Syllabus

F. Schiller Letters upon the Aesthetic Education - 15746

Last update 28-04-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Philosophy

Academic year: 1

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Tatiana Karachentseva

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Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday, 13:00-14:00

Teaching Staff:
    Dr. Tatiana Karachentseva
Course/Module description:
During the course we will analyze Schiller's philosophical treatise "Letters upon the Aesthetic Education of Man", reconstruct its conceptual structure and clarify the meaning of its basic concepts, such as "play", "appearance", "reflection", and so on. We will try to explain the relation between Schiller's political theory and his Aesthetics. In addition, we will try to display the connection of Schiller's concept of "play" with that of Kant on the one hand, and with that of Gadamer on the other. We will discuss the importance of Schiller's ideas not only for the philosophy of 19th century but for the philosophy of our days as well. In particular, we will discuss the conceptual kinship between Rancière's theory of "Aesthetics as Politics" and Schiller's theory of aesthetic education.

Course/Module aims:
The purpose of the course is to analyze Schiller's philosophical treatise "Letters on the aesthetic education of Man", reconstruct its conceptual structure, clarify the meaning of its basic concepts (such as "play", "appearance", "reflection", and so on) and explain the relation between Schiller's political theory and his Aesthetics. The course also aims to display the connection of Schiller's concept of "play" with that of Kant on the one hand, and with that of Gadamer on the other; to elucidate the importance of Schiller's idea of the "drive to beauty" for Lacan's psychoanalysis, and to discuss the conceptual kinship between Rancière's theory of "Aesthetics as Politics" and Schiller's theory of aesthetic education.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Upon completion of this course the student will be able:

- To understand the system of the distinctions, assumptions and arguments which Letters on the aesthetic education of Man contains.
- To distinguish Schiller's solution to the problem of relationship between Nature and Freedom from Kant's solution to this problem and demonstrate the philosophical and political implications of these different solutions.
- To explicate the common denominator of the various philosophical trends (such as philosophical hermeneutics, psychoanalysis, and structuralism) and show its kinship with Schiller's theory of aesthetic education.

Attendance requirements(%):
100 %
Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Discussion will be the main method of this course.

Course/Module Content:
1. Introduction. Schiller and philosophy. "Letters upon the Aesthetic Education of Man" in the modern context.
2. Letters 1-4. The problem of transition from the natural State to the moral State.
4. Letters 8-10. The concept of Beauty.
5. Letters 11-12. The "Impulse to Form" as a way out of Space and Time.
13. Conclusions: Schiller, Kant and Rancière.

Required Reading:
J. C. Friedrich Von Schiller (1759-1805): Letters Upon The Aesthetic Education of Man, 1794
F. Schiller Aesthetical and Philosophical Essays
Kant, I. Critique of Judgment
Gadamer, H.-G. Truth and Method
Lacan, J. The Ethics of Psychoanalysis
Ranciere, J. The Politics of Aesthetics: The Distribution of the Sensible

Additional Reading Material:
Beiser, F. Schiller as Philosopher: A Re-examination
Behler, C. Nostalgic teleology: Friedrich Schiller and the schemata of aesthetic humanism
Glowacka, D., Boos, S. (ed.) Between ethics and aesthetics: crossing the boundaries
High, J., Martin, N., Oellers, N. (ed.) Who is this Schiller now?: essays on his reception and significance
Hill, D. Literature of the Sturm und Drang
Kain, Ph. J. Schiller, Hegel, and Marx: state, society, and the aesthetic ideal of ancient Greece
Macor, L. (ed.) Reading Schiller: Ethics, Aesthetics, Religion  
Martinson, S. (ed.) A Companion to the Works of Friedrich Schiller  
Miller, R.D. Schiller and the ideal of freedom: a study of Schiller’s philosophical works with chapters on Kant  
Pugh, D. Dialectic of love: Platonism in Schiller’s aesthetics  
Savile, A. Aesthetic reconstructions: the seminal writings of Lessing, Kant, and Schiller  
Sharpe, L. Friedrich Schiller: Drama, Thought and Politics  
Smith, J. & Weisser, A. (ed.) Everything is in everything: Jacques Ranciure between intellectual emancipation and aesthetic education  
Sychrava, J. Schiller to Derrida: idealism in aesthetics  
Witte, W. Law and the Social Order in Schiller's Thought

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 60 %  
Presentation 20 %  
Participation in Tutorials 20 %  
Project work 0 %  
Assignments 0 %  
Reports 0 %  
Research project 0 %  
Quizzes 0 %  
Other 0 %

Additional information: