UCLouvain

2021

Philosophy of History B

5.00 credits	30.0 h	Q2
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This biannual learning unit is not being organized in 2021-2022!

Exercise French Louvain-la-Neuve Basic instruction in the history of philosophy. 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. At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to: 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. 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.
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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.
Reading material will be published on Moodle.
 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.
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Université catholique de Louvain - Philosophy of History B - en-cours-2021-lfilo2291

Faculty or entity in	EFIL
charge	

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