

Giovanni Mugnaini

Crash Course:

Philosophy and its “Others”:

An introduction to Contemporary Aesthetic Approaches to Pop Culture, Fashion, Everyday Life

The aim of this course is to introduce the students to some possible applications of philosophical thought to such fields as Pop Culture, Fashion and Everyday Life: all subjects, the latter, that have been traditionally considered as unrelated to serious and rigorous philosophical investigation.

In order to provide all the students, independently of their background, with the conceptual tools that are required to properly appreciate this form of Western knowledge, namely philosophy, the introductory course will be divided in two parts. The aim of the first part is to introduce our students to the traditional “toolbox” of Western philosophical thought, and to provide everyone with a general historical background – albeit partial, yet functional – of notion and concepts, so to make them able to deal with some philosophical implication that they may encounter during their academic life. The second part of the course will introduce the students to some new currents of philosophical thought, and more precisely of aesthetic thinking, that deals with the abovementioned topics.

The course will be divided in five meetings of 2 hours each. From a methodological point of view, the course will include debates, lectures and the possibility of in-depth analysis of matters proposed by the students themselves. An active and participatory behaviour is highly appreciated and encouraged.

First Lesson: 2hrs, Tuesday 3 October 2023, 17-19. **In Presence, Room**

FIRST PART

“Western Philosophy”

- When did it begin? What does philosophy work with? What is its aim?
- The canonical articulation of Philosophy in branches: *Aesthetics, Logic, Ethics, Ontology, Epistemology*.

Second Lesson: 2hrs, Thursday 5 October 2023, 17-19. **In Presence, Room**

“Aesthetics: A brief history of the concept”

- What is *Aesthetics*? (Plato, Aristotle, Baumgarten, Kant).
- Philosophical vs Common sense meaning of the word *Aesthetics*.

Third Lesson: 2hrs, Thursday 12 October 2023, 14-16. **Online Teams**

SECOND PART

“New Trends in Aesthetics”

- What is the process called *Aestheticization*?
- From the “Museum” to the “World”
- *Everyday Aesthetics*.

Fourth Lesson: 2hrs Monday 16 October 2023, 17-19. **Online Teams**

“Pop Culture and Philosophy”

- How can Pop Culture become a Philosophical Matter?
- “High Culture”, “Low Culture” and “Everything in between”.

Fifth Lesson: 2hrs Monday 23 October 2023, 17-19. **In Presence, Room**

“Fashion and Philosophy”

- Is Fashion philosophically relevant?
- Contemporary implication of Fashion: Sustainability, Civil Rights, Politics and Critique Theory

A livestream from the class will be always available on Teams.

Keywords: Philosophy, Aesthetics, Aestheticization, Culture, Fashion.