UNIVERSITY OF WROCLAW – **ENGLISH** (and Spanish-speaking**) COURSES IN PHILOSOPHY (Institute of Philosophy)**

PLANNED IN THE **WINTER SEMESTER 2020/2021**

**Cycle Degree Programme: BA/ MA**

IMPORTANT:

- we offer you a list of courses in philosophy, but it is highly recommended to verify it after arrival with the official timetable and the actual information: <https://www.filozofia.uni.wroc.pl/Erasmus-2> in the first 3 weeks of October

- due to the COVID circumstances at least the first 3 meetings will be held online (on MS Teams) – to become a member of a MS Teams group and to join the classes you need to write directly to the lecturers and stay online during the time of your scheduled class – please, write to the lecturers of the courses you are interested in before the first or the second meeting and wait till they answer and add you to the class MS Teams group

- till the end of the third week of ongoing semester you should sign up for classes (or at least ask your lecturer to put your name on the USOS/ students’ list)

- we advise you to agree your LA with your Erasmus+ coordinator before you make any changes to your LA

- if you have any doubts or questions, please address them to: agnieszka.bandura@uwr.edu.pl (Erasmus+ Coordinator in the Institute of Philosophy/ the University of Wroclaw)

LIST OF WINTER COURSES:

1. Course title: **Introduction to Aesthetics**

Lecturer: Dr Agnieszka BANDURA, Asst. Prof.

Type of Class: Seminar, 30 hours

ECTS credits: 6

**TUE 16.30-18.05 [first class Oct 6th]**

**classes in October ONLINE on MS Teams – write to** **agnieszka.bandura@uwr.edu.pl** **to be added to your group and attend the online meeting**

**[important: Oct 22 – instead of Tuesday classes we attend Wednesday ones/ there’s no Tuesday classes]**

Course description/ contents:

1. Aesthetics as science or philosophical discipline:

- search for a method (feeling and intuition, analysing, understanding, interpreting),

- problem of subject-matter (art, beauty and other aesthetic values, aesthetic experience, artistic creation/ expression),

- aesthetic terminology/ language of aesthetics?

- a short history of (modern) aesthetics (aesthetics of taste; Baumgarten “science and art of sensual cognition”; “extensive clarity” as a property of artwork; role of imagination and genius in creation; Kant’s aesthetic judgement; antinomies of aesthetics; the sublime)

2. Between representation and expression:

- imitation (mimesis),

- pictorial and linguistic representation,

- symbolic representation,

- the object of representation (could it not exist?),

- literal an metaphorical expression,

- status of expression: subjective or universal?

- “languages” of expression.

3. Question of definition:

- problems of “art”/ “artwork” definition and questions about it (e.g. “what is art?”, “what sort of concept is art?”, “when is art?” etc.),

- existentialism vs. non-existentialism,

- open concept of art and “family resemblance”,

- artworld and institutional genesis of “art” definition,

- when is art?

4. Problems of evaluation (criticism):

- from appreciation to art critique,

- tradition vs. novelty,

- good art, kitsch and popular culture (problems of so called “good taste”, pop/ mass-art, kitsch and common aesthetization processes),

- can anybody be an art critic?

5. Actual trends in contemporary aesthetics (some problems and ideas – overview):

- neopragmatism (Margolis, Shusterman),

- analytic and institutional philosophy of art (Goodman, Danto),

- “experimental”/ postmodern aesthetics (Lyotard),

- bio-aesthetics (evolutionary aesthetics and neuroaesthetics).

Recommended texts:

Art in Theory 1900-1990. An Anthology of Changing Ideas, 1992.

M.C. Beardsley, Aesthetics from classical Greece to the present. A short history, 1966.

N. Carroll, Philosophy of art. A contemporary introduction, 2000.

H. Foster (ed.), The Anti-Aesthetic. Essays on Postmodern Culture, 1983.

G. Graham, Philosophy of the Arts. An Introduction to Aesthetics, 1997.

N. Goodman, Languages of Art. An Approach to a General Theory of Symbols, 1976.

M. Kieran, Revealing Art, 2005.

M. Kieran (ed.), Knowing Art. Essays in Aesthetics and Epistemology, 2004.

P. Kivy (ed.), The Blackwell Guide to Aesthetics, 2004.

J.-F. Lyotard, The Inhuman: Reflections on Time, 1991.

P. Mattick, Art in its time. Theories and practices of modern aesthetics, 2003.

V. Ramachandran, The Artful Brain, 1989.

D. Scheunemann (ed.), Avant-garde/ neo-avant-garde, 2005.

W. Welsch, Aestheticization Processes: Phenomena, Distinctions and Prospects, 1997 [http://www2.uni-jena.de/welsch/].

S. Zeki et al., Neural Correlates of Beauty, “Journal of Neurophysiology”, 2004, nr 91, p. 1699-1705.

2. Course title: **Main Questions of Epistemology and Philosophy of Mind**

Lecturer: Dr Elżbieta WALERICH, Asst. Prof.

Type of Class: Seminar, 30 hours

ECTS credits: 6

**WED 9.00-10.35, room 134 [first class Oct 7th]**

**classes in October ONLINE on MS Teams – write to** **elzbieta.walerich2@uwr.edu.pl** **to be added to your group and attend the online meeting**

Course description:

During this course I would like to take a look at the basic questions which appear in the contemporary theory of knowledge and philosophy of mind. I would discuss such problems as:

How can we know the external world?

How can we distinguish between appearance and reality?

What is truth?

The mind-body problem

The position of epistemological idealism

What is it like to be a bat? (The problem of subjectivity of cognition)

Readings:

R. Chisholm, The Foundations of Knowing, University of Minnesota Press 1982.

Contemporary Debates in Epistemology, Wiley Blackwell 2014.

T. Crane, What is the Problem of Perception?, Synthesis Philosophica 20, 2005: 237-264.

Th. Nagel, What Does It All Mean?, Oxford University Press 1987.

Th. Nagel, What Is It Like to Be a Bat?, The Philosophical Review, Vol. 83, No. 4 (Oct. 1974), pp. 435-450.

B. Russell, The Problems of Philosophy, Oxford University Press 2001.

3. Course title: **History of Ethics**

Lecturer: Dr hab. Paweł KOROBCZAK, Assoc. Prof.

Type of Class: Seminar, 30 hours

ECTS credits: 6

**MON 14.00-15.35 [first class Oct 5th]**

**classes in October ONLINE on MS Teams – write to** **pawel.korobczak@uwr.edu.pl** **to be added to your group and attend the online meeting**

Course description:

1. Introduction to subject and distinguishing basic notions. Theoretical-practical-methodological aspects.

2. Greek ethics as foundation of European ethical thought and its origins in Homer.

3. Pre-Socratic ethics (Sophists).

4. Athenian Enlightenments (Socrates, Plato, Aristotle).

5. Hellenist schools.

6. Christian ethics (Augustine, Thomas Aquinas).

7. Modernity (Descartes, Pascal, Leibniz, Kant).

8. On the verge of the present (Kierkegaard, Nietzsche).

Assessment criteria: presence on classes, activity (discussion), essay (topic approved by teacher).

Recommended texts:

1. Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, tr. by F.H. Peters, London 1886 (fragments).

2. Augustine, On Free Choice of the Will, tr. by T. Williams, Indianapolis 1993 (fragments).

3. Descartes, Discourse on the Method of Rightly Conducting One's Reason and of Seeking Truth in the Sciences, (fragments) http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/59.

4. Diogenes Laertios, Lives and Opinions of Eminent Philosophers, tr. by R. Drew Hicks (fragments) http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus:text:1999.01.0258.

5. Epictetus, The Encheiridion, tr. by G. Long, (fragments) http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0236%3Atext%3Denc.

6. Guthrie, W. K. C., History of Greek Philosophy, Vol. 3. Cambridge 1969 (fragments).

7. Kant, I., Groundwork for the Matephysics of Morals (fragments) http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/authors/kant.html.

8. Kierkegaard, S., Fear and Trembling, tr. by W. Lowrie, Princeton 1941 (fragments) http://www.religion-online.org/showbook.asp?title=2068.

9. Leibniz, G.W., Philosophical Essays, tr. by R. Ariew, D. Garber, Indianapolis 1989 (fragments)

10. Mill, J.S., Utilitarianism (fragments) http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/11224.

11. Nietzsche, F. On the Genealogy of Morals, tr. by I. Johnston, (fragments) http://records.viu.ca/~johnstoi/Nietzsche/genealogytofc.htm.

12. Plato, Dialogues, tr. by B. Jowett, Oxford 1892 (fragments).

13. Plotinus, The Six Enneads, tr. by S. Mackcenna, B.S. Page, (fragments) <http://classics.mit.edu/Plotinus/enneads.html>.