

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. **COURSE TITLE**

Phenomenology and Aesthetics

2. **COURSE CODE**

HUMN4057

3. **No. OF UNITS**

3 Units

4. **OFFERING DEPARTMENT**

Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

5. **PREREQUISITES**

NIL

6. **MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION**

English

7. **AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

This course aims at introducing the basic ideas of phenomenology from Husserl, Heidegger to Merleau-Ponty, and their implications for art and aesthetics. It will use examples in art like painting, literature and performing arts to explore the implications of phenomenology for understanding art, Chinese art and aesthetics in particular.

8. **COURSE CONTENT**

This course will provide a sound foundation for the students in understanding the concerns, arguments and methods of the different versions of phenomenology. With phenomenology being one of the most important philosophical schools in the 20th century, this course should help students understand the other major trends of thought in the humanities (e.g. existentialism, hermeneutics and social phenomenology), and provide a solid theoretical foundation for doing research in humanities and cultural studies.

I. Husserl

(i) language and sign

(ii) stream of consciousness and constitution of phenomenon

(iii) life-world and meaning

II. Heidegger

(i) Being-in-the-world

(ii) temporality and historicity

(iii) origin of the work of art

III. Merleau-Ponty

(i) phenomenology of perception

(ii) visible and invisible

(iii) corporeality and art

IV. Phenomenological aesthetics

(i) Roman Ingarden on literary work of art

(ii) phenomenology and Chinese aesthetics

9. **COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)**

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	present the theoretical frameworks and arguments of different versions of phenomenology
CILO 2	write critically about the meanings of the phenomenology and its implications for art and aesthetics

10. **TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)**

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1	The students will be: introduced the basic theoretical frameworks and arguments of phenomenology, and be given selected original texts for intensive reading and discussion in the lecture.
2	required to do research about the arguments of these theories in tutorials and assignments, and be required to engage in critical discussion of their significance for art and aesthetics.

11. **ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)**

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Tutorial Presentations	30%	1,2	The presentation will test the students' ability in understanding the basic texts and presenting the major arguments of phenomenology clearly.
Assignment	30%	1,2	The assignment will test the students' ability in having in-depth discussion and analysis of the major arguments of phenomenology, consulting other secondary readings, and reflecting their relevance for arts and aesthetics.
Examination	40%	1,2	The examination will test the students' ability to engage in critical dialogue about the validity of the major arguments and their relevance for arts and aesthetics

END