The Chinese University of Hong Kong 香港中文大學

UGED 2921 Philosophy, Film and Life 哲學、電影與人生 Course Outline 課程大綱

2024-25 Term 2

Time: Mon 9:30 – 12:15 Location: LSK 308

Contact details

Teacher	
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Course overview

This course aims to explore different aspects of human life in the discussion of philosophy and film, and attempts to explicate the philosophical implications of film. Through the discussion of the selected films, students will be encouraged to develop critical thinking skills and to establish their understanding about the meaning of life.

Learning outcomes

- 1. describe and analyze some basic concepts and theories of philosophy
- 2. apply philosophical theories to understand and appreciate films
- 3. apply philosophical reflection to their different experiences in daily life

Topics:

一、哲學、電影與人生

- 1. 哲學思考:何謂哲學思考?批判反省與哲學
- 2. 電影 與 人生:故事的敘述、解釋;人生故事、電影故事
- 3. 人生意義的思考 人生意義的性質
- 4. 存在主義哲學(existentialism) 與 人生意義問題
- 5. 生命旅程:生與死,愛與欲
- 6. 浮生如夢 人生若戲,戲如人生

二、人類存在的處境-人生之境況(Human Condition)

- 1. 處身世界之意義 虛無?荒謬?
- 2. 人生目的,自我/真我 (authentic Self)的實現?
- 3. 自由 (freedom)、抉擇 與 責任 (responsibility)
- 4. 逃避自由、焦慮(anxiety) 與自欺(bad faith)
- 5. 命運與機遇,或因緣

三、人世與倫理、道德

- 1. 如果沒有神存在,是否一切都被容許
- 2. 人: 道德的創造者?
- 3. 善與惡、道德與果報
- 4. 如何判定善惡:動機?後果?品格特質?

四、愛情,何物也?

- 1. 愛情三問:有理說不清?
- 2. 尋找完美的另一半:愛情神話與永恆信念
- 3. 命中注定,緣定三生
- 4. 時機與錯失,回憶與永恆

五、有生,必有死 - 死亡別狂狷

- 1. 死亡之意義:死亡無憂也!
- 2. 死亡 不過一無夢之長眠;靈魂的釋放!
- 3. 「朝向死亡」與人生整體意義之重建
- 4. 死亡可否被馴化?

Course schedule

Week	Topic	Course Reading
1 - 2	一、哲學、電影與人生	閱讀:
		1. Albert Camus, <i>Myth of Sisyphus</i> . (加繆:《西西弗的神話》,杜小真譯·1998)
		2. Sartre, 'Existentialism and Humanism' (〈存在主義是人道主義〉)
		3. Baggini, '人之存在目的/ 意義'
		4. 李天命, 《存在主義概論》, 1993, 第 一章
		5. Louis D. Giannetti 著,《認識電影》, 第 4 章 - 剪輯(editing)

3 - 5	二. 人類存在的處境 — 人生之境況	閱讀:
		1. 朱立安・巴吉尼(Julian Baggini): 《我 們為什麼要活著?: 尋找生命意義的 11 堂哲學必修課》・第一, 八章.
		2. Thomas R. Flynn, Existentialism: a
		very short introduction, Chapter 3-4.
		3. 松浪信三郎:《存在主義》, 第三, 四章.
		4. 李天命, 《存在主義概論》, 第三, 四, 五章.
		5. 沙特:《嘔吐》, 2006
6 - 8	三. 人世 與 倫理、道德	1. 杜斯妥也夫斯基 (Fyodor Dostoyesky):
		《罪與罰》(Crime and Punishment),
		《卡拉馬佐夫兄弟》.第五卷 – 四、 五、六節
		2. D.D. Raphael, Moral Philosophy (1994), chapter 1-2, chapter 4, 6.
		3. 林火旺:《倫理學入門》,第一,二, 四篇.
9 - 11	四. 愛情,何物也?	1. John Armstrong, Conditions of Love. chap. 1, 2, 5, 6, 12.
		2. Alain de Botton, <i>On love</i> . Chap. 1 - 2.
12 - 14	五. 有生,必有死 — 死亡別狂狷	1. Martin Heidegger, <i>Being and Time</i> , (1962), Division Two, section I, p.279 -311.
		2. Stephen Mulhall, Routledge Philosophy Guidebook to Heidegger and Being and Time, p.114-124
		3. 李天命,《存在主義概論》, p.85- 93.
		2. Josef Pieper, <i>Death and Immortality</i> , Chapter I, II, VI

Assessment scheme:

Task nature	Weight
Term End Paper 1	25 % * - submission deadline : 22 April 2025
Term End Paper 2	25 % * - submission deadline : 22 April 2025
Final Examination (centralized final examination)	40 %
In – class discussion	10 %

^{*} Paper late submission: Students should submit their term end paper on / before the deadline. Late submission will be subject to mark deduction, a 5% deduction per one day. Details will be announced in Blackboard.

Grade descriptor: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade descriptors.pdf

Learning activities and workload:

In-class:

- 1. Lecture: 2- 3 hours each week.
- 2. attend *all* lectures and participate in class discussion.
- 3. In class discussion.

Out-of-class:

- 1. Reading: 2-3 hours each week on lecture material.
- 2. Writing term papers, an average of 2–3 hours each week on reading the suggest readings and selected movies, and preparing the essays throughout the semester.

Recommended learning resources:

杜斯妥也夫斯基(Fyodor Dostoyesky)著:《卡拉馬佐夫兄弟》,榮如德譯·台北:貓頭鷹,2000

尼采(Nietzsche):《上帝死了》,戚仁譯·瀋陽:遼寧人民,1989

沙特(Jeal Paul Sartre):《嘔吐》,桂裕芳譯.台北:志民出版社,2006

加繆(Albert Camus):《西西弗的神話》,杜小真譯·北京:三聯書店,1998

卡繆(Albert Camus):《異鄉人》,張一喬譯·台北:麥田出版,2009

W.考夫曼(Kaufmann)編著:《存在主義:從陀斯妥也夫斯基到沙特》,陳鼓應等譯・北京: 商務印書局,1987

朱立安・巴吉尼(Julian Baggini):《我們為什麼要活著?:尋找生命意義的 11 堂哲學必修

課》,吳妍儀譯.台北:麥田出版,2007

朱立安·巴吉尼(Julian Baggini):《自願被吃的豬:100個讓人想破頭的哲學問題》,黃煜文譯·台北:麥田出版,2006

湯瑪斯・內格爾(Thomas Nagel):《哲學入門九堂課》,黃惟郁譯・台北:究竟出版社,2002

李天命:《存在主義概論》·台北:台灣學生書局,1993

松浪信三郎:《存在主義》,梁祥美譯,台北:志民出版社,1982

Louis D. Giannetti 著,《認識電影》,焦雄屏譯·台北:遠流出版社,1992

Charles Guignon, Derk Pereboom (ed.), Existentialism: basic writings. Cambridge: Hackett, 2001.

David E. Cooper, Existentialism: a reconstruction. Mass.: Blackwell Pub., 1999.

Thomas R. Flynn, Existentialism: a very short introduction. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Nietzsche, The Gay Science. Trans Walter Kaufmann. New York: Vintage books, 1974.

Nietzsche, Beyond good and evil : prelude to a philosophy of the future. Trans with an introduction by R. J. Hollingdale. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1973.

Jean Paul Sartre, *Being and Nothingness*. Trans. & intro. by Hazel E. Barnes. New York: Citadel Press, 1968.

Martin Heidegger, *Being and Time*. Trans. by John Macquarrie & Edward Robinson. London: SCM Press, 1962.

Stephen Mulhall, Routledge Philosophy Guidebook to Heidegger and Being and Time, London: Routledge, 2003

John Cottingham, On the Meaning of Life, London: Routledge, 2003

Robert C. Solomon, Introducing Philosophy, New York: Oxford UP, 2005

Burton F. Porter, *Philosophy Through Fiction and Film*, Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall, 2004

Mary M. Litch, *Philosophy Through Film*, New York: Routledge, 2002

Cynthia A. Freeland and Thomas E. Wartenberg (eds), *Philosophy and Film*, London: Routledge, 1995

Stephen Mulhall, On Film, London: Routledge, 2002

John M. Cooper, [edited, with introduction and notes]; *Plato : Complete Works*. Indianapolis, Ind. : Hackett Pub., 1997.

John Armstrong, Conditions of Love. New York: Penguin Books, 2003

Alain de Botton, On Love. New York: Grove Press, 1993

Howard Kahane, Logic and contemporary rhetoric: the use of reason in everyday life. 11th Ed.

Belmont, Calif.: Wadsworth Pub., 2010.

Feedback for evaluation

- 1. As with all courses in general education, students evaluate the course through a survey and written comments at the end of the term as well as via regular feedback between teacher and students.
- 2. Students are welcome to give feedback on the course at any time. They can do so by communication to teacher in class, or by email.

Details of course website

We use Blackboard for this course. Relevant announcements and course materials, including lecture power points, notes, assignments, will be posted regularly on the website.

Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.