

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 333 Lec 01**  
**“Aesthetics”**  
**Fall Term 2008**

**Instructor:** Dr. K. Froese  
**Office:** SS 1328 (Department of Religious Studies)  
**Phone:** 403-220-3282  
**Office Hours:** R 12:30-2:00  
**Email:** [froese@ucalgary.ca](mailto:froese@ucalgary.ca)  
**Lectures:** TR, 11:00-12:15

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE**

This course offers an overview of various perspectives on aesthetics from ancient times to the contemporary era and includes not only the philosophy of art but also thinkers who see art as a way of living life that is essential for imbuing human life with meaning. Non-Western perspectives on art will also be included.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Mid-term Exam	Tuesday, October 23	40%*
Paper (8-10 pages)	Due in class Thursday, November 13	50%
Final in-class exam	Thursday November 27	10%*

The in-class exams **MUST** be written on the date specified. Make-up tests will only be granted under *exceptional* circumstances and must be accompanied by appropriate documentation. Paper topics will be distributed in class.

\*You may choose to count the exam for which you receive the highest grade for 40% and the other midterm for 10%. In other words, if your grade for the final in-class exam is higher than that of the mid-term, you may count that for 40%.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

Friedrich Schiller, *On the Aesthetic Education of Man* (Dover, 2004)  
Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Judgement* (Dover)  
Friedrich Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy and the Case of Wagner* (Vintage)  
Additional required readings are available on Blackboard .

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS**

Assignments are designed to assist student in improving their writing, analytical and critical thinking skills. All papers must be submitted to the instructor at the **BEGINNING of the class** of the day indicated.

Late papers will be marked down at a rate of 3% per day. Extensions will only be granted under *exceptional* circumstances and must be accompanied by proper documentation (i.e., medical certificate, etc.). Computer breakdown is not a valid reason for an extension. *Students are expected to make back-up copies of all their assignments.*

## GRADING SCHEME

Grades will be assigned based on the following table:

A+ 95-100	B+ 77-79	C+ 67-69	D+ 55-59
A 85-94	B 74-76	C 64-66	D 50-54
A- 80-84	B- 70-73	C- 60-63	F 0-49

## COURSE OUTLINE

September 9: **Introduction**

September 11-15: **Plato**  
Readings: Diotima's speech from Plato's Symposium

September 18-25: **Kant**  
Readings: Kant: Critique of Judgment 1-3, 10-12, 13, 15, 16, 23, 26, 27, 28

September 30-October 2: **Schiller**  
Readings: Schiller: On the Aesthetic Education of Man  
Letters 1-3, 5, 6, 12, 14, 19, 25, 27

October 7-21: **Nietzsche**  
Readings: Nietzsche: Birth of Tragedy

October 28: **Heidegger**  
Readings: Heidegger: "Origins of the Work of Art"

October 30: **Marxist philosophy of art**  
Readings: Walter Benjamin: "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction"

November 4: **Postmodernism**  
Readings: Derrida: Differance

November 6: **Feminist Philosophy of Art**  
Readings: Helene Cixous: The Laugh of Medusa

November 13-December 4: **Non-Western Philosophy of Art**  
Readings: Ananda Coomaraswamy: "Understanding the Art of India"  
Edward Madden: "Some Characteristics of Islamic Art"  
Orhan Pamuk: "I am a Tree" from the novel "My Name is Red"  
Hugo Munsterberg: "Zen and Art"

### **INTELLECTUAL HONESTY**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that plagiarism exists when:

- *the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);*
- *parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;*
- *the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source; and/or*
- *a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.*

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

### **STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVE**

The Humanities Representative is Daniel Pagan, MSC 251, [humanitiesrep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:humanitiesrep@su.ucalgary.ca) or 220-3913.