

Academic Year: (2020 / 2021)

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Department assigned to the subject: Humanities: Philosophy, Language, Literature Theory Department

Coordinating teacher: GOMEZ RAMOS, ANTONIO

Type: Electives ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 1 Semester : 1

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

General humanistic knowledge relating to contemporary culture.

OBJECTIVES

1. Knowledge of the basic conceptual and theoretical approaches to contemporary culture as developed in the 20th. Century and specifically to concepts of Experience, Memory, Temporality and Identity.
2. Reading and understanding of relevant theoretical texts (books, articles) in different cultural traditions relating to 1.
3. Engaging in reflection and discussion concerning the relevance of 1 and 2 for contemporary debates that focus around Critical Theory.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

The Programme (cfr. chronogram for further details) will be articulated in three basic modules:

We will try to analyze and discuss, in the wake of several contemporary classics, the problems linked to Modernity, and its ambivalence from the critical perspective of the temporal experience and the experiences of acceleration and fatigue that, in the opinion of many critics, have become its defining features. Without neglecting other usual approaches to the study of modern culture - social criticism, the problem of rationalization and loss of meaning, cultural degradation or unfulfilled promise of freedom and autonomy - we will try to place all these phenomena under the peculiar optics the acceleration of time and daily life, and the alienation it produces on modern subjects.

Introduction. Presentation of the program. Problem and ambivalence of modernity. The experience of time as a common thread.

I. TIME

1.

A specific temporality. Experiences and expectations. The phases of modernity.

KOSELLECK: "Space of experience and horizon of expectations. Two Historical Categories ", and " Past Future of the Beginning of Modernity "in Koselleck (1991).

GUMBRECHT, "After" learning from history ", in Gumbrecht (2004)

GÓMEZ RAMOS: "The immediacy of the crisis and the experience of time", in Cadahia & Velasco (2013)

Modernity, melancholy and loss of identity

ANKERSMITT, "Sublime historical experience", in Ankersmitt, (2005)

The discomfort in culture and the discomfort of time. Heidegger's anguish.

Freud, "The Discontent of Culture," in Freud (1995)

HEIDEGGER, The concept of time, in Heidegger (

II. ACCELERATION

Acceleration as a diagnosis of modernity.

KOSELLECK, Acceleration, prognosis and secularization. Valencia, Pre - texts.

HARMUT ROSA, Alienation and Acceleration. Towards a Critical Theory of Late-Modern Temporality, Parts I and II, in Rosa (2010)

JONATHAN CRARY, 24/7. Late Capitalism and the End of Sleep in Crary (2014)

The acceleration of time and urban life. The excitement and bewilderment of the sensibility. A form of alienation?

Simmel, G. The great cities and the life of the spirit, in Political Papers, number 45, Mexico D.F., ed. It was, January-March 1986, pp. 5-10

Harmut Rosa, Alienation and Acceleration, o.c. Part III

Steiner, G. Tolstoy, and Dostoevsky, ch. 1.

Edgard Allan Poe, "The Man of the Crowd", in Cuentos Completos, Madrid, Alianza Editorial.

2.

Time, work and rationalization. Reading Max Weber.

Max Weber, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism. Madrid Editorial Alliance

Joachim Radkau, The passion of thinking. A biography of Max Weber.

3.

The religion of capitalism. What if there has not been such secularization?

Benjamin. "Capitalism as Religion", in Obras Completas VI

Michael Löwy, Le capitalisme comme religion. Walter Benjamin et Max Weber., Löwy (2010).

Four.

Presentation of works. Discussion of I and II.

III. FATIGUE

Beyond the disciplinary society. The tragedy of the fatigued hero.

Byung-Chul Han, The society of fatigue. Barcelona, Synthesis, 2012

Foucault, Watch and punish. Madrid, New Library, 2012.

Thomas Mann, The Buddenbrooks. Barcelona, Edhasa.

Death in Venice. Barcelona. Edhasa.

5.

The rise of labor and an animalization without animals. The difficulties of an active vita in an accelerated society

Hannah Arendt, The Human Condition. Page 7 Han, cap. 1

Byung-Chul Han, The society of fatigue. Chap. 3-5

Arendt. Kafka, 20 years later

6.

The kidnapping of attention. In the labyrinth of multitasking.

Byung-Chul Han, The society of fatigue. Cap.5

Benjamin, Walter "The work of art in the time of its technical reproduction", in Obras completas, Abada, Madrid, II.

Nicholas Carr. Superficial. What is internet doing with our minds? Madrid, Taurus, 2011.

Jonathan Crary. Suspension of perceptio. Attention, Spectacle and Modern Culture, in Crary (2001)

7.

Tedium and modern melancholy.

Byung-Chul Han, The society of fatigue. Cap. 8

Sebal, The rings of Saturn. Barcelona, Anagram.

Peter Handke. Essay on fatigue, Madrid, alliance, 2006

Heidegger, Being and time, Madrid, Trotta.

8.

Discussion of II and III. Presentation of works.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

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| % end-of-term-examination/test: | 60 |
| % of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...): | 40 |

In addition to participating in class and following the course and the readings, students will write a final essay. The subject of the final essay will be agreed by the teacher, according to the interests of the students, and starting from the syllabus of the course. The length of this essay will be between 20,000 and 35,000 characters. In order to advance in the essay, in the middle of the course, in session 9, there will be a presentation session (ten minutes, at most), in which the student will explain the progress of his work. In any case, by that date, each student will have given the teacher a script of his / her essay project.

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Cadahia, Luciana, Velasco, Gonzalo Normalidad de la crisis, crisis de la normalidad, Katz, 2013
- Crary, Jonanthan Late Capitalism and the End of Sleep, Verso, 2012
- Frank Ankersmitt Sublime historical experience, , Stanford, 2005
- Gómez Ramos, Antonio Sí mismo como nadie, La catarata, 2015
- Hang, Byung Chul La sociedad del cansancio, Herder, 2014
- Weber La ética protestante y el espíritu del capitalismo, Istmo, 2014