

COURSE DETAIL

STUDIES IN LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY

Country

Italy

Host Institution

University of Bologna

Program(s)

University of Bologna

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Philosophy

UCEAP Course Number

153

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

STUDIES IN LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY

UCEAP Transcript Title

LIT&PHIL STUDIES

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

This course is part of the laurea magistrale degree program and is intended for advanced level students. Enrollment is by permission of the instructor.

At the end of the course, students have acquired the theoretical and practical conceptual framework of the field of literature and philosophy studies, gaining a deep understanding of how philosophy and literature are two ways of reflection and expression of issues in common that can illuminate each other. At the end of the course, students are expected to possess: (1) knowledge of key theories and texts for the study of the interdisciplinary field of literature and philosophy, including philosophical and aesthetic texts on the study of literature, rhetorical and literary approaches to philosophical texts and philosophical theories of literary criticism, as well as familiarity with exemplary historical connections with a particular focus on the German context; (2) the ability to analyze convergences and differences in the argumentative, representative, and performative modes of the two disciplinary approaches with a particular focus on the different uses and registers of language in one and the other disciplinary context, as well as the development of critical awareness in relation to both textual traditions and their ways of addressing issues of ethical, social, and political significance; (3) differentiated and convincing presentation and argumentation skills that produce an original point of view in the debate, starting from a critical analysis of both philosophical and literary texts.

This course follows the traces of melancholy as a phenomenon connected to the longing for reference in both texts in philosophy of language and literature. During the course, students apprehend an important part of Western literary and philosophical reflection on questions regarding the nexus between language and (mostly) existential and (to a lesser extent) political questions. Students read and collectively interpret canonical and less canonical texts, and train their presentation and discussion skills.

The course traces the tradition of the linguistic turn back to one of its potential roots or affine forerunners, i.e., Early German Romanticism, to see how similar constellations were discussed and expressed in Modernism, and

finally engages with more openly postmodern texts. It ends on more optimistic tones (with Judith Butler) that stress the spaces of agency that open up when not being determined by a fixed reference scheme. Readings include: Derrida's *Grammatology*; Friedrich Schlegel's programmatic, theoretic texts; Hegel's critiques; the novel *Nightwatches of Bonaventura*; Nietzsche's *Twilight of the Idols*; Hofmannsthal's programmatic texts for the Sprachkrise; Borges' "Tlön, Uqbar, Orbis Tertius"; Ellis' *American Psycho*; Hermann's text "Red Corals"; and end with Butler.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

B6444

Host Institution Course Title

STUDIES IN LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY

Host Institution Campus

BOLOGNA

Host Institution Faculty**Host Institution Degree**

LM in PHILOSOPHICAL SCIENCES

Host Institution Department

Philosophy - FILO

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