



Universidad
**Católica de
Valencia**
San Vicente Mártir



Course Guide Aesthetics in the contemporary world

COURSE GUIDE

Aesthetics in the contemporary world

4th Year

Academic Year 2025-2026



Course of the Subject: Aesthetics in the contemporary world

		ECTS
SUBJECT: Aesthetics in the contemporary world		6
Module: Aesthetic and Philosophy of Arts		12
Type: Compulsory	CURSO: 4 ^o Semestre: 1 ^o	
Lecturer(s):	Department:	
Dr. Esteve Martín, Alfredo	E-mail: alfredo.esteve@ucv.es	

MODULE ORGANIZATION

AESTHETICS IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD		ECTS 6		
Duration and location within the study plan: It is part of the "Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art" module, which consists of 12 ECTS credits and contains two subjects (Evolution of aesthetic ideas until the 18th century, is offered in the 2 nd semester of the 3 st year; Aesthetics in the contemporary world, in the 1 st semester of the 4 th year).				
Subject Matter and Subjects				
Subject Matter	ECTS	Subject	ECTS	Year/ semester
Aesthetic	6	Evolution of aesthetic ideas until the 18th century	6	3/2
Aesthetic	6	Aesthetics in the contemporary world	6	4/1



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BASIC AND GENERALCOMPETENCIES	Weighting			
	1	2	3	4
1. Organization and planning			X	
2. Basic computer skills	X			
3. Problem-solving				X
10. Ability to apply knowledge to practical situations				X
11. Ability to learn and teach			X	

SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES	Weighting			
	1	2	3	4
17. To be able to pose philosophical questions			X	
18. To be able to relate different philosophical topics				X
23. To write philosophical essays and show evidence of analytical and synthetic skills			X	
25. To be able to understand and evaluate philosophical arguments				X
26. To be able to construct philosophical arguments			X	
35. To be able to interpret texts from different eras or cultural traditions, relating to others in the same or different times		X		
36. To be able to reflect on the aesthetic experience and the nature of the arts				X
37. To use specialized philosophical terminology and recognize categorical errors				X



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LEARNING OUTCOMES	COMPETENCIES
RA1. That students are able to identify the conceptual elements and issues of the Western aesthetic tradition around Art.	CG: 1, 2, 11 CE: 18, 25, 36, 37
RA2. That students are able to interpret philosophical texts and documentary sources on Art performing critical exercises of commentary using with precision terminology in the field of aesthetics.	CG: 2, 3, 10 CE: 17, 23, 26, 35, 36, 37
RA3. That students are able to describe the object of study of aesthetics as a discipline and its contribution to the philosophical training.	CG: 2, 3, 11 CE: 18, 37
RA4. That students are able to analyze the aesthetic problems in the trends of contemporary art.	CG: 2, 3, 10 CE: 17, 23, 26, 36, 37



LEARNING ACTIVITIES THROUGH SYNCHRONOUS COMMUNICATION			
ACTIVITY	Teaching-Learning Methodology	Relation to Learning Outcomes	ECTS ¹
VIRTUAL SESSION	Presentation of the content by the teacher, analysis of competencies, explanation and demonstration of skills, abilities and knowledge in the virtual classroom.	1, 3	0,7
PRACTICAL SESSION	Group work sessions through chat moderated by the teacher. Case studies, both true and fictitious, for the construction of knowledge through the interaction and activity of the student, critical analysis of values and social commitment.	1, 2, 3	0,3
SEMINAR AND VIDEO-CONFERENCE	Monographic sessions throughout the course, oriented to current aspects and applications of the subject.	1, 2, 3, 4	0,2
VIRTUAL EVALUATION	Set of written or oral tests, used in the initial, formative or summative evaluation of the student.	2, 4	0,1
TOTAL			1,30

¹ La asignatura y/o materia se organiza en **DOCENCIA VIRTUAL** y en TRABAJO AUTÓNOMO DEL ALUMNO, con un porcentaje estimado en ECTS. Una adecuada distribución es la siguiente: **40%** para las Actividades Formativas **DOCENCIA (60 horas)** y 60% para las de Trabajo Autónomo tutorizado (90 horas) para **una asignatura de 6 créditos**.



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LEARNING ACTIVITIES THROUGH ASYNCHRONOUS COMMUNICATION			
ACTIVITY	Teaching-Learning Methodology	Relation to Learning Outcomes	ECTS
INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES	Preparation of the final evaluation: student study, individual preparation of readings, essays, problem solving, assignments, reports, etc. for discussion or delivery in electronic format.	1, 2, 3, 4	2,3
INDIVIDUAL TUTORSHIP	Individual attention for monitoring and guidance of the learning process, carried out by a tutor with the aim of reviewing and discussing the materials and topics, seminars, readings, carrying out assignments, etc.	1, 3, 4	0,1
CONTINUOUS EVALUATION ACTIVITIES	Group work: group preparation of readings, essays, problem solving, seminars, papers, reports, etc. for discussion or delivery. Discussion forums: participation and contributions to discussion forums related to the subject, moderated by the professor of the subject. Resolution of problems, comments, reports to deliver in installments throughout the course, making videos individually or cooperatively, answering questionnaires.	1, 2, 3, 4	2,3
TOTAL			4,70



EVALUATION SYSTEM FOR THE ACQUISITION OF COMPETENCIES AND GRADING SYSTEM		
Evaluation Instrument	EVALUATED LEARNING OUTCOMES	Granted percentage
Attendance and participation in synchronous communication activities	RA1, RA2, RA3, RA4	10%
Carrying out deliverable activities and Periodic evaluation through questionnaires	RA1, RA2, RA3, RA4	50%
Final Evaluation	RA2, RA4	40%
The use of AI is not permitted in this subject.		

CONTENTS DESCRIPTION	COMPETENCIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Philosophy of Art in Romanticism. Hegel: the absolute spirit and the death of art.• The post-romanticism of Schopenhauer, Kierkegaard and Nietzsche.• Contemporary traditions: hermeneutics, pragmatism and metaphysics.• Current approaches: critical and social, analytical, phenomenological, evolutionary and neuroaesthetic approach.	CG: 1, 2, 11 CE: 18, 25, 36, 37



BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Dynamic text for the course (Aesthetics in the contemporary world) and other academic material produced by the teacher (Alfredo Esteve).
- HEGEL, G.W.F., *Introducción a la estética*, Ediciones Península, Barcelona 2001.
- SCHOPENHAUER, A., *El mundo como voluntad y representación (tomo II)*, Orbis, Barcelona 1985.
- GADAMER, H.G., *Verdad y método*, Ed. Sígueme, Salamanca 1988³.
- DEWEY, J., *El arte como experiencia*, Paidós, Barcelona 2008.
- ZUBIRI, X., *Sobre el sentimiento y la volición*, Alianza Editorial & Fundación Xavier Zubiri, Madrid 1992.
- BOZAL, V. (ed.), *Historia de las ideas estéticas y de las teorías artísticas contemporáneas* (vols. I y II), La balsa de la Medusa, Madrid 2004.

Bibliografía Complementaria:

- TATARKIEWICZ, W., *Historia de seis ideas. Arte, belleza, forma, creatividad, mimesis, experiencia estética*, Tecnos/Alianza, Madrid 2008.
- PLAZAOLA, J., *Introducción a la Estética: Historia, Teoría, Textos*, Universidad de Deusto, Bilbao 2007.
- VALVERDE, J.M., *Breve historia y antología de la estética*, Ariel Filosofía, Barcelona 1998.
- BEARDSLEY, M. C. & HOSPERS, J., *Estética: Historia y Fundamentos*, Ediciones Cátedra, Madrid 1997.
- MARTÍN PRADA, J., *Otro tiempo para el arte. Cuestiones y comentarios sobre el arte actual*, Sendema, Valencia 2012.
- KANDEL, E.C.; *La era del inconsciente*, Paidós, Barcelona 2021.
- ROF CARBALLO, J.; *Medicina y actividad creadora*, Revista de Occidente, Madrid 1964.



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TEMPORAL ORGANIZATION OF LEARNING		
	CONTENT BLOCK/DIDACTIC UNIT	NR. OF SESSIONS
1. Legacy of romantic aesthetics	1.1. The idealistic aesthetics in Hegel: nature or art? 1.2. Schopenhauer: art as access to the will	6
2. Great contemporary authors	2.1. Aesthetics as initiation to the hermeneutic circle in Gadamer 2.2. Art as experience according to John Dewey 2.3. Zubiri: affection feeling in apprehension of reality	7
3. Contemporary approaches	3.1. Critical and social approach 3.2. Neuroesthetics 3.3. Analytical perspective 3.4. Phenomenological aesthetics 3.5. Evolutionary aesthetics 3.6. Aesthetic anthropology	2