respond to one's own educational and professional needs;
 - (c) ability to use one's own knowledge and competences as an instrument of work and of orientation in complex situations, also from an interdisciplinary and interprofessional perspective, as well as sources of possible theoretical-practical connections.

Methodologies

The lectures will be held in Italian. The course consists of 19 lectures (total: 56 hours).

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.).

During the semester we will also welcome the philosophical contribution from outside guests. A few lectures (3-4) will be recorded and posted on the page of the course.

Online and offline teaching materials

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

The course is taught by Claudia Baracchi. Formal lecture segments will be interwoven with moments of seminar discussion and practice (exercises borrowed from ancient traditions, tested in a contemporary key).

The lecturer will provide materials to support non-traditional students in studying and preparing for the exam: short recordings (presentation of the syllabus, of the exam bibliography, of the organisation of the exam; indications on the oral interview; recapitulations of aspects, salient concepts dealt with in class); video materials available online (interviews with authors, conferences, documentaries...), and websites. The lecturer will be available (on request) to organise a distance meeting at the end of the course to recapitulate the topics covered, recall some indications for preparing for the exam, answer questions or doubts from students.

These materials, in various formats, on topics addressed in the semester, will be uploaded to the course e-learning site.

IN-DEPTH STUDY:

The following texts may be usefully consulted, on an optional basis, to broaden knowledge of the course topics:

P. Hadot, *Plotinus, or the Simplicity of the Gaze*(Einaudi)

P. Hadot, *Philosophy as a way of life*(Einaudi)

Plato, *Symposium*

J. Sallis, *Being and Logos*(Indiana University Press)

Simone Weil, *Intimations of Christianity Among the Ancient Greeks* (Routledge)

Programme and references

Although this course will be held in Italian, for Erasmus students the course materials will also be available in English or French. Erasmus students will then be able to take the exam in English or French if they wish to do so.

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*

Claudia Baracchi, *Aristotle's Ethics as First Philosophy*, Cambridge UP

Pierre Hadot, *What is ancient philosophy?*, Belknap

Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition*, The University of Chicago Press

Martin Heidegger, *Being and Time*

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

Please note again: Although this course will be held in Italian, for Erasmus students the course materials will also be available in English or French. Erasmus students will then be able to take the exam in English or French if they wish to do so.

Office hours

By appointment, in presence and/or online.

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
