

PHL 511: KANT II: *Critique of Judgment*

Avery Goldman

Tuesday 1:00-4:10, Arts and Letters 402

Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00-4:00, or by appointment

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#### REQUIRED READING:

Immanuel Kant, *Critique of the Power of Judgment*, Translated by Paul Guyer and Eric Matthews, Cambridge University Press, 2000 (ISBN 0-521-34892-7).

Please make sure that you have this edition. The campus bookstore has it in stock. For those with some facility in German the Meiner edition of this work, *Kritik der Urteilskraft*, is a good choice (please note that the first introduction, which we will be reading, is published separately as: *Erste Einleitung in die Kritik der Urteilskraft*).

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this class we will be undertaking a close reading of Kant's *Critique of Judgment*, guided by the question of how this work fits into the critical system. While much recent scholarly interest has limited itself to the first half of the book, to Kant's aesthetics, we will attempt to interpret the book in its entirety, connecting the discussion of beauty to that of teleological natural science. For Kant, both are examples of reflective judgment, the general theme of the book. All such reflective judgments, those that search for the universal to which particulars belong, require a regulating or guiding idea, described by Kant as the principle of "purposiveness [Zweckmäßigkeit]." And it is this principle, which essentially presumes that nature offers itself in an orderly fashion, that we will need to investigate if we wish to conceive of not only the unity of the *Critique of Judgment* and the role that this book plays in Kant's systematic analysis of the cognitive faculties, but so too the idealistic tradition that develops out of it.

#### Course Requirements:

12-15 page paper (due Tuesday March 19<sup>th</sup>).

Regular attendance and participation are expected.