



Direzione Ricerca,
Innovazione e
Internazionalizzazione

**UNIVERSITÀ
DI TORINO**

ID

VP_080_FIL

Visiting Professor Program Academic Year 2025/2026

TEACHING COMMITMENT: 36 hours

COURSE TITLE

Aesthetics

TEACHING PERIOD

I semester

SCIENTIFIC AREA

Aesthetics

LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH

English

COURSE SUMMARY

The Seminar aims at providing a systematic overview of most important concepts of vision in the history of mainly Western philosophy. It will introduce philosophical, psychological, neuroscientific and socio-cultural theories of vision by linking different schools of thought and theoretical traditions. The connection between visual perception and other processes of consciousness such as thinking or interpreting will become clear against the background of illusion and deception. The so-called 4E theories, which understand vision as embodied, extended, embedded in the environment and active, are presented, as are the core ideas of Merleau-Ponty's phenomenology, Dewey's pragmatism and Gibson's perceptual ecology. In addition, theories of the gaze critical of power and gender will be discussed in their ethical aspects of social visibility. The Seminar also deals media theories that describe the influence of architecture and film on perceptual habits. Finally, the course concludes with discussions of the affective interconnections of seeing and the specific nature of aesthetic experience.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To answer to the question what we actually do when we see;
- To enable the students to differentiate between different language games and thought styles in the philosophy of perception;
- To get an account of social practice;
- To grasp the intertwinement of vision and mind.

OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDE THE COURSE

Workshop on the aesthetics of dance

Talk at the seminar ART

Book presentations and discussions in the framework of the Centro Studi ART (Aesthetics Research Torino)

Participation in the ART Reading Group sessions

VISITING PROFESSOR PROFILE

A distinguished professor in the European context, expert in philosophical aesthetics, phenomenology, theories of vision, perception, and media, as well as German philosophy.

CONTACT REFERENT

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