

COURSE SYLLABUS

1. Data about the program

1.1 Higher education institution	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	Faculty of History and Philosophy
1.3 Doctoral school	Philosophy
1.4 Field of study	Philosophy
1.5 Study cycle	Doctorate
1.6 Study program / Qualification	Doctoral training / PhD in Philosophy

2. Course data

2.1 Name of discipline	Aesthetics of everyday life: current investigations						
2.2 Teacher responsible for lectures	Prof.dr. Dan Eugen RAȚIU						
2.3 Teacher responsible for seminars	Prof.dr. Dan Eugen RAȚIU						
2.4 Year of study	1	2.5 Semester	1	2.6. Type of evaluation	Ex.	2.7 Course framework	S

3. Estimated total time of teaching activities (hours per semester)

3.1 Hours per week	3	Out of which: 3.2 Lectures	2	3.3 Seminars / Laboratory classes	1
3.4 Total hours in the curriculum	36	Out of which: 3.5 Lectures	24	3.6 Seminars / Laboratory classes	12
Allocation of study time:					
Study supported by textbooks, other course materials, recommended bibliography and personal student notes					40
Additional learning activities in the library, on specialized online platforms and in the field					40
Preparation of seminars / laboratory classes, topics, papers, portfolios and essays					30
Tutoring					12
Examinations					2
Other activities: -					
3.7 Individual study (total hours)					110
3.8 Total hours per semester					160
3.9 Number of credits					10

4. Preconditions (where applicable)

4.1 Curriculum	•
4.2 Competences	• Research skills developed at Bachelor and Master levels

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1 Conducting lectures	• Mandatory attendance at 70% of the total number of class hours.
5.2 Conducting seminars / laboratory classes	• Elaboration and presentation of papers and practical works. • Participation in the final evaluation is not conditional and is not mandatory.

6. Specific competences acquired

Professional competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advanced knowledge in the field of Philosophy; the ability to identify, formulate and solve research problems; • mastering advanced research methods and techniques; knowledge of research project management; skills for documenting, elaborating and publishing scientific papers; • language skills needed to document and elaborate scientific papers; understanding and ability to apply the principles and values of research ethics and professional ethics.
---------------------------------	---

Transversal competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communication skills, written and oral, in the field of Philosophy and culture; advanced language skills; use of information and communication technology; • interrelationship skills and teamwork; knowledge of human and financial resource management, as well as crisis, risk and failure management; • leadership and entrepreneurial skills; time and career management; knowledge of the legislation on intellectual property rights corresponding to the higher level training of doctoral students in the field of Philosophy.
--------------------------------	---

7. Course objectives (based on the acquired competencies grid)

7.1 The general objective of the course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The discipline has as general objective the analysis of the concepts and methods of philosophical aesthetics and the extension of its field of application to areas neglected so far, such as everyday life. This goal is motivated by explorations in recently developed areas, such as “everyday aesthetics” and “organizational aesthetics”, this course seeking to explore new applications for an aesthetics of everyday life. However, the course does not set aside art as an area of interest, but will systematically examine the concepts of “art”, “aesthetic”, “aesthetic experience” and the corresponding practices in the art world and in everyday life. This theoretical substantiation will allow a deeper investigation of the applications of aesthetics in a wide range of areas of activity, such as aesthetic social situations, aesthetic techniques of self-creation, as well as daily life in organizations.
7.2 Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appropriate and creative use of some major concepts and approaches in the field of Philosophy, in particular Philosophy of Art and Aesthetics. • The ability to creatively apply the research methods of the humanities, in particular of Philosophy, in solving some theoretical and practical problems and to communicate the results in an argumentative way (academic essay).

8. Content

8.1 Lectures	Teaching methods	Comments
I. RE-MAPPING THE FIELD OF AESTHETICS: RECENT CONTROVERSIES ABOUT THE AESTHETIC AND AESTHETIC EXPERIENCE IN EVERYDAY LIFE 1. Aesthetics of Everyday Life (AEL): challenging the limits of modern aesthetics.	Presentation, discussion, case studies, exercises	
2. The “strong”/“restrictive” version of AEL (Saito, Melchionne): the radical rethinking of the aesthetic and aesthetic experience.		
3-4. The “moderate”/“expansive” version of AEL (Dowling, Leddy): the open normative model of the aesthetic. <i>The normative aspect of experience and aesthetic judgment.</i> <i>Art as an open concept: contemporary vs. modern uses.</i> <i>The interaction of art and everyday life in the flow of experience.</i> II. AESTHETICS OF EVERYDAY LIFE AS A PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK.		

<p>5. An extended analytical interest: objects, activities and human interactions.</p> <p>6. Practical philosophy: a new foundation for the Aesthetics of Everyday Life. <i>The self, intersubjectivity and everyday life.</i></p> <p>7-8. The aesthetic experience of everyday life and the “life world”. <i>The everyday, life and the lifeworld (Lebenswelt). The role of the aesthetic in decisions and actions in everyday life.</i></p> <p>III. 3. APPLICATIONS OF PRACTICAL AESTHETICS: THE AESTHETIC APPROACH OF EVERYDAY LIFE IN ORGANIZATIONS.</p> <p>9. The aesthetic research of organizations: theoretical and methodological developments. <i>The “Aesthetics of organizations” and the “aesthetic organizing”. Aesthetic approaches and principles. The “sensory methodology”.</i></p> <p>10. The aesthetic dimension of everyday organizational life. Re-conceptualizations and case studies. <i>The aesthetic agency of artefacts/objects (Gadamer, Latour, Harman)</i></p> <p>11. <i>Aesthetic mediations: the aesthetic imperative and the capacity for action in modern organizations (Witkin).</i></p> <p>12. <i>The “artification” of postmodern organizations: benefits and difficulties (Saito). Case studies (Ratiu).</i></p>		
8.2 Seminars / laboratory classes	Teaching methods	Comments
Case studies prepared with the doctoral students, based on their individual doctoral research topics.	Presentation, discussion, exercises	
<p>Bibliography:</p> <p>Berleant, Arnold. <i>Sensibility and Sense: The Aesthetic Transformation of the Human World</i>, Exeter: Imprint Academic, 2010.</p> <p>Dewey, John. <i>Art as Experience</i> [1934], New York, Perigee Books, 2005.</p> <p>Eidinow, Esther, Ramirez, Rafael. “The Eye of the Soul: Phrónesis and The Aesthetics of Organizing.” <i>Organizational Aesthetics</i> Vol. 1, No. 1, 2012, pp. 26-43.</p> <p>Forsey, Jane. “The Promise, the Challenge, of Everyday Aesthetics.” <i>Aisthesis</i> Vol VII, No. 1, 2014, pp. 5-21.</p> <p>Gadamer, Hans-Georg. ‘Hermeneutics as Practical Philosophy.’ In <i>Reason in the Age of Science</i>, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1981, pp.88–112.</p> <p>Gadamer, H-G. “Hermeneutics as Theoretical and Practical Task.” In <i>Reason in the Age of Science</i>, 1990, pp.113-138.</p> <p>Giombini, L., Kvokacka, A. eds. <i>Everydayness. Contemporary Aesthetic Approaches</i>, Roma Tre Press, 2021.</p> <p>Guillet de Monthoux, Pierre. ‘The Art Management of Aesthetic Organizing’. In <i>The Aesthetics of Highmore, Ben, Ordinary Lives. Studies in the Everyday</i>. London: Routledge, 2011.</p> <p>Johnstone, Stephen, ed. <i>The Everyday. Documents of Contemporary Art</i>. London: Whitechapel Gallery; Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2008.</p> <p>Leddy, Thomas. <i>The Extraordinary in the Ordinary: The Aesthetics of Everyday Life</i>. Peterborough, ON: Broadview, 2012.</p> <p>Light, Andrew, Jonathan M. Smith, eds. <i>The Aesthetics of Everyday Life</i>. Columbia University Press, 2005.</p> <p>Linstead, Stephen, and Höpfl, Heather , eds. <i>The Aesthetics of Organization</i>. London: Sage, 2000.</p> <p>Mandoki, Katya. <i>Everyday Aesthetics: Prosaics, the Play of Culture and Social Identities</i>. Ashgate, 2007.</p> <p>Melchionne, Kevin. ‘Aesthetic Experience in Everyday Life: A Reply to Dowling.’ <i>British Journal of Aesthetics</i> 51, 2011: 437–42.</p> <p>Naukkarinen, Ossi, “What is ‘Everyday’ in Everyday Aesthetics?” <i>Contemporary Aesthetics</i>, 2013, Vol. 11.</p>		

- Rațiu, Dan Eugen. 'Remapping the Realm of Aesthetics: On Recent Controversies about the Aesthetic and Aesthetic Experience in Everyday Life'. *Estetika*, VI, 1, 2013: 3-26.
- Rațiu, Dan Eugen (ed.) *Arta și viața cotidiană: explorări actuale în estetică*, Cluj: Casa Cărții de Știință, 2016.
- Rațiu, Dan Eugen. „Experiența estetică a cotidianului: Explorări pentru o estetică practică”, în *Arta și viața cotidiană: explorări actuale în estetică*, Cluj: Casa Cărții de Știință, 2016, pp. 25-53.
- Rațiu, Dan Eugen. „O aplicație a esteticii practice: Abordarea estetică a vieții cotidiene în organizații,” în *Arta și viața cotidiană: explorări actuale în estetică*, Cluj: Casa Cărții de Știință, 2016, pp. 111-132.
- Rațiu, Dan Eugen. „The Aesthetic Account of Everyday Life in Organizations: A Report on Recent Developments in organizational Research”, *The Journal of Arts Management, Law and Society*, vol.47, no.3, 2017, pp.178-191.
- Rațiu, Dan Eugen. “Everyday Aesthetic Experience: Explorations by a Practical Aesthetics.” In *Experiencing the Everyday*. Copenhagen: NSU University Press, 2017, pp.22–52.
- Rațiu, D.E., „Objects at Work: How Do Artefacts Work Aesthetically in Everyday Organisational Life?”, *Proceedings of the European Society for Aesthetics*, Vol. 15, 2023, pp. 431-457
- Saito, Yuriko. *Everyday Aesthetics*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007.
- Saito, Yuriko. 'Everyday Aesthetics and Artification', *Contemporary Aesthetics*, special vol. 4, 2012.
- Saito, Yuriko. *Aesthetics of the Familiar: Everyday Life and World-Making*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.
- Sartwell, Crispin. 'Aesthetics of the Everyday.' In Jerrold Levinson, *Oxford Handbook of Aesthetics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003, pp.761–70.
- Schutz, Alfred. *Collected Papers Vol. 1 - The Problem of Social Reality*. Edited by M. Natanson and H. L. van Breda. The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff, 1962.
- Shusterman, Richard. *Pragmatist Aesthetics: Living Beauty, Rethinking Art*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1992.
- Simmel, Georg. “The Fragmentary Character of Life” [1916]. *Theory, Culture and Society* Vol. 29, No. 7/8, 2012, pp. 197-217.
- Strati, Antonio. “The Aesthetic Approach in Organization Study”. In *The Aesthetics of Organization*, Linstead and Höpfl (eds.), 2000, pp. 13–34.
- Strati, Antonio. “Aesthetics in the Study of Organizational Life.” In *The Sage Handbook of New Approaches to Organizational Studies*, edited by Daved Barry and Hans Hansen, London: Sage Publications, 2008, pp.229–240.
- Strati, Antonio. “Ordinary Beauty and Aesthetic Research in Organization Studies.” In *L'esthétique du beau ordinaire dans une perspective transdisciplinaire*, edited by J. Przychodzen et al. Paris: L'Harmattan, 2010, pp.79–93.
- Strati, Antonio. “Aesthetics and design: An epistemology of the unseen.” In *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy in Organization Studies*, edited by Raza Mir, Hugh Willmott & Michelle Greenwood. London: Routledge, 2016, pp.251–259.
- Taylor, Charles. *Sources of the Self: The Making of Modern Identity*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1989.
- Taylor, Steven S. “What is Organizational Aesthetics?” *Organizational Aesthetics* 2 (1), 2013: 30–32.
- Welsch, Wolfgang. *Undoing Aesthetics*. London: Sage Publications, 1997.
- Witkin, Robert, 'The Aesthetic Imperative of a Rational-Technical Machinery: A Study in the Organization Control through the Design of Artifacts'. *Music and Arts in Action*, 2, 1 (1989/2009): 57–68.
- Witz, Anne, Chris Warhurst, and Dennis Nickson. “The Labour of Aesthetics and the Aesthetics of Organization.” *Organization* 10 (1), 2003: 33–54.
- Zahavi, Dan. *Subjectivity and Selfhood: Investigating the First-Person Perspective*. Cambridge: The MIT Press., 2005.

Bibliography for acquiring the necessary philosophical knowledge in the case of doctoral students who have not completed fundamental studies in philosophy at the undergraduate level:

- Aristotel. *Etica Nicomahică*. București: Editura Științifică și Enciclopedică, 1988.
- Gadamer, Hans-Georg. *Adevăr și metodă*, București: Teora, 2001.
- Gadamer, Hans-Georg. *Elogiul teoriei. Moștenirea Europei*, Iași: Polirom, 1999.
- Husserl, Edmund. *Criza științelor europene și fenomenologia transcendențială*, București: Humanitas, 2011.
- Kant, Immanuel, *Critica facultății de judecare*, București, Editura Științifică și Enciclopedică, 1981
- Taylor, Charles. *Etica autenticității*, Cluj-Napoca: Ideea, 2006.

Bibliography for the seminar:

- Benjamin, Walter. *Iluminări*, Cluj-Napoca: Ideea, 2002.
- Berleant, A. 'Ideas for a Social Aesthetic.' In Light and Smith (eds.), *Aesthetics of Everyday Life*, 2005, pp.23-38.
- Copoeru, Ion. “Vie quotidienne et normativité.” In: *La phénoménologie comme philosophie première. Mémoires des Annales de Phénoménologie*, eds. K. Novotny, A. Schnell, L. Tengelyi, Prague: Filosofia 2011, pp. 281-291.
- Dowling, Christopher. 'The Aesthetics of Daily Life.' *British Journal of Aesthetics* 50, 2010: 225–242.

- Friberg, Carsten and Vasquez, Raine, eds. 2017. *Experiencing the Everyday*. Copenhagen: NSU University Press.
- Gadamer, Hans-Georg. „Despre idealul filosofiei practice”, în *Elogiul teoriei. Moștenirea Europei*, Iași: Polirom, 1999, pp. 56-61.
- Guillet de Monthoux, Pierre. ‘The Art Management of Aesthetic Organizing’. In *The Aesthetics of Organization*, Linstead and Höpfl (eds.), 2000, pp. 35–60.
- Haapala, Arto. ‘On the Aesthetics of the Everyday: Familiarity, Strangeness, and the Meaning of Place.’ In Light and Smith (eds.), *Aesthetics of Everyday Life*, 2005, pp.39–55.
- Husserl, Edmund. *Criza științelor europene și fenomenologia transcendențială*, București: Humanitas, 2011.
- Irvin, Sherri. ‘The Pervasiveness of the Aesthetic in Ordinary Experience.’ *British Journal of Aesthetics* 48, 2008: 29–44.
- Leddy, Thomas. “The Nature of Everyday Aesthetics.” In Light and Smith (eds.) *Aesthetics of Everyday Life*, 2005, pp. 3-22.
- Leddy, Thomas. 2015. “Experience of Awe: An Expansive Approach to Everyday Aesthetics.” *Contemporary Aesthetics* Vol. 13, pp.1-12.
- Matteucci, Giovanni. “The Aesthetic as a Matter of Practices: Form of Life in Everydayness and Art”. *Comprendre* Vol.18, No.2, 2016, pp.9–28.
- Melchionne, Kevin. ‘The Definition of Everyday Aesthetics.’ *Contemporary Aesthetics* Vol. 11, 2013.
- Melchionne, Kevin. “The Point of Everyday Aesthetics” *Contemporary Aesthetics* Vol. 12, 2014, pp.1-6.
- Prinz, Jesse. “Waiting for the Self”. In *Consciousness and the Self: New Essays*, edited by J. Liu and J. Perry. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012, pp. 123–149.
- Saito, Yuriko. “The Power of the Aesthetic.” *Aesthetic Pathways* Vol. 1, 2011, pp. 11–25.
- Saito, Yuriko. “Aesthetics of the Everyday.” In *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Edward N. Zalta, 2015, pp. 1-22.
- Shusterman, Richard. “Aesthetic Experience: From Analysis to Eros.” *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* Vol. 64, No. 2, 2006, pp. 217-229.
- Strati, Antonio. “Aesthetic Understanding of Work and Organizational Life: Approaches and Research Development.” *Sociology Compass* Vol. 4, No.10, 2010, pp. 880-893.
- Strati, Antonio. “Becoming or Process: What Future for Aesthetic Discourse in Organizations?” In *Experiencing Organizations. New Aesthetic Perspectives*, ed. I.W. King, J. Vickery, Libri Publishing, 2013, pp. 223-245.
- Strati, Antonio. “The Social Negotiation of Aesthetics and Organizational Democracy.” In *Aesthetic Capitalism*, edited by Peter Murphy and Eduardo de la Fuente, Leiden: Brill, 2014, pp.105–127.
- Taylor, Steven S., and Hans Hansen. “Finding Form: Looking at the Field of Organizational Aesthetics.” *Journal of Management Studies* Vol. 42, No. 6, 2005, pp. 1211-1231.
- Warren, Samantha. “Empirical Challenges in Organizational Aesthetic Research. Towards a Sensual Methodology.” *Organization Studies* 29 (4), 2008: 559–580.
- Zahavi, Dan. “Consciousness and (minimal) selfhood: Getting clearer on for-me-ness and mineness.” In *The Oxford Handbook of the Philosophy of Consciousness*, edited by U. Kriegel. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.

9. Aligning the contents of the discipline with the expectations of the epistemic community representatives, professional associations and standard employers operating in the program field

- The content of the course is compatible with the content of the courses taught at the level of graduate / doctoral studies in prestigious universities in Europe and the USA, as well as with the requirements of the professional community.

10. Examination

Activity type	10.1 Evaluation criteria	10.2 Evaluation methods	10.3 Weight in the final grade
10.4 Lectures	Assessment of knowledge	Written exam	33% of the final grade
	Assessment of knowledge	Ongoing tests	
10.5 Seminars / laboratory classes	Activity during seminars	Discussions, answers to questions	66% of the final grade
	Assessment of knowledge	Written exam	
10.6 Minimum performance standard			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and making individual oral and written presentations at seminars: debate, analysis-commentary of text, report and academic essay (optional - for final evaluation with grade). 			

- Elaboration of a case study, of high complexity, using advanced methods of philosophy, humanities and social sciences.
- Plagiarism will be considered any work that is found to be at least 20% copied from other sources, and the use of plagiarism will cause the evaluation to be cancelled. Any contestation of the grade obtained at the final evaluation will have to be accompanied by a request from the student for the re-evaluation of the paper. The result of this reassessment will be made in the presence of the students within 2 days from the date of the appeal.

Date of issue
01.10.2024

Signature of the teacher
responsible for lectures
Prof. Dr. Dan Eugen Rațiu

Signature of the teacher
responsible for seminars
Prof. Dr. Dan Eugen Rațiu

Date of approval by the doctoral school council
02.10.2024

Signature of the doctoral school director
Prof. Dr. Mihaela Frunză