

French

Name	Identity in the Age of Plasticity
Code	FRU44242
Semester	2
ECTS credits	5
Pre-requisite	none
Module Coordinator	Dr Hannes Opelz (opelzh@tcd.ie)

Module Content

A selection of texts by Catherine Malabou, as well as a sample of literary and cinematic works through which Malabou's concept of plasticity will be explored, applied, and challenged.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Critically evaluate the concept of plasticity developed by contemporary French philosopher Catherine Malabou, exploring its implications for conceptions of human identity.
- Analyse Malabou's concept of plasticity in depth, examining its applications and limitations in addressing key societal issues from an interdisciplinary perspective, for example at the intersections between brain plasticity and philosophy, capitalism and trauma, gender and politics, art and artificial intelligence, the environment and biology.
- Formulate theoretical inquiries about human identity and experience through engagement with both neurobiological and philosophical perspectives, with a particular focus on the ways in which recent developments challenge traditional notions of identity.
- Demonstrate an ability to apply Malabou's concept of plasticity to various forms of media and art by critically assessing how works engage with and reflect on the malleability of identity.



- Produce well-structured essays and oral presentations that showcase a critical and reasoned engagement with the materials covered in the module, employing appropriate methodologies and drawing on relevant resources.
- Engage in discussions and debates regarding the political, social, and cultural implications of contemporary understandings of human identity shaped by neurobiology, philosophy, technology, and art, demonstrating an awareness of diverse perspectives and potential implications for society at large.

Assessment

Coursework Analysis (100%)