In this course, we will consider the essays on art Martin Heidegger and Maurice Merleau-Ponty published in the first half of the 20th century. To the extent that both took an existentialist phenomenological approach, Heidegger and Merleau-Ponty are properly placed together, yet their similar approach generates distinct accounts to be investigated here. Merleau-Ponty’s texts, moreover, demonstrate the internal development of his philosophy, from the early “Cézanne’s Doubt” to his final published essay “Eye and Mind”.

TEXTS:

Supplementary readings to be made available on the course web site on avenue.

REQUIREMENTS:

Weekly summaries and comments (up to 2 pages each) of the assigned reading. 20%
--summaries must be submitted electronically to the dropbox on avenue to learn (in Word or pdf format) by noon on Tuesday prior to the Wednesday class during which the reading is discussed.
--ten submissions are required in the course of the term (no more than one per week)

Term paper (12-15 pages) due at the end of term 80%
Philosophy 767
Winter 2018

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:

Jan. 9  Introductory Matters: background and terminology

“The Origin of the Work of Art”

Jan. 17  ‘‘Thing and Work’’  OWA, 17 - 38
Jan. 31 –  Feb. 7  ‘‘Truth and Art’’  OWA, 56 - 76

Feb. 14  ‘‘Epilogue’’ and ‘‘Addendum’’  OWA, 76 - 86
Feb. 19 - 25  Mid -semester break

Merleau-Ponty’s art essays

Feb 28 – March 7  ‘‘Cézanne’s Doubt’’  Reader, 69 - 84
March 14  – 21  ‘‘Indirect Language and the Voices of Silence’’  Reader, 241 - 282
March 28  – April 4  ‘‘Eye and Mind’’  Reader, 351 - 378

April 11  Concluding discussion