

Syllabus

Art 301/Survey of Western Art I

Professor: Michio Hayashi

Office Location: 309

Office Hours: Monday and Thursday, 13:00-14:00

Tel/Fax: 03-3238-4039

Class Schedule: Monday and Thursday, 15:15-16:45

Course contents:

The course focuses on the emergence and development of *modern art* in Europe and America from approximately 1850 to 1940. The intent is to reevaluate the emergence of “modernism” and “avant-garde” as aesthetic categories in relation to their historical background. While special attention is given to the comparative formal analysis of actual works, the course introduces a wide range of topics related to modern art, including criticism, concepts, institutions, and social background.

Course objectives:

1. Develop abilities to study and analyze the formal characteristics of the works of art.
2. Acquire a firm knowledge of significant developments in the history of modern art to establish a command of the vocabulary required to identify and analyze various styles and movements.
3. Develop an understanding of how the works of art and society interact with each other through modern techniques and institutions of production, presentation, distribution, and reception.

Required textbook and materials:

Required Textbook

Modern Art 1851-1929: Capitalism and Representation

by Richard Brettell

Oxford University Press, 1999.

Suggested Readings:

History of Modern Art : Painting, Sculpture, Architecture & Photography

by Harvard H. Arnason, Marla F. Prather

Harry N. Abrams, Incorporated, 4th edition, 1997.

Theories of Modern Art: A Source Book by Artists

by Herschel B. Chipp

University of California Press, Reprint edition, 1989.

Modern Art and Modernism: A Critical Anthology

Edited by Francis Frascina and Charles Harrison

Harper and Row, Publishers New York, 1982

Course requirements:

1. Mid-term and Final exams consisting of:

- a) Slide comparison---comparison of two or three pairs of slides. You will be expected to identify each work by artist, title, and date, and to write a short essay of comparison according to the topics suggested in the exam.
- b) Slide attribution--- You will be shown works that have not been shown in class and asked to make a learned guess about the artist, date, and/or movement. You will also be asked to give the reasons for your attribution, citing your detailed observations or other works you know to help support your argument.
- c) Essay questions dealing with larger issues discussed in class and readings.

Attendance:

Your attendance is your own responsibility. If an unavoidable absence is anticipated, the instructor should be notified. Three unexcused absences will result in a reduction of one grade level. Five unexcused absences will automatically result in a F. Promptness for class is expected as well.

Grading:

In addition to the above mentioned exams and attendance, grades will be determined by quality of participation (I might ask you to write short in-class essays at random).

Course schedule:

Assigned readings to be announced at each class.

Sessions:

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Realism and Impressionism
- 3 Symbolism, Post-Impressionism, and Neo-Impressionism
- 4 Synthetism, The Nabis, The Fauves, and Expressionism
- 5 Cubism

- 6 Futurism, Orphism, and Vorticism
 - 7 Suprematism/Constructivism and Neo-Plasticism
 - 8 Dada, Purism, and Surrealism
 - 9 Urban Capitalism: Paris and the society of the spectacle
 - 10 Modernity, Representation, and the Accessible Image
 - 11 Representation, Vision, and “Reality”
 - 12 Representation, Vision, and “Reality”-2
 - 13 Image/Modernism and the Graphic Traffic
 - 14 **Mid-term Exam**
 - 15 Sexuality and the Body
 - 16 Sexuality and the Body-2
 - 17 Sexuality and the Body-3
 - 18 Social Class and Class Consciousness
 - 19 Social Class and Class Consciousness-2
 - 20 Anti-iconography: Art without “Subject”
 - 21 Anti-iconography: Art without “Subject”
 - 22 Nationalism and Internationalism in Modern Art
 - 23 Nationalism and Internationalism in Modern Art-2
 - 24 Review session-case studies
 - 25 Review session-case studies
 - 26 Review session-case studies
- Final Exam (date to be announced)**