COURSE DETAIL

ENLIGHTENMENT AND ROMANTICISM
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Maastricht University – University College Maastricht
Program(s) University College Maastricht
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Philosophy History
UCEAP Course Number 100
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title ENLIGHTENMENT AND ROMANTICISM
UCEAP Transcript Title ENLIGHTMNT&ROMANTSM
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

The debate between Enlightenment and Romanticism has an enduring impact on discussions of today in art, politics, science, human identity, and social values. The Western world is hardly understood without knowledge of these two decisive periods. This course is a systematical introduction to these two, formative, opposed intellectual traditions. First, a historical context is presented to the political and ideological ambitions of the Enlightenment (enlightened despotism, Voltaire at the court of Frederick the Great, censorship and the diffusion of the Enlightenment). Secondly, the opposed approach to "Nature" is introduced; the influence of Newton, the rise of modern science, the Encyclopédie vs. Romantic science (e.g. Goethe's criticism on Newton's Theory of Color) and the role of the arts in the new approach to nature (such as landscape painting and romantic poetry). Then, the changes in the visual arts illustrate continuity and discontinuity in cultural history (Romanticism and Neo-Classicism). In the fourth place, human subjectivity in the Enlightenment (based on Lockean psychology and Self-love) is confronted to new approaches to the romantic soul (the unconsciousness, irrationality, Weltschmerz). This is also discussed with an analysis of the classic movie DANGEROUS LIAISONS (Stephen Frears, 1988). Finally, discussions about morals and politics are presented (Rousseau, the Social Contract, the slogans of the French Revolution vs. Romantic values concerning the State and personal relationships like love and friendship, nationalism).

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
HUM2005

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Host Institution Course Details
https://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/education/bachelor/university-college-maast...

Host Institution Campus University College Maastricht
Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Humanities
Course Last Reviewed 2021-2022

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