PHI 508: Dwelling, Shelter, Art
Tuesdays 1:00 – 4:00 PM (NYC)

Megan Craig

What does it mean to dwell? Where and how have humans and other creatures fabricated dwelling places? What are the ethical and political implications of dwelling? This seminar will explore the concepts of dwelling and shelter as they relate to aesthetics and practices of architecture, habitation, shelter, clothing, weaving, and temporary structures. We will engage with various texts and works over the course of the semester, but our investigations will be guided by Heidegger's *Building, Dwelling, Thinking*, Bachelard's *The Poetics of Space*, sections of Levinas's *Totality and Infinity*, and Gloria Anzaldua's *La Frontera*.

PHI 506: Beauty
Thursdays 1:00 – 4:00 PM (NYC)

Megan Craig

John Keats famously asserted, "Beauty is truth, truth beauty." This seminar investigates theories of the beautiful and beauty from Plato through Heidegger, with additional readings by poets, artists, and critics who have written about beauty and its implications beyond aesthetics. Some of the issues we will consider and discuss include: the relationship between beauty and divinity, beauty and truth, beauty and sense perception, and the place of beauty in the realms of ethics and politics. We will close the semester with a close reading of Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*. This is a writing intensive seminar.

A. de Laurentiis

PHI 507 Hegel’s Aesthetics
Wednesday 6:00-9:00 West Campus

A study of Hegel's philosophy of the arts (architecture, sculpture, painting, music, and literature), based on a close reading of his *Lectures on Fine Art*. Lectures, discussions and term papers (around 12 – 15 pp.) will center on the philosophical, i.e., conceptual explanation of the production of artworks as part of humanity’s historical process of self-comprehension ("absolute knowing"). This is a primary-source oriented seminar. Reliance on secondary literature in this class is minimal or nonexistent. A list of reading selections from the two volumes of *Lectures* will be distributed at the beginning of the semester. The first classes will be dedicated to familiarization with Hegel’s mature system (the *Encyclopaedia of philosophical sciences*; handouts provided) so as to refine our understanding of the “Aesthetics” in the overall economy of Hegel’s philosophy.

Required texts: