# Aesthetics of the Environment and Landscape

## Prof. Guido Boffi

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

***Course aims***

The course aims to:

1. provide the essential conceptual and methodological tools for addressing the issues of environmental and landscape philosophy at the centre of both current aesthetic reflection and public debate;

2. promote a critical approach to the study of the discipline but also a growing awareness of the interconnection of living things and the relative responsibilities for conserving the planet.

***Intended learning outcomes***

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

* navigate the contemporary aesthetic and political debate on the topics covered;
* collect and interpret information to enable them to make independent judgements and to express themselves using specialist lexicon.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The main topics of lectures will be:

the integrated biosphere and earth system; the interconnection of the living; “natural” / “artificial” antinomy; the world and housing; the concept of the environment, the construction of environments, the environmental crisis; the foundation of ecological thought; the protection of biodiversity; landscape as a construct: models and theories; landscape as public beauty: law and politics; landscape history and narrative.

***READING LIST***

P. D’Angelo (ed.), *Estetica e paesaggio*, il Mulino, Bologna, 2009.

P. D’Angelo, *Il paesaggio. Teorie, storie, luoghi*, Laterza, Bari-Rome, 2021.

E. Casetta, *Filosofia dell’ambiente*, il Mulino, Bologna, 2023.

***TEACHING METHOD***

This is a semester-long course (6 ECTS credits corresponding to 30 hours) and will be delivered by means of frontal lectures. The lectures will sometimes be in seminar format, taking a more participatory and interactive approach.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of an oral exam on their acquisition and awareness of the content as well as the methodological and critical skills developed. Exam duration: approx. 30 minutes.

Students who demonstrate a firm and consistent grasp of the subject matter, and critical input and appropriate reasoning skills will score the highest marks (27-30 with *lode*). Students whose knowledge is predominantly learned by rote and sometimes use inadequate language and demonstrate poor argumentational skills will achieve good (24-26) to fair (21-23) marks. Students who demonstrate minimal knowledge of the content, gaps in their learning or inadequate logic and argumentation skills will not achieve higher than a pass mark (18-20). Students who demonstrate minimal content knowledge and reasoning skill will not pass.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

***Notes***

More detailed guidance on the recommended texts specific to the course, further reading and study material will be provided by the lecturer during lectures and shared on the Blackboard platform.

***Prerequisites***

This is an introductory course and therefore has no prerequisites. Students will ideally have basic knowledge of philosophical aesthetics.

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