Critique of Judgment
PHI 502: Spring 2017

Instructor Information:
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Course Information:
Seminar time and location:
Friday 10-12:50, Marx 201

Description:
A study of Kant’s Critique of Judgment (1790). Our topics will include Kant’s motivations for a critique of judgment; principles of ‘reflective’ and ‘determining’ judgment; theory of aesthetic judgment, including epistemology and metaphysics of the beautiful and sublime; theory of genius; teleology in the critical philosophy—including harmony of the cognitive faculties, organisms, scope and limits of mechanical explanation, physico- and ethical-theology; the relation of ethics, aesthetics and teleology. A basic familiarity with Kant’s theoretical philosophy is presupposed.

Required text:
Immanuel Kant, Critique of the Power of Judgment (Cited as KU by Akademie pagination, volume and page number, e.g. KU Ak. 5:200)


Other primary texts:
Immanuel Kant, Critique of Pure Reason
Kant, Critique of Practical Reason
Kant, Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals
Kant, Observations on the Feeling of the Beautiful and Sublime
Kant, On the Use of Teleological Principles in Philosophy

Reading Schedule:
Below I append a suggested reading schedule for working through the main text. (The bracketed pagination refers to the Guyer/Matthews translation.) Additional primary and secondary readings will be made available on Blackboard as we proceed. We will be joined later in the semester by Professor Thomas Teufel (Baruch College/CUNY Graduate Center), who will lead a session on Kant and teleology.
Week 1 (Feb 10th):
Read: Kant’s letter to Carl Leonhard Reinhold, 28th Dec, 1787, Ak. 10:513–516

Week 2 (Feb 17th):
Read: KU Preface and Introduction. KU 5:167–198 (pp. 53–84)
Recommended: ‘First Introduction’ to KU, Ak. 20:195–251, reprinted in the CUP edition at pp. 3–51

Week 3 (Feb 24th):
Read: Analytic of the Beautiful. §§ 1-22, KU Ak. 5:201—44 (pp. 87–127)

Week 4 (March 3rd):
Read: Analytic of the Sublime. §§ 23-29, KU Ak. 5:244–278 (pp. 128–159)

Week 5 (March 10th):
Read: Deduction of Judgments of Taste. §§ 30–54, KU Ak. 5:279–335 (pp. 160–212)

Week 6 (March 17th):
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Week 7 (March 31st):
Read: Analytic and Dialectic of the Teleological Power of Judgment §§ 62-78, KU Ak. 5:352–415 (pp. 235–284)

Week 8 (April 7th):
Read: Methodology of the Teleological Power of Judgment. §§ 79-86 KU, Ak. 5:416–447 (pp. 285–313)

Week 9 (April 14th):
Read: Moral Proof of the Existence of God §§ 87-91, KU Ak. 5:447-484 (pp. 313–346)

Week 10–12 (April 21st, April 28th, May 5th): Catchup