**Ethics**

## Prof. Franco Riva

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

By introducing them to typical hermeneutical, phenomenological, conceptual and dialectical and problem-based methods, the course aims to furnish students with the ability to understand and analyse, at an advanced level, various core ideas and important structures related to an ethical existence in the contemporary world. At the end of the course, students must demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the topics, problems, theories and texts on the syllabus, and have enhanced their professionalising skills and capacity for independence and creativity.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Technique. Fear Hope (Module I)

Technical acting and prejudices: that it is an age-related problem (without roots); that it should be acquitted or condemned as a whole (without responsibility); that there are no alternatives.

Free time. Party. Game. Rite. Sacrifice (Module A)

If life begins at night, the struggle with free and busy time pushes partying, game, and ritual into sacrificial escape and excess traps, into mirages and industries of freedom but on command.

***READING LIST***

*Reading list and course map*

Module I: *Technique. Fear. Hope*

1. *Vergogna: di non essere macchine.* (G. Anders, *L’uomo antiquato*, Bollati B., Torino 2003, vol. I, pp. 37-120: Vergogna prometeica - libero l’approccio ad altri temi come corpo, bomba).
2. *Tecnica. Paura. Speranza* (Materiali Bb [cfr. E. Mounier, *La paura dell’artificiale*; M. Heidegger, *Lettera sull’umanismo*; R. Guardini, *Lettere dal lago di Como*]).
3. *Mutanti virtuali?* (Materiali Bb [F. Riva, *Il Volto e l’Interfaccia*].

[Examples of readings of your choice, including parts: Butler; Ruskin; Heidegger; Jaspers; Marcel; Mounier; Guardini; Jonas; Anders; Boltanski; Galimberti; Gehlen; Maldonado]

Module A: *Free Time. Party. Game. Rite. Sacrifice*

1. [4.] *Tempo libero, festa, sballo, eccesso* (Materiali Bb).
2. [5.] *Senza scopo. Rito, gioco* (F. Riva-P. Sequeri, *Segni della destinazione*, Cittadella, Assisi 2009, pp. 153-207: [cfr. pp. 297-351: Festa] Materiali Bb).
3. [6] *Logiche sacrificali* (J.L. Nancy, *Un pensiero finito*, Marcos y Marcos, Milano 1992, pp. 213-263: L’insacrificabile; F. Riva-P. Sequeri, *Segni*, cit., pp. 239-295: Sacrificio).

[Examples of readings of your choice, including parts: Platone; Rousseau; Kant; De Maistre; Nietzsche; Dostoevskij; Wittgenstein; Gadamer; Adorno-Horkheimer; Marcuse; Guardini; Scheler; Heidegger; Bloch; Sartre; Freud; Bataille; Fink; Girard; Jonas; Nancy].

Possible materials and/or course packs. A tailored syllabus is possible for those who need one or are working on personal projects.

*Reading, assignments, papers, reports, etc.*

Option of submitting an individual assignment with relative reading of student's choice, cross-curricular studies, summary sheets, courses and conferences, phenomenological studies, original papers (with option of class presentation). At least one option of student's choice. Elements already on the syllabus will be valid if personalised.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures, online resources, guided reading and special events.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The expected learning outcomes are reflected in the assessment criteria: capacity for knowledge and understanding (methodical and critical learning of the subject), ability to link and apply concepts and ideas (links between concepts, problems and situations), communication skills and language (mastery, presentation and explanation of concepts, issues and content), independence of judgement and ability to reinterpret (textual hermeneutics, personal research, expounding arguments including students’ own).

Students will be assessed by means of an oral exam (after submitting papers in advance) on their overall understanding and detailed knowledge of: syllabus and bibliography, lectures and available materials (link: Blackboard; PPD). The final mark is out of 30 and will reflect accuracy and scope of answers (70%), capacity for making relevant arguments and discussing content effectively (30%): *lode* (honours) will be awarded for students who demonstrate an advanced ability to integrate information and capacity for independent thought. Interim exams [12 ECTS credits] are worth 60%.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites except, for the master's degree, those specified in the admission criteria.

In the event that the health emergency should continue, both teaching activities and any forms of learning monitoring, both in progress and final, will be provided also remotely through our University's BlackBoard platform, the Microsoft Teams platform and any other tools envisaged and notified at the beginning of the course, so as to ensure the full achievement of the formative objectives set out in the study plans and, at the same time, the safety of our students.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.