A. Course Description: *Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.* Or is it? What is beauty, and why do we experience the world in this way? This course will take an abstract and theoretical look at the nature of aesthetic experience. Our concern will be to understand what makes aesthetic experience unique, what are the causes of aesthetic experience, how aesthetic experience might be related to our appreciation of art and nature, and to examine what role knowledge and belief may play in aesthetic experience.

B. Core Texts

Suggested Further Reading

C. Assessment: There are four components that you will be graded on: fortnightly short essay quizzes, two class presentations and one final writing assignment. The calculation of your grade will be made as follows:

- **Short Essay Quizzes:** 30%
- **Mid-Term Presentation:** 10%
- **Final Presentation:** 20%
- **Final Writing Assignment:** 40%

**Quizzes:** There will be five quizzes held each fortnight. Each quiz will consist of three to five essay questions. You will be asked to write a short answer — typically from three sentences to two paragraphs. Of the five quizzes, I will only count the top four. The quizzes will be available online through the AsULearn website. Quizzes will be available online immediately after class finishes on Thursdays and must be completed before 12:30PM on the following Tuesday.
Mid-Term Presentation: The first class presentation will be scheduled during mid-terms week. Each speaker will be required to speak for 10 minutes from an essay written in advance of the presentation. (A ten minute paper is roughly 1000 words.) A question will be assigned by the course instructor to the student in advance of each presentation or the student may choose to write an essay on their own topic with the approval of the instructor. A copy of the essay must be provided to the instructor. You will be graded on both content and effectiveness. Other students in the class may be asked to provide feedback on each presentation and this feedback may be taken into account for the determination of the student’s grade.

Final Presentation: The second class presentation will be scheduled during the final weeks of class. Each speaker will be required to speak for 10 minutes from an essay written in advance of the presentation. The topic of this paper would typically be a rough draft of the student’s final writing assignment. A copy of the essay must be provided to the instructor. You will be graded on both content and effectiveness. Other students in the class may be asked to provide feedback on each presentation and this feedback may be taken into account for the determination of the student’s grade.

Final Writing Assignment: The final writing assignment consists of a minimum 3,000 word paper (+/- 10%) in which the student develops his or her own ideas on one of the topics that we have discussed in class. The course instructor will be available to meet out of class if any student needs help or advice on the topic of their paper, the essays they might will use for their research, to discuss the progress of the student’s research, the organization of the student’s essay, or to discuss a rough draft of your essay. These meetings are optional, not mandatory and will be offered at the request of the student. The final writing assignment is due Monday, May 4 at 2:30. These must be submitted to the instructor either via email (bartelcj@appstate.edu) or they may be submitted via the appropriate link on AsULearn.

D. Policies: Attendance and Class Participation. Neither class participation nor the attendance of the instructor’s lectures will affect the determination of your grade. The only class periods where I will count attendance will be during the student presentations. For each day of student presentations that a student fails to attend, that student will have a third of their grade deducted from the grade of their own presentation. In other words, miss one day of presentations and you will have 33% of your own presentation’s grade deducted; miss two days, 66% will be deducted; miss three days, 100% will be deducted.

Late Quizzes, Presentations and the Final Assignment. The schedule of quizzes is set in advance, which students can review on the AsULearn website. I will not accept late quizzes—no exceptions.

The schedule of presentations will be set during class time one week before the first presentation will be given. The students who are present will be consulted on what would be an acceptable schedule, however the final decision will be left to the instructor. Students who are not present will effectively have no say in setting the schedule. Once the schedule is set, any further changes must be negotiated between the students in consultation with the instructor (e.g. students may elect to swap their scheduled times, but must inform the instructor when doing so). Any student who fails to give a presentation during their scheduled time will receive no points toward the assignment, and presentations will not be rescheduled—no exceptions. Finally, class attendance is mandatory for all presentations—see the attendance policy above.
The **final writing assignment** is due Monday, May 4 at 2:30. Any assignment received after this time are considered late. Late assignments will lose 25% of their value for each 24 hour period that they are late—**no exceptions**. For example, if you hand your assignment in before Tuesday, May 5 at 2:30pm, your grade will be reduced by 25%; before Wednesday, May 6 at 2:30pm, your grade will be reduced by 50%, and so on.

**Cheating, Collusion and Plagiarism.** Do not cheat, collude or plagiarize. The University does not tolerate this and I find it personally insulting. If I *suspect* you of cheating, collusion or plagiarism, I will request that you complete a new assignment. If I *discover* that you have been cheating, colluding or plagiarizing, you will automatically earn an *F* for the course, *and* you will be reported to the University for disciplinary action. **You are advised to avoid the mere suspicion of violating academic integrity.** All students are advised to familiarize themselves with the Academic Integrity Code, which can be found at the Office of Student Conduct’s website (http://studentconduct.appstate.edu/).

**Special Needs.** Appalachian State University is committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with documented qualifying disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Those seeking accommodations based on a substantially limiting disability must contact and register with The Office of Disability Services (ODS) at www.ods.appstate.edu or 828-262-3056. Once registration is complete, individuals will meet with ODS staff to discuss eligibility and appropriate accommodations.

**Syllabus and Course Content.** I reserve the right to change any part of this syllabus (including course content and policies) for any reason without advance notice. You will be notified of any changes to the policies of this course via email. Any changes in course content will be listed on the AsULearn website.
# PHL3013 SPRING 2010 LECTURE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 20-22</td>
<td>What Distinguishes the Aesthetic?</td>
<td>The Aesthetic Attitude</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 27-29</td>
<td>Realism and Anti-Realism</td>
<td>Supervenience and Aesthetic Concepts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 3-5</td>
<td>The Acquaintance Principle and the Case of Literature</td>
<td>Kantian Formalism</td>
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<td>Feb. 10-12</td>
<td>Humean Subjectivism and Response-Dependence</td>
<td>Aesthetic Empiricism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 17-19</td>
<td>Conceptual Anti-Realism</td>
<td>CAR on Distinguishing Aesthetic Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 24-26</td>
<td><em>Mid-Term Presentations I</em></td>
<td><em>Mid-Term Presentations II</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 3-5</td>
<td><em>Mid-Term Presentations III</em></td>
<td><em>Mid-Term Presentations IV</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 10-12</td>
<td><strong>NO CLASS</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CLASS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 17-19</td>
<td>Knowledge, Aesthetic Experience and Historical Inaccuracy</td>
<td>Emotions: Authenticity and Rationality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 24-26</td>
<td>Ethics and Aesthetics</td>
<td>Ugliness and Disgust</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 31-Apr. 2</td>
<td>Food, Irony and Aesthetic Categories</td>
<td><strong>NO CLASS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 7-9</td>
<td>Naturalism, Cognitive Science and Aesthetics</td>
<td>Evolutionary Aesthetics</td>
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<td>Apr. 14-16</td>
<td><strong>NO CLASS</strong></td>
<td>The Origins of the Aesthetic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 21-23</td>
<td><em>Final Presentations I</em></td>
<td><em>Final Presentations II</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 28-30</td>
<td><em>Final Presentations III</em></td>
<td><em>Final Presentations IV</em></td>
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PHL 3013 Spring 2009 Reading Schedule listed by week and where you can find them.

Levinson, “Aesthetic Supervenience”. *Class webpage.*
Tilghman, “Reflections on Aesthetic Judgment”. *Class webpage.*
Wiggins, “A Sensible Subjectivism?”. *Class webpage.*

**Class Presentations**

SPRING BREAK

Zeki, “Art and the Brain”. *Class webpage.*
Carroll, “Art, Narrative and Moral Understanding”. *Class webpage.*
Gaut, “The Ethical Criticism of Art”. *Class webpage.*
Radford, “How Can We Be Moved by the Fate of Anna Karenina?” Neill & Ridley, *Arguing about Art*, pp. 165-175.
Graham, “Learning from Art”. *Class webpage.*

**Class Presentations**

Class Presentations

Class Presentations