

Philosophy School of Phish

Instructor: Stephanie Jenkins

Course Description:

Through their music, the rock band Phish engages ideas that are central to the history of philosophy. For example, their lyrics, festival exhibits like Superball's "storage box", public statements, and more exemplify imaginative, conceptual investigation through artistic expression. This course will use Phish's concerts as "field sites" for exploring the philosophy of art and music.

Students will study major philosophical theories about art and its meaning, from ancient to modern times. Assignments will address questions such as:

- What is beauty?
- How does imagination give birth to art?
- What emotions does art provoke?
- How does music move us?

Potential Readings:

Bicknell, *Why Music Moves Us*
Kant, *The Critique of Judgment*
Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy*
Selected essays and interviews

For course information, contact:

Stephanie Jenkins, PhD
stephanie.jenkins@oregonstate.edu

To inquire about credit transferability, contact:

OSU Enrollment Services

1-800-667-1465

ecampus@oregonstate.edu

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A SPECIAL SECTION OF PHL 360: PHILOSOPHY & THE ARTS
SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, AND RELIGION