

Department of Art Syllabus

- I. ART 406 *History of Modern Art*, 3 Credit Hours
- II. PREREQUISITES
None
- III. TEXTBOOK
Arnason, H. H. (2012). *History of modern art* (7th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- IV. COURSE DESCRIPTION
Twentieth Century art from post-impressionism to the present. Course includes study of architecture, decorative arts, painting, and sculpture.
- V. RATIONALE
This course is available to all art majors and is an elective course allowed for many degree programs at Mississippi College. In this course, students are exposed to the history of modern art from the late nineteenth century to the present and the great works from this span of time. Such exposure and integration of the knowledge of this period enables students to connect their own experience with that of the creative past. Art students build a foundation for the integration of historical images with their own creative work. Students are able to see the history of art in relation to the spiritual development of humankind and the development of the Christian spirituality as revealed in art.
- VI. 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. Respond to questions from 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. Review videos of contemporary artists and report on them.
 - F. Participate in museum activities and class projects.
- VII. COURSE TOPICS
 - A. The origins of modern art
 - B. Realism, Impressionism, and early photography
 - C. Post-Impressionism
 - D. The origins of Modern architecture and design
 - E. Art Nouveau and the beginnings of Expressionism
 - F. Experiments in color and form

- G. Expressionism in Germany
- H. Cubism
- I. Early twentieth-century architecture
- J. European responses to Cubism
- K. Western Europe during WWI
- L. Art in France after WWI
- M. De Stijl and the pursuit of Geometric Abstraction
- N. Bauhaus and the teaching of Modernism
- O. Surrealism and its discontents
- P. American art before WWII
- Q. Abstract Expressionism and the new American sculpture
- R. Postwar European art
- S. Pop art and Europe's new Realism
- T. Sixties Abstraction
- U. Modernism in Architecture at mid-century
- V. Conceptualism and activist art
- W. Post-minimalism
- X. Postmodernism
- Y. Painting through history
- Z. Contemporary art, recognition of Modernism, and Globalization

VIII. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

- A. Lecture
- B. Group discussion
- C. Presentations
- D. Studio projects
- E. Reading and written assignments
- F. Videos
- G. Museum activities

IX. GRADING SCALE

See Department of Art Syllabus Addendum for Grading Scale and Evaluation.

X. LIST OF MATERIALS

- A. Art supplies for studio projects
- B. Textbook

XI. REFERENCES

Belli, G. (2006). *The avant-garde movements, 1900-1919: Art of the twentieth century*. Milan, Italy: 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: Princeton University Press.
- Hillstrom, L. C. (1999). *Contemporary women artists*. Detroit, MI: St. James Press.
- Pevsner, S. 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, Italy: Skira.
- Robertson, J. (2005). *Themes of contemporary art: Visual art after 1980*. Oxford, NY: 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.