

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

- A. Division: Humanities
Department: Art
Course ID: ART 105
Course Title: History of Modern Art
Units: 3
Lecture: 3
Prerequisites: None

- B. Catalog and Schedule Descriptions:
Survey of Western modern art from 1900 to the present, including cubism, fauvism, futurism, totalitarianism, constructivism, impressionism, surrealism, post-impressionism, pop art, and architectural movements of the 20th century.

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: One

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS:

- A. Identify major works of art and architecture from Western modern art
- B. Compare and contrast the styles and themes portrayed in a variety of works of art and architecture;
- C. Evaluate and critique works based on historical context, subject matter, theme, form, composition, material, technique, line, color, space, mass, volume, perspective, proportion, and scale;
- D. Recognize patterns and themes presented in the history of art and architecture;
- E. Analyze images of art and architecture from a historical as well as aesthetic perspective.

IV. CONTENT:

- A. The Prehistory of Modern Painting
- B. Realism, Impressionism, and Early Photography
- C. Post-Impressionism
- D. The Origins of Modern Architecture and Design
- E. Art Nouveau
- F. The Origins of Modern Sculpture
- G. Fauvism
- H. Expressionism in Germany
- I. The Figurative Tradition in Early Twentieth-Century Sculpture
- J. Cubism
- K. Towards Abstraction
- L. Early Twentieth-Century Architecture
- M. From Fantasy to Dada and the New Objectivity
- N. The School of Paris Between the Wars
- O. Surrealism
- P. Modern Architecture Between the Wars
- Q. International Abstraction Between the Wars
- R. American Art Before World War II
- S. Abstraction Expressionism and the New American Sculpture
- T. Postwar European Art
- U. Pop Art and Europe's New Realism
- V. Sixties Abstraction
- W. The Second Wave of International Style Architecture
- X. The Pluralistic Seventies
- Y. The Retrospective Eighties
- Z. Postmodernism in Architecture

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Lecture
- B. Class and group discussion
- C. Critical evaluation of photographs, slides, videotapes, and articles
- D. Written assignments
- E. Class presentations

VI. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Class Discussion: In your group, discuss the similarities and differences between the Dada movements in New York, Zurich and Germany. Be prepared to share your responses with the class.
- B. Written Project: Prepare a 4-6 page essay in which you address one of the following questions:
 - 1. Compare/contrast Constantin Bracusi's "Bird in Space" and Isamu Noguchi's "Kouros", from the Norton Simon Museum field trip.
 - 2. Pablo Picasso's "Les Demoiselles d'Avignon" has been called the most important painting of the 20th Century. What makes this painting in particular, and Cubism in general, so important in the history of art?
 - 3. What was the relationship between avant-garde artists and the French academies and salons at the end of the 19th Century? In this context, explain why Impressionism and Realism were so controversial during their time.
- C. Field Trip: Select one painting or sculpture from among those observed at the museum we visited. Prepare a three-page paper that describes the object's historical context, age, style, form, composition, proportion, and scale. Describe what prompted you to select this object.

VII. EVALUATION:

- A. Methods of Evaluation
 - 1. Objective and subjective examinations (for lecture and text assignments). Typical questions include:
 - a) The art critic and champion of Abstract Expressionism who was responsible for influential theories of modern art in the 1950's and '60's was
 - i) Georgia O'Keefe
 - ii) Diego Rivera
 - iii) Clement Greenberg
 - iv) Jackson Pollock
 - b) In what ways have the Dada movements of 1913-1923 impacted post-WWII art movements and trends?
 - 2. Subjective evaluation of student writing (field trip reports, term paper): Students are graded on their ability to apply course material to the analysis of a work of art, to organize the material in a coherent fashion, cite sources, and write clearly.
- B. Frequency of Evaluation
 - 1. One midterm examination
 - 2. One final examination
 - 3. One field trip report
 - 4. One term paper
 - 5. One class presentation

San Bernardino Valley College
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Last Updated: September 2003

VIII. TYPICAL TEXT(S):

Harrison, Charles; Wood, Paul. Art in Theory: An Anthology of Changing Ideas, 2nd edition. Blackwell Publishers, 2002.

Arnason, Harvard, Arnason, Horvard, Prather, Marla. History of Modern Art: Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, and Photography (4th edition). Harry N. Abrams, 1997.

Hopkins, David. After Modern Art: 1945-2000. Oxford University Press, 2002.

IX. OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: None