



ARH 021: Contemporary Art

Term: 2020 Winter Session

Instructor: Staff

Language of Instruction: English

Classroom: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

Class Sessions Per Week: 6

Total Weeks: 4

Total Class Sessions: 25

Class Session Length (minutes): 145

Credit Hours: 4

Course Description:

This course gives an introduction to modern art and its history. Students will explore the contemporary art in a global context, with focus on the rise of Modernism in Europe, the role of artists and artistic movements in social and political change, and the relationship of contemporary artistic practice to technology, social media and visual culture. At the same time, we will also examine topics involving: Painting, sculpture, installation art, new media, performance, art criticism, and curatorial practice.

Course Materials:

1. **In-class Handouts:** most readings and viewing assignments are in-class handouts.
2. **Optional Texts:**
History of Modern Art, H.H. Arnason and Elizabeth C, 7th Edition

Course Format and Requirements:

The course will meet five times weekly, during which students will go through the material principally by means of lectures and visual presentations, but also in-class discussion of crucial artists/events and assigned readings. Attendance and participation is essential for your success in this course.



Student Learning Outcomes:

- Define specialized concepts and terms that are critical to the understanding of contemporary art.
- Know major developmental periods and movements from 1945 to the present.
- Comprehend various interpretive perspectives and the complexities of categorization.
- Develop aesthetic evaluative criteria and apply them to contemporary art.
- Become familiar with contemporary artists and art works through reading of art criticism.

Attendance:

Your attendance is mandatory. You will be required to sign in at the beginning of each lecture and section.

More than three unexcused absences will result in an automatic reduction in your participation grade, for instance from A- to B+. Your active participation in the class is expected and constitutes part of your grade.

Grading Scale:

A+: 98%-100%

A: 93%-97%

A-: 90%-92%

B+: 88%-89%

B: 83%-87%

B-: 80%-82%

C+: 78%-79%

C: 73%-77%

C-: 70%-72%

D+: 68%-69%

D: 63%-67%

D-: 60%-62%

F: Below 60%

Course Assignments:

Quizzes:



Five scheduled quizzes will take place during the semester. Total score of quiz count for 10% of the final grade. There will be no make-up quizzes.

Exams:

All exams are in the format of multiple choice, short answer questions, and essay questions drawn from class notes and readings.

2 midterm exams

This course will have 2 in-class closed-book mid-term exams. Each exam will be non-cumulative and cover course materials taught until the day before the exam. Each exam is worth 20% of the final grade.

Final exam

A closed-book final exam will be taken at the end of the session. The final exam is cumulative, based on contents taught in the whole semester. The final exam is worth 30% of the final grade. Exact time and location for final will be announced in the last week of sessions.

All the exams in this class will be based on the following format:

1) Short answer questions:

You will be asked questions pertaining to subjects, issues and changes in art derived from readings on handouts.

2) Multiple choices

3) Short essay question:

You will be asked to write an essay pertaining to a specific question.

Course Assessment:

5 Quizzes	15%
Midterm Exam 1	25%
Midterm Exam 2	25%
Final Exam	35%
Total	100%

Course Schedule:

Week 1- Class 1	Week 1- Class 2
Course overview	The social base of art



Go through syllabus Cubism	Avant-Garde and Kitach;
Week 1- Class 3	Week 1- Class 4
<u>Quiz 1</u> The Ideology of Modernism Introduction to Modernism	Evolution of Modernism before World War II Modernism;
Week 1- Class 5	Week 1- Class 6
<u>Quiz 2</u> Abstract Expressionism Alternatives to Modernism;	“High Modernist” theory Postwar Europe, Japan, and “New Realism”;
Week 2- Class 7	Week 2- Class 8
First-Generation Feminist Art Pattern and Decoration	<u>Midterm Exam 1</u>
Week 2- Class 9	Week 2- Class 10
Pop Art in Britain: The Independent Group Pop Art in the United States: “Neo-Dada” origins	Pop Art in the United States: Beyond NYC “Post-painterly:” Abstraction in the ‘60s
Week 2- Class 11	Week 2- Class 12
<u>Quiz 3</u> Modernism/Postmodernism: Case studies in architectural sculpture and design	The Limits of Modernism: Minimalism Post-Minimalism
Week 3- Class 13	Week 3- Class 14
Figuration and “new imagists”; Architectural Sculpture and New Image Painting	<u>Quiz 4</u> Conceptualism;
Week 3- Class 15	Week 3- Class 16
T“Neo-Dada” influence in Music, Theater, Poetry	Arthe Politics of Painting Activist art in the wake of the Civil Rights movement



Week 3- Class 17	Week 3- Class 18
Consumer Society and Deconstruction Art; Appropriation	<u>Midterm Exam 2</u>
Week 4- Class 19	Week 4- Class 20
Neo-Expressionism and '80s abstraction;	Art World of the 1980s: East Village Art, Commodity Art
Week 4- Class 21	Week 4- Class 22
Postmodernism; High Art vs. Low Art: Art history and pop culture	<u>Quiz 5</u> High Art vs. Low Art: Art history and pop culture (Cont.) Relational Aesthetics
Week 4- Class 23	Week 4- Class 24
Contemporary identities and the alter modern cosmopolitan Artists of Africa and Asia;	Other Territories: 1992-2002
Week 4- Class 25	<u>Final Exam (Cumulative): TBA</u>
Review for final	

Academic Integrity:

Students are encouraged to study together, and to discuss lecture topics with one another, but all other work should be completed independently.

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty and integrity that are described in the Shanghai Normal University's *Academic Conduct Code*. Any work suspected of violating the standards of the *Academic Conduct Code* will be reported to the Dean's Office. Penalties for violating the *Academic Conduct Code* may include dismissal from the program. All students have an individual responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the *Academic Conduct Code*.

Special Needs or Assistance:



Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.