

Course Outline of Record

Los Medanos College

2700 East Leland Road

Pittsburg CA 94565

Course Title: Philosophy of the Arts

Subject Area/Course Number: Philosophy 151

New Course OR Existing Course

Author(s): Edward Haven and Luis Zuniga

Subject Area/Course No.: Philosophy 151

Units: 3

Course Title: Philosophy of the Arts

Discipline(s): Philosophy, Humanities, Music, Art or Drama.

Pre-Requisite(s): None

Co-Requisite(s): None

Advisories: Eligibility for English 100

Catalog Description:

This course surveys the philosophical discussion about art and the philosophical statements found in art. It will seek to critically engage with core philosophical issues and questions regarding art, such as: What if anything guides the artist? Does art conceal truth? How do we understand beauty? Can art create social change? Do we have a moral obligation to protect art? These questions will be addressed with respect to a variety of artist styles and backgrounds, including anything from "classical" music to contemporary conceptual art, while surveying a culturally diverse body of works and ideas. Student will be introduced to the core themes and methodologies of critical thinking, philosophy and the ethical imperatives found there in, gaining a better understanding and appreciation of art and philosophy.

Schedule Description:

This class surveys various answers to two board and deceptively simple questions. What is Art? And Why does it matter? Both of these questions have spawned significant discussions, with philosophical questions such as what if anything guides the artist? Does art conceal truth? How do we understand beauty? Can art create social change? In this class we will examine some of these answers with an eye towards helping student develop thoughtful views of their own as it applies to themselves their community and the world around them. These questions will be addressed with respect to a variety of artist styles and backgrounds, including anything from "classical" music to contemporary pop art. This class is intended for those interested in music and philosophy. No formal background in either music or philosophy is presupposed but some training in either music or philosophy will be helpful.

Hrs/Mode of Instruction: Lecture: 54 Scheduled Lab: HBA Lab: Composition: Activity: Total Hours 54

Credit Credit Degree Applicable (DA)
 Credit Non-Degree (NDA)

Grading Pass/No Pass (P/NP)
 Letter (LR)
 Student Choice (SC)

Repeatability 0
 1
 2
 3

Last date of Assessment: N/A

Cohort #: 4

Please apply for:

LMC General Education Requirement(s): Arts & Humanities

Transfer to: CSU UC IGETC Area 3B CSU GE Area C2 C-ID Number

Course is Baccalaureate Level: Yes No

Course Outline of Record

Los Medanos College

2700 East Leland Road

Pittsburg CA 94565

Course Title: Philosophy of the Arts

Subject Area/Course Number: Philosophy 151

Signatures:

Department Chair _____ Date _____

Librarian _____ Date _____

Dean (Technical Review) _____ Date _____

Curriculum Committee Chair _____ Date _____

President/Designee _____ Date _____

CCCCD Approval Date (Board or Chancellor's Office) _____ Date _____

STAND ALONE COURSE: YES X NO

Course approved by Curriculum Committee as Baccalaureate Level: YES NO

LMC GE Requirement Approved by the Curriculum Committee: _____

FOR OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION ONLY. DO NOT WRITE IN THE SECTION BELOW.

Begin in Semester SU17 Catalog year 2017 /2018 Class Max: 40

Dept. Code/Name: L5017-PHIL T.O.P.s Code: 1509.00 Crossover course 1/ 2:

ESL Class: Yes / (No) DSPS Class: Yes / (No) Coop Work Exp: Yes / (No)

- Class Code
- A Liberal Arts & Sciences
 - B Developmental Preparatory
 - C Adult/Secondary Basic Education
 - D Personal Development/Survival
 - E For Substantially Handicapped
 - F Parenting/Family Support
 - G Community/Civic Development
 - H General and Cultural
 - I Career/Technical Education
 - J Workforce Preparation Enhanced
 - K Other non-credit enhanced
 - Not eligible for enhanced

- SAM Code
- A Apprenticeship
 - B Advanced Occupational
 - C Clearly Occupational
 - D Possibly Occupational
 - E* Non-Occupational

- Remediation Level
- B Basic Skills
 - NBS Not Basic Skills

*Additional criteria needed

- 1 One level below transfer
- 2 Two levels below transfer
- 3 Three levels below transfer

Course Outline of Record

Los Medanos College

2700 East Leland Road

Pittsburg CA 94565

Course Title: Philosophy of the Arts

Subject Area/Course Number: Philosophy 151

Institutional Student Learning Outcomes:



General Education SLOs:

At the completion of the LMC general education program, a student will:

1. read critically and communicate effectively as a writer and speaker.
2. understand connections among disciplines and apply interdisciplinary approaches to problem solving.
3. think critically and creatively
4. consider the ethical implications inherent in knowledge, decision-making and action.
5. possess a worldview informed by diverse social, multicultural and global perspectives.



None

Program-Level Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs):

Proposed:

1. Citizenship – Developing and applying ethical responsibility and care in academics, the workplace, and global and local communities, while respecting and engaging with a diversity of beliefs, cultures, values, abilities, genders, races, ages, and sexual orientations.
2. Critical Engagement – Becoming critical co-investigators of a pluralistic world towards the agency to apply critical thinking to themselves, their communities and their societies, imparting an ethical imperative.
3. Philosophical Enquiry – Applying the methodologies of philosophy and critical thinking to describe and analyze philosophical and interdisciplinary problems and issues, including in historical context.
4. Philosophical Expression – Express complex philosophical ideas and arguments in clear, coherent and cogent written and oral communication.

Course-Level Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):

1. Compare and contrast major philosophical theories and their ethical implications across a culturally diverse body of arts, including music, visual arts, culinary arts, dance or drama. (GESLO 1, 3, 4, 5 PSLO 1, 2, 3, 4)
2. Identify and analyze philosophical problems as expressed in art in a formal writing assignment. (GESLO 1, 2, 3 PSLO 1, 2, 3, 4)
3. Present an original piece, such as a short story, a poem, a play, a musical score, a song, a photo essay, a painting, in expressing a solution or perspective on the philosophical themes of the class. (GESLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 PSLO 1, 2, 3, 4)

Course Outline of Record

Los Medanos College

2700 East Leland Road

Pittsburg CA 94565

Course Title: Philosophy of the Arts

Subject Area/Course Number: Philosophy 151

Assessment Instruments:

	<u>Essays</u>	<u>Art Responses</u>	<u>Live Art Reports</u>	<u>Presentations</u>
CSLO 1		X	X	
CSLO 2	X	X		
CSLO 3				X

Through the course of the semester students will receive both formative and summative assessments to evaluate their progress towards mastery of the student learning outcomes. Assessments may take on many forms. All assessment will focus on critical engagement with the material in the course, student comprehension of the underlying interconnected philosophical issues and their ability to articulate a well founded position within the philosophical field of discourse. Students' course work will be assessed by but are not limited to the following methods:

1. Compare and contrast major philosophical theories and their ethical implications across a culturally diverse body of arts, including music, visual arts, culinary arts, dance or drama. (GESLO 1, 3, 4, 5 PSLO 1, 2, 3, 4)

Art Responses

In Class students will be presented with artistic artifacts, through paintings, music, plays and others through multi-media. Students will be required to engage with the culturally diverse body of material to form a better understand of the philosophical theories discussed in the class and the ethical implications found in them.

Live Art Reports

Students will be asked to not only find art in the classroom, but to go out into the world to find art. This could include concerts, exhibits, lectures, plays, operas, dance performances or poetry readings. Through these live encounters students will be exposed to a diverse body of artistic works, and be able to draw themes from across these works.

Sample Assignment

To take control of one's education by attending live professional performances with a mind open to critical thinking, awareness, and a willingness to experience without judgment or hesitation. Consider the possibility that you may find a new favorite piece.

Expectations

Attend and report on least two culturally distinct concerts over the course of the semester. More reports are welcome, and may earn extra credit. (10% of your final grade per concert report)

If available, read the program notes before each piece begins. It would also be of benefit to do quick research on the pieces (including listening) before attending the concert, when availability of the repertoire makes this possible. Report should be 1-2 pages in length. Note: "one page" of writing will spill onto page two with a heading.

A successful report will address a minimum of the following aspects (more facets are always welcome). The examples within each category are merely ideas; you may choose to report in a manner that best suits your experience. However, you MUST address each category.

1. Environment and/or traditions – was it welcoming? Sterile? Exciting? When to clap? Did the audience observe tradition? How do the performers enter the stage? Did they bow? How are these traditions different than in other cultures?

2. Aural vs. visual stimulation – how is it different to attend a live performance? Did the performers communicate the music visually as well as aurally? Does the visual affect your aural impressions?

3. Other general impressions – description, evaluation

Course Outline of Record

Los Medanos College

2700 East Leland Road

Pittsburg CA 94565

Course Title: Philosophy of the Arts

Subject Area/Course Number: Philosophy 151

4. Pick at least one specific work to discuss – why did you like (or dislike) this work? What are the philosophical implications of this work? What themes or symbols can be found in the work?

2. *Identify and analyze philosophical problems as expressed in art in a formal writing assignment. (GESLO 1, 2, 3 PSLO 1, 2, 3, 4)*

Essays

Students will be asked to write formal essays in which the philosophical themes and ideas will be evaluated as it shows up in art, including as discussion of the ethical implications of the work for the movement, period or art as a whole.

Art Responses

Students maybe asked to write short responses to the philosophical texts assigned in the class, in these students will be asked to identify the philosophical issues and problems which present themselves in a give work.

Sample Assignment

Students will be required to write a paper on a subject relating to the first section of the course. Papers must be 4-5 pages, MLA format and contain at least one direct quotation from an assigned primary text for the course.

For your first paper, find one piece of music that inspires you and explain, using specific examples, how the piece exemplifies one of the theories we talk about in class. Your paper should include a short summary of the theory in question.

3. *Present an original piece, such as a short story, a poem, a play, a musical score, a song, a photo essay, a painting, in expressing a solution or perspective on the philosophical themes of the class. (GESLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 PSLO 1, 2, 3, 4)*

Presentations

All students will be required to make an oral presentation of an original piece. The piece maybe recorded or presented live, but should include the student's own explanation and analysis of the piece, whether orally or written.

Sample Assignment

At the end of the semester, students will present an original performance piece, such as a short story, a poem, a play, a musical score, a photo essay, a song, or a short film, in keeping with the theme of the class. All presentations must be recorded and uploaded to YouTube. Students will present their video with an explanation on the day their video is called for presentation.

Presentations will not be longer than 10 minutes. In part because that is the YouTube limit, but also because we will have a limited amount of class time and I would like to see everyone's video.

Do not include any unnecessary violence, sexual content or explicit language. In order to be safe, please keep your videos PG unless you see a good reason to include it.

Your presentation will be graded on the following criteria:

1. The video is on the theme of the class (no unnecessary material).
2. The video gives a narrative about this theme.
3. The video takes a clear stance on this theme and its role.
3. The student uses material from the class to explain their video.

Course Outline of Record

Los Medanos College

2700 East Leland Road

Pittsburg CA 94565

Course Title: Philosophy of the Arts

Subject Area/Course Number: Philosophy 151

Method of Evaluation/Grading:

The course will be broken into sections, each dealing with a different philosophical or artistic question. Students will be given art response activities (such as in class activities or study questions) and live art reports to help them connect the philosophical material with the art and will be given summative assessments through formal written essays and the presentation of original performance pieces.

A sample break down of grade weight by approximate percentage value could be:

Essays 30% (15% per essay)

response activities 25% (over ~20 graded activities)

Live Art Reports 20% (10% each for two live reports)

Presentations 25% (two presentations: midterm worth 10% and the final 15%)

Upon completion of the course, a percentage of completed course work will be calculated using the assessments from the course. A letter grade will be assigned as follows:

A	90 - 100%
B	80 - 89%
C	70 - 79%
D	60 - 69%
F	0 – 59%

A student who earns an 'A' grade will have achieved mastery in the course-level learning outcomes, demonstrating exceptional ability for critical engagement with the material in the course, comprehension of the underlying interconnected philosophical issues and their ability to articulate a well founded position within the philosophy field of discourse.

A student who earns a 'B' grade will have achieved near mastery or mastery in some but not all of the course-level learning outcomes, demonstrating a strong ability for critical engagement with the material in the course, comprehension of the underlying interconnected philosophical issues and their ability to articulate a well founded position within the philosophy field of discourse.

A Student who earns a 'C' grade will have achieved a satisfactory completion of the course-level learning outcomes, demonstrating satisfactory ability for critical engagement with the material in the course, comprehension of the underlying interconnected philosophical issues and their ability to articulate a well founded position within the philosophy field of discourse.

A student who earns a 'D' grade will have achieved near satisfactory completion or satisfactory completion in some but not all of the course-level learning outcomes, demonstrating below standard ability for critical engagement with the material in the course, comprehension of the underlying interconnected philosophical issues and their ability to articulate a well founded position within the philosophy field of discourse.

A student who earns a 'F' grade will lack satisfactory completion of the course-level learning outcomes, demonstrating a deficiency in ability for critical engagement with the material in the course, comprehension of the underlying interconnected philosophical issues and their ability to articulate a well founded position within the philosophy field of discourse.

Course Outline of Record

Los Medanos College

2700 East Leland Road

Pittsburg CA 94565

Course Title: Philosophy of the Arts

Subject Area/Course Number: Philosophy 151

Course Content:

The course will be divided into sections, each covering a different philosophical question or issue pertaining to Art, seeking to help students navigate these questions and develop a philosophical methodology to critically think about issues and problems. Students will be given response activities (such as in class activities or study questions) and live art reports to help them connect the philosophical material with the art and will be given summative assessments through formal written essays and the presentation of original performance pieces.

Sample Outline:

1. Identifying and Defining Art
2. The Value of Art
 - Instrumental Value
 - Transcendental Idealism: Hegel
 - Expressionism: Nietzsche and Tolstoy
 - Originals, Fakes and preservation
3. Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Art
 - Beauty
 - Art as Play
4. Representational Art
 - Artistic symbolism
 - Social Reform and Revolution
5. Formalism: Musical Form
 - Chord structure, Keys, temper tuning
 - Classical Music
6. Arguments Against Formalism
7. Hermeneutics of Art
 - The Artist and their Art
 - Authenticity and Cultural Appropriation
 - Improvisation
8. Post-modernism and Art
 - Sign and signified
 - The limits of Art
 - The institutions of Art
9. Final Presentations

Lab By Arrangement Activities (If Applicable):n/a

Instructional Methods:

- Lecture
- Lab
- Activity
- Problem-based Learning/Case Studies
- Collaborative Learning/Peer Review
- Demonstration/Modeling
- Role-Playing
- Discussion
- Computer Assisted Instruction
- Other (explain) _____

Textbooks:

1. Selections from primary sources (Open Educational Resources)
2. Roger Scruton (2011) Beauty: A Very Short Introduction. 1st Ed. Oxford University Press.
3. Roger Scruton (2009) Understanding Music: Philosophy and Interpretation. Continuum.
4. Kleon, Austin. (2012) Steal Like and Artist : 10 Things Nobody Told You About Being Creative