

**FINO PhD Program in Philosophy**  
**THEORETICAL curriculum**  
**A.Y. 2020-2021**

*The course is open to all Curricula, but it is mainly intended for PhD students of Theoretical Curriculum and is mandatory for cycles 35 and 36*

**Title:** The Antinomy of the Teleological Power of Judgment in the *Critique of the Power of Judgment*

**Course Description:** In the second part of the *Critique of the Power of Judgment* Kant describes organisms as those natural beings that we cannot help but think in teleological terms. As such, organisms must be considered natural ends (*Naturzwecke*). This account of organisms appears to be in direct conflict with the description of natural laws that Kant provides in *the Critique of Pure Reason*, where no room is left for teleological laws. Kant addresses this apparent inconsistency in the Dialectic of the Teleological Power of Judgment. The antinomy presents two seemingly conflicting ways of regarding nature, either as completely governed by mechanical laws or as including some beings that were impossible if only mechanical laws obtained. Kant's solution to the antinomy appeals to two claims. First, the principle of purposiveness of nature is only regulative and not constitutive of objects. That means that when we regard an organism as a natural end, we are not really identifying an end that is operative in nature. Second, both the claim that nature only obeys to mechanical laws and the claim that mechanical laws alone are insufficient for explaining some natural beings must be understood not as competing descriptions of how nature actually is, but rather as different regulative maxims that can guide our research into nature. It is not clear whether Kant's solution to the antinomy can really do the trick. The course will, first, reconstruct the Antinomy of the Teleological Power of Judgments and Kant's proposed solution. Second, it will survey the recent debate around the Antinomy. In particular, we will analyze some original attempts to defend Kant's solution.

**Course organization**

**Teacher(s):** Gabriele Gava

**Duration and Credits:** 6 hours (3 CFU)

**Teachig period:** November 2020

**Requirements**

**Details**