UCLouvain

Ifilo2291

2020

Philosophy of History B

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information below is subject to change, in particular that concerning the teaching mode (presential, distance or in a comodal or hybrid format).

5 credits 30.0 h Q2

This biannual learning is being organized in 2020-2021

Teacher(s)	Maesschalck Marc ;						
Language :	French						
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve						
Main themes	The course will attempt to lay out the origin of the concept of a " philosophy of history " by distinguishing it from epistemological questions about the foundations of historical science.						
	The course will present a historical overview of the evolution of the concept of a philosophy of history.						
	Next, the course will present some observations on differing interpretations of the concept in order to point out the conflicts that set these interpretations against each other.						
	On this basis, a more specific debate shall be studied in order to provide an example of the general presentation.						
Aims	Upon successful completion of the course, the student should :						
	- Be able to identify the major schools of thought in the philosophy of history ;						
	- Know the fundamental concepts associated with those schools of thought;						
	- Be able to explain briefly the conflicts of interpretation that have resulted within contemporary thought.						
	The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".						
Evaluation methods	Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change. Students will be asked to write a 10 page on the basis of an author or a subject studied in the course. After emailing the paper, the student will receive a question on the paper to be prepared for the oral exam. The student will have approximately 15 min. to present this answer during the oral exam. The paper may be written in French, English, or Italian, with the professor's agreement. Students are invited to discuss with the professor the subject on which they would like to write their paper.						
Content	Philosophy of history: from ontology to anthropology						
	The philosophy of history, at least since Schelling and Hegel granted it recognition as a standalone discipline, has demonstrated fierce independence from any theory of knowledge applied to the historical sciences. The 20th century has maintained this separation, in particular by exploring its anthropological valence through fundamental concepts such as historicity and historiality, but also the rich conceptual network of forgetfulness and memory, or that of beginnings and endings. Messianism, millenarianism, utopism and dystopia, or even archaism, futurism and non-contemporaneity, these are all anthropic distortions that touch the experienced time of shared histories, which have marked reflections on the progressive exit of philosophies of history. Nevertheless, it is worth examining the epistemological recourse to these schemas in order to question their anthropomorphism in favor of ontological radicalization. Indeed, we will explore the interest of aiming for a form of being that doesn't necessarily emerge from the imaginary historical unity of a collective mental identity, but instead grows from the non-identity of a plural totality that is capable of coming together.						
Inline resources	Reading material will be published on Moodle.						
Bibliography	 Agamben, G., La communauté qui vient: théorie de la singularité quelconque, Seuil, Paris, 2014. Benjamin Andrew, Towards a Relational Ontology: Philosophy's Other Possibility, State University of New Yor Press, 2015. Das Saitya Brata, The Political Theology of Schelling, Edimburgh University Press, Edimburgh, 2018. Kenneth R. (2005), "Universalism and the Jewish Exception: Lacan, Badiou, Rosenzweig", in Umbr(a): The Dar God, No. 1, p. 43-71. Kühn Rolf, Anfang und Vergessen: phänomenologische Lektüre des deutschen Idealismus; Fichte, Schelling Hegel, Kohlhammer, Stuttgart, 2004. Matthews Bruce, Schelling's Organic Form of Philosophy: Life as the Schema of Freedom, State University of New-York Press, Albany, 2011. McGrath Sean J., The Dark Ground of Spirit. Schelling and the Unconscious, Routledge, London, 2013. 						

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Faculty or entity in	EFIL
charge	

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)							
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims			
Certificat universitaire en philosophie (approfondissement)	FILA9CE	5		٩			
Master [120] in French and Romance Languages and Literatures : French as a Foreign Language	FLE2M	5		٩			
Master [120] in Sciences of Religions	SREL2M	5		٩			
Master [120] in Ethics	ETHI2M	5		٩			
Master [60] in Philosophy	FILO2M1	5		٩			
Master [120] in Philosophy	FILO2M	5		٩			