

DOCTORAL STUDIES COURSE UNIT DESCRIPTION

Name of subject	Field of science, code	Faculty / Center	Institute / Department
Nihilism and Western Philosophy	H 001	Faculty of Philosophy	Institute of Philosophy

Student's workload	Credits	Student's workload	Credits
Lectures		Consultations	1
Independent study	4	Seminars	

<p>Course annotation</p> <p>The course is dedicated to the analysis of the philosophical problem of nihilism. The basics theoretical configurations of the problem of nihilism in Western philosophy are discussed and the theoretical models of nihilism are highlighted. The relationship between logical and ontological aspects of nihilism in the tradition of Western thought is analyzed. The question of the "essence" (meaning) of nihilism is raised when diagnosing nihilism as an event of the "spirit" and an attempt is made to highlight the structure of nihilism as a certain phenomenon. The question of historicity of the nihilism (phenomenon) is raised. The structure of the nihilistic description of certain epochs is reconstructed, highlighting essential characteristics of nihilistic consciousness. Reconstruction of the problems of nihilism as theoretical emergence of the problem in philosophy is made, analyzing the works of Jacobi, Nietzsche, Heidegger. The relationship of nihilism with history, politics, morality, religion, etc. is discussed. The so-called speculative realism as one of the models of nihilism is discussed, analyzing its genesis, connections with nihilism as a "spiritual" (historical) event. The most important structural features of speculative nihilism, its most important stages are discussed. The question of including the thinking of individual authors in the context of nihilism (S. Kierkegaard, M. Heidegger, Levinas, etc.) is raised. The most important perspective of nihilism as a speculative "event" is highlighted and discussed, i.e. a perspective on the <i>Grundfrage</i> as a nihilistic question is raised. The relationship between nihilism and negative theology, nihilism and tragic thinking is considered. The provisions of Heidegger's philosophy are analyzed, which enable to connect nihilism as an event of the spirit with nihilism as a speculative "event" (E. Jünger's polemic with M. Heidegger). G. Vattimo's concept of hermeneutic nihilism is analyzed. Nihilism as a theory of <i>Überwindung</i> (overcoming) is highlighted and its theoretical configurations are discussed. The "genealogical" connection of nihilism with the problem of reality is considered. Not only the analysis of nihilism as a "spiritual" event (historical nihilism, nihilism in the "true sense of the word"), but also the analysis of speculative nihilism (history of Nothingness) revealed that nihilism in one way or another is a "lost" reality. All diagnoses of derealization of nihilism (especially literary), as well as various theories of nihilism, speak for themselves. Reality is lost when immediate belief becomes "faith" in reflection (Fyodor Dostoyevsky Stavrogin, Jean-Paul Sartre, Gianni Vattimo), when thinking competes with being (Søren Kierkegaard, Martin Heidegger) or in general the line between what is real and what is fake (Jean Baudrillard) disappears. And that is nihilism.</p> <p>During the seminars, the works of R. Brassier, G. Agamben are analyzed, the perspective of negativity and nihilism in their thinking is revealed.</p> <p>Auditory sessions are held according to current demand.</p> <p>Settlement requirements are related to the topic of the dissertation and are determined individually.</p>
<p>Reading list</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jacobi F.H. <i>Jacobi an Fichte</i> (1797). 2. Nietzsche F. <i>Valia galiai</i>. 3. Nietzsche F. <i>Apie moralės genealogiją..</i> Vilnius: Pradai. – 1996.

4. Heidegger M. <i>Vom Wesen des Grundes</i> . – Frankfurt am Main: Vittorio Klostermann. – 1995.
5. Heidegger M. <i>Zur Seinsfrage</i> . – Frankfurt am Main: Vittorio Klostermann. – 1977.
6. Heidegger M. <i>Beiträge zur Philosophie (Vom Ereignis)</i> . In: Gesamtausgabe. III. Abteilung: Unveröffentlichte Abhandlungen. Band 65. – Frankfurt am Main: Vittorio Klostermann. – 2003.
7. Хайдеггер М. <i>Европейский нигилизм // Хайдеггер М. Время и бытие</i> . – Москва. – 1993.
8. Heideggeris. M. <i>Kas yra metafizika?</i> // M. Heideggeris. <i>Rinkiniai raštai</i> . Vilnius: mintis.-1992.
9. Heideggeris M. Nyčės žodis „Dievas mirė“// M. Heideggeris. <i>Rinkiniai raštai</i> . Vilnius: Mintis.-1992
10. Sartre J.-P. <i>L'êtr e et le nesant. Essai d'ontologie phénoménologique</i> . Paris: Gallimard, 1943. / Сартр Ж.П. <i>Бытие и Ничто</i> . Москва: Республика. – 2000
11. Vattimo G. <i>La fine della modernità</i> . – Milano: Garzanti. – 1991
12. Vattimo G. <i>Tikėti, kad tiki</i> . Vilnius: Dialogo institutas, 2009.
13. Agamben G. <i>L'uomo senza contenuto</i> . Macerata: Quodlibet, 1994.
14. Agamben G. <i>Il linguaggio e la morte</i> . Torino: Einaudi, 2008.
15. Agamben G. <i>Homo sacer</i> . Torino: Einaudi, 2005.
16. Brassier, R. <i>Nihil Unbound</i> . Macmillan Palgrave, 2007.

The names of consulting teachers	Science degree	Main scientific works published in a scientific field in last 5 year period
Prof. Rita Šerpytytė	PhD (HP)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Šerpytytė R. <i>Tikrovės spektrai. Vakary nihilizmas tarp diagnozės ir teorijos</i>. Mokslinė monografija. (<i>Spectres of Reality. Western Nihilism between Diagnosis and Theory</i>. Monograph. Vilnius: VU leidykla, 2019. (Forthcoming). 15 a. l. Šerpytytė R. <i>Nihilizmas ir Vakary filosofija</i>. Mokslinė monografija. ISBN 978-9955-33-035-6. Vilnius: VU leidykla, 2007. (479 p.). Šerpytytė, Rita. <i>Realtà e Negatività: Pareyson tra Heidegger e Gadamer</i>. In: <i>Annuario filosofico</i>, 2017, 33, p. 52-67. ISBN 978-88-425-588. Milano: Mursia, 2018. <i>Ontologijos transformacijos: medijos, nihilizmas, etika</i>. Monografija. Vilnius: Vilniaus universiteto leidykla, 2015. ISBN 978-609-459-609-4. (bendraautoriai: Tomas Sodeika, Danutė Bacevičiūtė). Šerpytytė R. „Essere nichilista. Con Heidegger tra Nietzsche e Cristianesimo“. In <i>Rivista ermeneutica e critica filosofica: Trópos. Effetti d'interpretazione. Su Gianni Vattimo</i>. Ed. by Gaetano Chiurazzi. Anno IX. Numero 1, 2016, p. 79-92. ISBN 978-88-548-9486-0; ISSN 2036-542X-16001. „Religija tarp sekuliarizacijos ir nihilizmo“. In Šerpytytė R. (ed.) <i>Sekuliarizacija ir dabarties kultūra</i>. ISBN 978-609-459-245-4; UDK 316 Se51. Vilnius: VU leidykla, 2013, p. 25-117

Certified during Doctoral Committee session on 2019-10-22. Protocol No. 250000-KI-41

Committee Chairman prof. Marius Povilas Šaulauskas