

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE

Aesthetics: Philosophy of Arts

COURSE CODE

HUMN 4067

No. OF UNITS

3 Units

OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

PREREQUISITES

N.A.

COREQUISITES

N.A.

MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

This course aims to provide students with a systematic introduction in the basic ideas in philosophical aesthetics. Rather than impoverishing artistic experience by cold philosophical analysis, it aims at enriching aesthetic imagination by providing ideas incurred but probably unnoticed during the artistic experience. It helps students understand the aesthetic discussion and criticism in different art forms like painting, poetry to music, and the possible relation between them. Examples from different art forms from different cultures and historical periods will be used in teaching. This course can be understood as a progression from and further deepening of the undergraduate required course “Artistic Creativity and Aesthetic Awareness”.

COURSE CONTENT

- i. Introduction:
 - a) What is art? What is beauty?

- b) Art and nature
 - c) Structure, progression, harmony
 - d) Meaning: allegory, symbol, metaphor
 - e) Ugliness
 - f) Beauty and sublime
- ii. Painting
- a) Colour
 - b) Light and darkness
 - c) Structure and form
- iii. Literary art
- a) Poetry: Lyric, Epic, Drama
 - b) Prose
 - c) Novel
- iv. Music
- a) Melody
 - b) Rhythm
 - c) Harmony
- v. Philosophical aesthetics
- a) Brief history of philosophical aesthetics: from Plato, Kant, Hegel, to Adorno
 - b) Art and truth
 - c) Art and society

COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	present the ideas and arguments of philosophical aesthetics
CILO 2	write critically about the meanings and relevance of philosophical aesthetics for artistic experience in different art forms
CILO 3	engage in philosophical discussion about their own aesthetic experiences

TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1	In the lecture, students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be introduced the historical background and basic starting point of the philosophical aesthetics • be introduced the frameworks and main arguments of philosophical aesthetics for different art forms • be given selected original texts for intensive reading and discussion
2	In the tutorials, students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be required to present and discuss some specific ideas in philosophical aesthetics through presentation • be required to refer to the original texts in the presentation and discussion of their ideas through in-class discussion • be required to do critical research about the meanings of different ideas of aesthetics and their significance for artistic experience through writing assignment

3	<p>In the assignment and examination, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be required to give in-depth discussions about the ideas of philosophical aesthetics • be required to give examples of their own aesthetic experiences for philosophical discussion
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ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMS)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Tutorial Presentation	30%	1, 2	The presentation will test the students' ability in understanding the basic theories and arguments of philosophical aesthetics
Assignment	30%	2, 3	The assignment will test the students' ability in having in-depth discussion and analysis of the major ideas in philosophical aesthetics, consulting other secondary readings, and reflecting their relevance for different art forms
Examination	40%	1, 2, 3	The examination will test the students' ability to engage in critical dialogue about the validity of the major ideas of philosophical aesthetics and their relevance for different art forms

Programme Learning Outcome HUMN 4XXX Aesthetics: Philosophy of Arts	<u>PILO1</u> have up-to-date, in-depth cultural literacies through the study of selected classic and contemporary Humanities text	<u>PILO2</u> be able to analyze and form critical views in everyday cultural and social issues from a cross-cultural and interdisciplinary	<u>PILO3</u> be able to evaluate diverse thoughts and points of view	<u>PILO4</u> be able to present substantiated arguments in both English and Chinese	<u>PILO5</u> have acquired self-reflexive and creative thinking
CILO 1	✓		✓	✓	
CILO 2		✓	✓	✓	
CILO 3		✓		✓	✓

END