

**I. COURSE TITLE**

ART 5406                      Modern Art History                      3 semester hours

**II. PREREQUISITES**

none

**III. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A comprehensive and chronological survey of modern art which includes the development of trends and influences in painting, sculpture, photography and architecture from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day.

**IV. RATIONALE**

As part of a complete knowledge of art history, professional artists and art educators should be aware of major styles and artists of the twentieth century and beyond. The student will benefit from a study of context, movements, content, and techniques. Appropriate use of terminology, identification of specific characteristics of major styles and their relationships to contemporary art is essential to working artists and art educators. A study of modern and contemporary art also serves as inspiration for creative design solutions.

**V. LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. identify major artists and styles in modern and contemporary art
- B. discuss material from the assigned readings
- C. identify aesthetic theories as they relate to each artist.
- D. create original works of art that incorporate concepts, techniques, and/or styles from the course material.
- E. give visual and verbal presentations related to study.
- F. keep a notebook that includes ideas related to future work.

**VI. COURSE TOPICS**

The major topics to be considered are:

- 1. The Sources of Modern Painting
- 2. Realism, Impressionism, and Early Photography
- 3. Post-Impressionism
- 4. The Origins of Modern Architecture and Design
- 5. Art Nouveau and the Beginnings of Expressionism
- 6. The Origins of Modern Sculpture
- 7. Fauvism
- 8. Expressionism in Germany
- 9. The Figurative Tradition in Early Twentieth-Century Sculpture
- 10. Cubism
- 11. Futurism, Abstraction in Russia, and de Stijl
- 12. Early Twentieth-Century Architecture
- 13. From Fantasy to Dada and the New Objectivity
- 14. The School of Paris After World War I

15. Surrealism
16. Modern Architecture Between the Wars
17. International Abstraction Between the Wars
18. American Art Before World War II
19. Abstract Expressionism and the New American Sculpture
20. Postwar European Art
21. Pop Art and Europe's New Realism
22. Sixties Abstraction
23. The Second Wave of International Style Architecture
24. The Pluralistic Seventies
25. Postmodernism in Architecture
26. The Retrospective Eighties
27. Resistance and Resolution

**VII. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES**

Methods and activities for instruction will include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Group Discussion
- C. Presentations
- D. Studio Projects
- E. Reading Assignments
- F. Written Assignments
- G. Videos

**VIII. EVALUATION**

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|---|-----|
| A. Tests  | 35% |
| Three tests will be given on material from the text and lectures.                                       |     |
| B. Research Paper   | 15% |
| A 5-6 page paper will be written in APA style on a living artist whose work is illustrated in our text. |     |
| C. Discussion   | 10% |
| Students will contribute to class discussions from assigned readings and videos.                        |     |
| D. Presentations  | 10% |
| Each student will present an individual artist as well as a review of four Art21 videos.                |     |
| E. Works of Art   | 25% |
| The student will create several artworks as an individual and with group members.                       |     |
| F. Notebook including in class videos, worksheets, gallery assignments, and other written work.         | 5%  |

test 1	100
test 2	100
test 3	150

paper	150
discussion	100
present	100
artworks	250
<u>notebook</u>	<u>50</u>
total	1000

**IX. LIST OF MATERIALS**

Art supplies for studio projects  
 A journal  
 Materials for visual presentations

**X. TEXTBOOK**

Arnason, H. H. (2004). *History of Modern Art* (5th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

**XI. REFERENCES**

- Belli, G. (Ed.). (2006). *The avant-garde movements, 1900-1919: Art of the twentieth century*. Milan: Skira.
- Cerrito, J. (1996). *Contemporary Artists*. New York: Saint James Press.
- Craven, W. (1994). *American art: History and culture*. New York: Abrams.
- Danto, A. C. (1997). *After the end of art: Contemporary art and the pale of history*. Princeton, NJ: University Press.
- Hillstrom, L. C. & Hillstrom, K. (Eds.). (1999). *Contemporary women artists*. Detroit, MI: St. James Press.
- Pevsner, N. (2005). *Pioneers of modern design: From William Morris to Walter Gropius*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
- Ray, L. (2006). *1920-1945: The artistic culture between the wars*. Milan: Skira.
- Robertson, J. & McDaniel, C. (2005). *Themes of contemporary art: Visual art after 1980*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Rowland, K. F. (1973). *A history of the modern movement: Art, architecture, design*. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold.
- Wardle, M. (2005). *American women modernists: The legacy of Robert Henri*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.