

Rolf-Peter Horstmann (Berlin)

Kant's *Critique of Judgment*.

Fudan University, Shanghai

Seminar, Tuesday – Thursday

First session: May, 28th, 2012

Last session: June, 21st, 2012

Kant's *Critique of Judgment* (1790) is the third and last of his three *Critiques*. It is of major importance for an understanding of Kant's philosophy as a whole in at least three respects. 1) Being the latest of the three *Critiques* it gives the ultimate view Kant has with regard to his 'critical system' in its entirety. This view is presented explicitly both in the unpublished *First Introduction* and the published version of the *Introduction* to the third *Critique*. 2) It contains as its first part his theory of the judgment of taste, i.e. his aesthetic theory. This theory is of interest not just because of its immense influence on subsequent theories of the beautiful but also because of the way it tries to solve the problem of the universal validity of judgments that do not have the status of judgments of cognition. 3) The third *Critique* presents in its second part Kant's attempt to integrate living organisms as objects of knowledge into his epistemological framework. It thus comprises his philosophy of biology and his discussion of the status and the function of teleological explanations in science.

Though the seminar is meant to deal with all these aspects it can – depending on the interests of the participants – focus with different intensity on each of these. The following syllabus is just a suggestion which can be modified.

Week 1

The Role of the Third *Critique* within Kant's 'critical system'. (Text: Both versions of the *Introduction*)

Week 2 and 3

Kant's aesthetic theory. (Text: §§ 1 – 54)

Week 4

Kant on organized systems and on teleology. (Text: §§ 61 – 78)

Primary text:

I. Kant: *Critique of the Power of Judgment* (recommended edition: The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Immanuel Kant).

Secondary Literature

Henry E. Allison, *Kant's Theory of Taste, A Reading of the Critique of Aesthetic Judgment*, Cambridge University Press, 2001

Rachel Zuckert: *Kant on Beauty and Biology. An Interpretation of the 'Critique of Judgment'*. CUP 2007.

Otfried Höffe (Hrsg.): *Immanuel Kant: Kritik der Urteilskraft*. Berlin 2008.