

EG465

Modern and Contemporary Art

[Onsite]

Course Description:

This course focuses on the major artists, movements and issues in painting, sculpture, architecture and other media in both the modern and contemporary periods.

Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s):

Prerequisite: EG372 Written Analysis or equivalent

Credit hours: 4

Contact hours: 40 (40 Theory Hours)

SYLLABUS: MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART

Instructor: _____

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is neither a broad art-historical survey, nor a general study in art appreciation. Rather, the curriculum seeks to integrate elements of both types in order to make the bewildering diversity of modern and contemporary art more intelligible to students that have little background in the subject. While this course will present a broad outline of the development of Western post 18th-century art movements, most attention will be paid to providing students with tools for effective analysis and appreciation of artworks based on aesthetic content. This approach is intended to assist the student approach and interact with artwork regardless of personal knowledge of particular modern/contemporary theory or philosophy.

This curriculum of this course will assume no prior knowledge of the subject on the part of the student.

INTENT/INTERFACE

Modern and Postmodern Art is often difficult and intimidating, so this course will seek to present information in an engaging and accessible way that will allow the students to feel comfortable discussing and analyzing Modern and Postmodern Art. The focus of this course is to introduce students to the discipline of art history and the major artists and art movements of the modern and postmodern periods. The course will provide will present information and exercises that will aim to show students the ways in which art is relevant to their lives and help them in appreciating art and art history.

MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL AREAS

1. The problem of defining 'Art'
2. Observing Art
3. Evaluating Art
4. Art in the Modern World
5. Art in the Postmodern World
6. Researching Art

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After successful completion of this course, the student will have the opportunity to:

1. Given various perspectives on the definition of art, apply these perspectives to develop a personal definition of art.
2. Describe and analyze the characteristics of the major art movements from the late 18th century through the end of the 20th century and identify artists who contributed to these movements.
3. Analyze and critique a work of art considering the work's visual elements, emotional impact, craftsmanship, principle(s) of design, message or content, and historical context.
4. Apply the basic vocabulary of the art historian for analyzing selected artworks and art movements.
5. Compare and contrast selected cultural, regional, or group artistic styles and describe the apparent influences on each selected style.
6. Describe the impact of technology on craft.
7. Demonstrate the ability to research the development of a type of art, the work of a particular artist, or a selected art object using the ITT Tech Virtual Library and other appropriate resources.

Related SCANS Objectives

1. Use ideas or information to gain new perspectives.
2. Use critical thinking to apply the new knowledge learned.
3. Apply existing and new knowledge to analyze and critique works of art.
4. Apply a critical thinking process to discover principles underlying the relationship between art works.
5. Identify and acquire relevant information from existing sources and identify the best method to present the information.
6. Organize and maintain information to maximize retention and expression of knowledge.

TEACHING STRATEGIES

The curriculum is designed to promote a variety of teaching strategies that support the outcomes described in the course objectives and that foster higher cognitive skills. Delivery makes use of various media and delivery tools in the classroom.

COURSE RESOURCES

Student Textbook Package

Frank, Patrick. *Preble's Artforms: An Introduction to the Visual Arts. 9th ed. (w. / Discovering Art 2.0 CD-ROM)*, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2009.

References and Resources

ITT Tech Virtual Library

Login to the ITT Tech Virtual Library (<http://www.library.itt-tech.edu>) to access online books, journals, and other reference resources selected to support ITT Tech curricula.

- **Books**

The following books are related to this course and are available through the ITT Tech virtual Library

Logon to ITT Tech Virtual Library → log in → Main Menu → Books ▯ Ebrary →

- Harris, Jonathan, *New Art History: A Critical Introduction*, Routledge, 2001
- Harrison, Sylvia, *Pop Art and the Origins of Post-Modernism*, Cambridge University Press, 2001
- Novitz, David, *The Boundaries of Art (Revised Edition)*, Cybereditions Corporation, 2001
- Barasch, Moshe, *Modern Theories of Art : From Impressionism to Kandinsky (Volume 2)*, New York University Press, 1998
- Carroll, Noel, *Philosophy of Art; Contemporary Introduction*, Routledge, 1999
- Harrison, Sylvia, *Pop Art and the Origins of Postmodernism*, Cambridge University Press, 2001

- **Periodicals**

- **Periodicals → EbscoHost**

Logon to ITT Tech Virtual Library → log in → Main Menu →

- Periodicals▯ EbscoHost→ Art Bulletin
- Periodicals▯ EbscoHost→Art in America
- Periodicals▯ EbscoHost→Art Journal
- Periodicals▯ EbscoHost→ARTnews

■ **Other Resources**

• **Books**

- Barnet, Sylvan. *A Short Guide to Writing about Art*. Longman, 1997.
- D'Alleva, Anne. *Look!; the Fundamentals of Art History*. Upper Saddle River NJ: Prentice Hall Inc, 2004.

• **Websites**

- <http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/splash.htm> The Metropolitan Museum's "Timeline of Art History." Features historical information and images relevant art history.
- <http://witcombe.sbc.edu/ARTHLinks.html> An index of art-historical resources on the web.

All links to web references are always subject to change without prior notice.

EVALUATION & GRADING

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance and participation are essential for satisfactory progress in this course.

2. Completed Assignments

Each student is responsible for completing all assignments on time.

3. Team Participation (if applicable)

Each student is responsible for participating in team assignments and for completing the delegated task. Each team member must honestly evaluate the contributions by all members of their respective teams.

Evaluation Criteria Table

The final grade will be based on the following weighted categories:

CATEGORY	WEIGHT
Discussion Activities	35%
Assignments	35%
Quiz	10%
Topic Selection	4%
Project	16%
Total	100%

Grade Conversion Table

Final grades will be calculated from the percentages earned in class as follows:

A	90 - 100%	4.0
B+	85 - 89%	3.5
B	80 - 84%	3.0

C+	75 - 79%	2.5
C	70 - 74%	2.0
D+	65 - 69%	1.5
D	60 - 64%	1.0
F	<60%	0.0

COURSE OUTLINE

Lesson	Lesson Title	Content Topics that will be covered in the online course	Reading (Pages from the textbook)	Activity Type			
				Assignments	Discussion	Project	Ungraded Activities
1	What is Art?	Functions of Art	Chapter 1 "The Nature of Art" pp. 2-16	X	X		
1	The Principles of Design	A. Composing a Picture B. Identifying Design Principles in Artworks	Chapter 4 "The Principles of Design" pp. 74-92 Exercises to be included from the "Discovering Art" CD are listed below. 1. In "elements of design" go to "balance" use symmetry/asymmetry exercise (designing a face) 2. Also in the "balance" section, use "balance of form and space in Velasquez's LaMeninas" 3. In "Elements of form" go to "Line" and use "Seeing	X			

Lesson	Lesson Title	Content Topics that will be covered in the online course	Reading (Pages from the textbook)	Activity Type			
				Assignments	Discussion	Project	Ungraded Activities
2	Evaluating Art	A. Theories of Art Criticism B. Why learn Art History?	Contour” exercise (Iris) 4. In “Organizing Space” go to “Linear perspective” and use “Foreshortening exercise” Chapter 5 “Evaluating Art” pp. 93-100	X	X	X Topic Selection (Due Week 6)	
1	The Media of Art	A. Painting B. Sculpture C. Photography, Film and Digital Art	Chapter 7 “Painting” pp. 118-129 Chapter 11 “Sculpture” pp. 181-195 Chapter 9 “Camera Arts and Digital Imaging” pp. 144-168 Short movies to be viewed from the “Discovering Art 2.0” CD: Oil painting subtopic: “Oil Painting, Pigment and Color” Sculpture topic: “Carving” “Modeling” “Casting”	X	X		
1	Neo-classicism	A. What is Neoclassicism?	Chapter 20 “Late Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries” pp. 350-352	X			

Lesson	Lesson Title	Content Topics that will be covered in the online course	Reading (Pages from the textbook)	Activity Type			
				Assignments	Discussion	Project	Ungraded Activities
2	Romanticism	B. Historical Context: The French Revolution C. Close up: The Paintings of Jacques Louis David	(end at "Romanticism")				
1	Early Photography and Realism	A. The Romantic Era B. Close up: The Paintings of Francisco Goya	Chapter 20 "Late Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries" pp. 352-356 (start at "Romanticism" and end at "Photography")	X	X		X (Due week10)
1	Art for Art's Sake	A. The Invention of photography B. What is Realism? C. Close up: The Paintings of Gustave Courbet	Chapter 20 "Late Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries" pp. 356-363 (start at "Photography" and end at second to last paragraph on page 363)	X	X		
2	Impressionism	A. Art for the Sake of Art B. Edouard Manet: The Painter of Modern Life	Chapter 20 "Late Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries" pp. 363-365 (start at last paragraph on page 363 and end at "Impressionism")		X		
1	Post-Impressionism	A. What is Impressionism? B. Close up: The paintings of Claude Monet	Chapter 20 "Late Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries" pp. 365-371 (start at "Impressionism" and end at "The Post-Impressionist Period")	X			
2		A. What is Postimpressionism? B. Close-up: The	Chapter 20 "Late Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries" pp. 371-380 (start at "The Post-		X	X	

Lesson	Lesson Title	Content Topics that will be covered in the online course	Reading (Pages from the textbook)	Activity Type			
				Assignments	Discussion	Project	Ungraded Activities
1	Fauvism and Expressionism	A. What is Fauvism? B. What is Expressionism?	Chapter 21 "Early Twentieth Century" pp. 381-387 (end at "Cubism")	X			
2	Cubism and Abstract Sculpture	A. Pablo Picasso: Why is he Such a Big Deal? B. Making sense of Cubism C. Abstraction and sculpture	Chapter 21 "Early Twentieth Century" pp. 387-396 (start at "Cubism" and end at "Futurism and the Celebration of Motion") Chapter 22 "Between World Wars" pp. 403-405 (start at "Expanding on Cubism")		X (This is a private discussion created by your instructor)		
1	Futurism and Dada	A. World War One B. What is Futurism? C. What is Dada?	Chapter 21 "Early Twentieth Century" pp. 396-398 (start at "Futurism and the Celebration of Motion") and Chapter 22 "Between World Wars" pp. 399-401		X		
2	Surrealism	A. Sigmund Freud B. What is Surrealism? C. Close up: The paintings of Frida Kahlo	Chapter 22 "Between World Wars" pp. 402-403 (start at "Surrealism" and end at "Expanding on Cubism"), page 416	X		X Project Reminder (Due week 11)	X (Due week 10)

Lesson	Lesson Title	Content Topics that will be covered in the online course	Reading (Pages from the textbook)	Activity Type			
				Assignments	Discussion	Project	Ungraded Activities
1	American Pictures	A. American Painting Between the Wars B. African-American Modernism	Chapter 22 "Between World Wars" page 415 and pp. 417-420 (start at "American Painting" and end at "Global Influences")	X			
2	Abstract Expressionism	A. World War Two B. What is Abstract Expressionism? C. Early Pop Art	Chapter 23 "Postwar Modern Movements in the West" pp. 422-428 (end at "Photography and Architecture at Mid-Century")		X	X Project Reminder (Due week 11)	
1	Art in the 1960s: Pop and More	A. Why Pop? B. Minimal and Hard-Edge Art C. Painting is Dead!	"Postwar Modern Movements in the West" pp. 430-441 (end at "Conceptual Art"), 442-449 (start at "Site Works and Earthworks")	X	X		
2	Art Beyond the West	A. Nonwestern Art: An Introduction B. Japan C. China D. India E. Islamic Islands F. Africa	Chapter 24 "Modern Art Beyond the West" pp. 451-458	X		X Project Reminder (Due week 11)	
1	Postmodern Art	A. What is	Chapter 25 "Postmodernity and Global Art" page 460				

Lesson	Lesson Title	Content Topics that will be covered in the online course	Reading (Pages from the textbook)	Activity Type			
				Assignments	Discussion	Project	Ungraded Activities
		Postmodernism? B. Some themes in Postmodern Art	(end at "Postmodern Architecture") and pp. 462-485 (start at "Painting")				
2	The Future of Art	A: Summing Up B: The Future of the Visual Arts	Chapter 10 "Graphic Design" pp. 169-176 (end at "Motion Graphics")		X	X Project Submission	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PROJECT: Modern and Contemporary Art

INTRODUCTION:

Research in Art History is very similar to that done in other fields of the Humanities. Do not be intimidated by it, even if you have no background in this topic! By successfully using the following guidelines and principles, you will be able to broaden your knowledge on a select topic in Art History and produce a successful paper.

The first step in the process is to find a subject that interests you. While easily said, this is perhaps intimidating. If you have not been exposed to many artists and their work, how do you know where to start? Begin by flipping through your textbook, or re-examining lesson presentations. Is there an artwork that catches your eye? Was there an artist whose biography you find compelling? At this stage, your reason for interest need not be profound; it can be as

simple as “that painting looks cool”, or “that artist sounds as if he had an interesting life.” The point to stress is that you find the subject matter of interest. This is important because you will be spending a significant portion of your time investigating and writing about whatever topic you select. Do not feel restricted in what you select. Valid topics include artists, artistic movements, artworks, or historical events/discoveries that affected the visual arts. This can and does include what is occurring right now, what is happening in the fields of digital art. Do not feel that you have to research something that is “old.” The only restriction is that you should select a topic in which you can find research material to allow you to complete your paper. Ideally, in your decision process you should do some preliminary research before settling on a topic. If you don’t, you could end up with a paper topic that has little material available to you.

Once you have selected an artwork, artist, or movement to investigate, the real work then begins. For this project, you have two options. The first is to produce an in-depth research paper on the topic that was selected. This paper will be 6-7 pages, in appropriate format¹, and

¹ Double-spaced, Times or Times New Roman font, 1” margins.

fully complemented with citations of all sources used.

The second option is for students who are more visually/artistically inclined. In this option, the student selects an artwork to “update”. The work will be made to reflect current themes (from the news or pop culture) or made personally relevant (changed to reflect personal themes). This artwork will be accompanied by a 4-5 page paper that describes the original work in appropriate scholarly fashion, and then describes and defends the logic and reasoning behind what was done to it in the “updated” version completed by the student. The submission should include the paper in appropriate format and fully cited, and documentation of the “updated” artwork.

In both of these project options, original research will have to be completed on the artist, movement, or artwork being investigated.

How does one begin this research? Start with the most general resources, and gradually seek out resources that are more specialized. Start with encyclopedias and general texts to get a feel for your topic. There are numerous web resources available, either through the Virtual Library or a search engine. One of the best online starting points is Wikipedia (remember, though, that there is very little editorial oversight with Wiki articles, and information can be inaccurate or misleading. Wikipedia is a place to start, not a scholarly resource). Once you have gathered general information about your topic, you can start delving into more specialized resources. EbscoHost (available via the Periodicals link in the ITT Tech Virtual Library) will connect you with the archives of several art periodicals, plus journals and other resources that possibly contain information on your topic area. When searching these sources, it is best to keep the search terms used very simple. Doing so will produce more ‘hits’. Your final resource should be books from the Ebrary, and other texts. The Ebrary in the ITT-Tech Virtual Library contains many texts that focus on specific issues in the Visual Arts. These can be excellent resources for very specific and detailed information, but they are not great sources for getting your bearings in a topic. Once again, you should keep your search terms very simple. Finally, another important resource is the “Suggested Reading” list in the back of your textbook, pages 505-507, which lists many important general works.

Research in these sources- internet, text, and ITT Tech Virtual Library- will accompany all stages of the project.

The questions that you ask in your paper, and the manner in which you structure your writing are up to you. There are several online guides that assist students in the writing of Art History papers. These will give suggestions on what are good questions to ask, and how to form arguments. We STRONGLY suggest you read at least one of the following:

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill AH paper guide:

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/arthistory.html>

Skidmore College information on AH papers:

<http://www.skidmore.edu/academics/arthistory/paperpg/index.html>

Dartmouth University:

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/materials/student/humanities/arthistory.shtml>

This site also offers good advice to undergraduates:

Advice on writing an Art History paper from About.com

http://arthistory.about.com/od/help_advice_for_students/f/writemypaper.htm

Please use all of these sources to the fullest, and do not hesitate to ask your instructor for guidance and advice.

As a final note, DO NOT forget to fully cite all sources that you use. In case you are unclear on when you have to cite a source, please review the writing and style guides that are available in the ITT Tech Virtual Library. These resources can also be used to refresh your knowledge of how to properly format a citation. Remember, using someone else's words or ideas and claiming them as your own is plagiarism- a serious academic offense.

One of the worst- and most easily spotted- varieties of plagiarism is the wholesale theft of material directly from the Internet without attribution. Many students who commit this act seem unaware that all it takes to discover such plagiarism is a couple of mouse clicks by the instructor. Such an act is VERY easy to spot.

PROJECT RATIONALE:

The final project will serve as a way for students to explore one element of the class more thoroughly.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the project is to research a favorite artist or artwork from the Modern or Post modern periods that reflects the interests or experiences of the student.

Project Description:

Option 1: Students to compose a research paper on a favorite artist or artwork covered in the class. The topic of the research paper would be approved by the instructor.

Option 2: The objective is to create a visual artwork that is related to one of the artworks examined in the course. Students will create their own version of the chosen artwork, in which they alter the artwork so that it reflects the interests or experiences of the student, while still retaining some qualities of the original artwork. The student must also compose an explanation for why they made what they made, and how it relates to the original artwork that they are redoing.

Project Submission Plan:**Option 1**

Project Phase	Submission Due - Unit #	Student Deliverables (Special instructions for format)	Description/ Requirements of Project Phase	Grading Weights (Percentage of final grade)
Project Introduction	Week 2	No deliverable	Students will be introduced to the project idea and project options.	N/A
Topic Selection	Week 6	Word document	Student will choose one of the two final project options and propose their topic/idea for the project for approval by the instructor. The student will submit a paragraph describing their idea for the project to the instructor in Microsoft word format.	4%
Research artist or artwork	Week 8	No deliverable	Student will be required to do the necessary research on the identified artist or artwork.	N/A
Analyze research topic	Week 9 to 10	No deliverable	Student will be required to analyze the identified topic.	N/A
Project Submission	Week 11	Students will need to turn in a 6-7 page research paper in Word.	The final project will be turned in.	16%

Option 2

Project Phase	Submission Due - Unit #	Student Deliverables (Special instructions for format)	Description/Requirements of Project Phase	Grading Weights
Project Explanation	Week 2	No deliverable	Introduction of Project idea and project options.	N/A
Topic Selection	Week 6	Word document	Student will choose one of the two final project options and propose their topic/idea for the project for approval by the instructor. The student will submit a paragraph describing the artwork that they have chosen.	4%
Research artwork and create own artwork	Week 8	No deliverable	Student will be required to research and create own version of chosen artwork.	N/A
Analyze artwork	Week 9 - 10	No deliverable	Student will be required to analyze the artwork.	N/A
Project Submission	Week 11	Students will have to turn in a 3-4 page explanation of their project and a documentation of the artwork (student's own creation that relates to a specific artwork covered in the class) they have made.	The final project will be turned in.	16%

