



Croatian Philosophy: Its History and Future Prospects

(Experience and thought of Central and Eastern Europe 1)

F. GRGIĆ

30 hours of lecture + 30 hours of classes / 10 ECTS

LECTURE

Introductory description

The course has two main goals. (1) To survey some of the central points in the history of Croatian philosophy, with special emphasis on the works of Herman of Carinthia (12th century), Matthias Flacius Illyricus (1520–1575), Franciscus Patricius (1529–1597), and Roger Boscovich (1711–1787). (2) To introduce students into main trends in Croatian philosophy in 20th and 21st centuries. We will situate the history of Croatian philosophy in the wider cultural, scientific and political context of Central and Eastern Europe, and, in particular, consider its position and role in the political and economic turn at the end of the 20th century. Finally, we will discuss the future prospects of Croatian philosophy.

Course content

- The beginnings of Croatian philosophy and science
- Herman of Carinthia: one of the pioneers of European science
- Matthias Flacius Illyricus and his hermeneutics
- Franciscus Patricius and the Renaissance Platonism
- Roger Boscovich: his natural philosophy and its influence
- Croatian philosophy in 19th and 20th centuries and its political and cultural influence
- Contemporary Croatian philosophy



Requirements of credits – Assessment criteria

Written exam

References / Literature / Reading list

1. Burnett, Ch., *Hermann of Carinthia. De essentiis*. A critical Edition with Translation and Commentary, Leiden: Brill, 1982.
2. Grgić, F. and J. Talanga, *Matthias Flacius Illyricus and Sixteenth-Century Logic*, *Synthesis Philosophica* 8 (1993), 147–166.
3. Kordić, I. *Croatian Philosophers IV: Matija Vlačić Ilirik – Mathias Flacius Illyricus (1520–1575)*, *Prolegomena* 4 (2005), 219–233.
4. Kristeller, P. O., *Eight Philosophers of the Italian Renaissance*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1964. Chapter 7: Patrizi, 110–126.
5. Krstić, K., *The Beginnings of Philosophy in Croatia*, *Studia Historiae Philosophiae Croaticae* 1 (1990), 7–16.
6. Kutleša, S., *Croatian Philosophers I: Hermann of Dalmatia (1110–1154)*, *Prolegomena* 3 (2004), 57–71.
7. Marković, Ž. “Boscovich’s Theoria”, in L. L. Whyte (ed.), *Roger Joseph Boscovich S.J., F.R.S., 1711–1787: Studies in His Life and Work on the 250th Anniversary of His Birth*, London: Allen & Unwin, 1961, 127–151.
8. Purnell, F. *Francesco Patrizi*, *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Fall 2008 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2008/entries/patrizi/>.

CLASSES

Introductory description

The main goal of classes is to introduce students into the work of Roger Boscovich. We will combine a more thorough study of some passages from his works with the discussion of the wider context and influence of his ideas. The emphasis will be on the philosophical aspect of his work. We will appreciate his contribution to some traditional issues and discuss their philosophical relevance.



Course content

1. The context: Leibniz's and Newton's natural philosophy
2. Boscovich's ideas: the basics
3. Space and time
4. Philosophy of mind
5. Determinism and free will

Requirements of credits – Assessment criteria

One shorter (2500 words) and one longer (5000 words) essay.

References / Literature / Reading list

1. Boscovich, R. J. *A Theory of Natural Philosophy*, trans. by J. M. Child, Chicago and London: Open Court, 1922.
2. Kožnjak, B., *Who Let the Demon Out? Laplace and Boscovich on Determinism*, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* 51 (2015), 42–52.
3. Pozaić, V. (ed.). *The Philosophy of Science of Ruđer Bošković*, Zagreb: Institute of Philosophy and Theology S.J., 1987.