

ARTH-118: SURVEY OF MODERN ART

Effective Term

Fall 2025

CC Approval

02/07/2025

AS Approval

02/13/2025

BOT Approval

02/20/2025

COCI Approval

04/30/2025

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Art History (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

ARTH - Art History

Course Number

118

Department

Art History (ARTH)

Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

Full Course Title

Survey of Modern Art

Short Title

Survey of Modern Art

CB03 TOP Code

1002.00 - Art

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

Updating common course numbering course change.

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

This course covers the major historical and formal developments of Modernism in art, architecture and design from the mid-nineteenth-century to the present.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites

Advisory Prerequisite(s)

Completion of ENGL-C1000 or ENGL-120B with a minimum grade of C or appropriate placement.

SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

3.00

Lecture Hours

54.00

Outside of Class Hours

108

Total Contact Hours

54

Total Student Hours

162

Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Entirely Online	Permanent
Hybrid	Permanent
Online with Proctored Exams	Permanent

SECTION E - Course Content

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Recognize significant artists and movements created in Europe and America from 1830s to the present.
2.	Locate works of art within diverse historical and cultural contexts.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify, examine, and assess representative works of art and architecture from the art historical periods covered in this course employing appropriate art historical terminology.
2. Analyze, discuss and differentiate works of art and architecture in terms of historical context and cultural values.
3. Analyze, discuss, and distinguish the roles of art, architecture, and the artist from the art historical periods covered in this course.

Course Content

This course covers art and architecture of the major modern movements from the 19th and 20th centuries, including:

1. Neo-Classicism and Romanticism
2. Advent of Photography and Realism
3. Impressionism, Post-Impressionism, Symbolism
4. Architecture and Design in the Late 19c
 - a. Arts and Crafts Movement
 - b. Art Nouveau Fauvism
5. Expressionism
 - a. Die Brücke
 - b. Die Blaue Reiter
6. Cubism
 - a. Analytic
 - b. Synthetic
 - c. Responses: Non-Objectivity and Suprematism
7. Dada
 - a. Zurich
 - b. Berlin
 - c. Paris
8. Surrealism
 - a. Figural
 - b. Abstract
9. American Modernism
 - a. WPA art and photography
 - b. Abstract Expressionism
10. Minimalism and Pop Art
11. Conceptual Art
 - a. Earthworks
 - b. Happenings/Performance Art
12. Installation/Site Specific Art
13. Post-Modernism
 - a. Neo-Expressionism
 - b. Neo-Geo
14. Globalization and Contemporary art

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Discussion	Daily analysis of art works by entire class.
Field Trips	Trips to local collections of modern art, including SFMOMA and the Hess Winery Collection.
Lecture	Image-based lectures in which art works are discussed in relation to their historic context.
Projects	Students research specific artists/movements and present to peer in slide format, electronic portfolio, or through an original work of art.

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards
Chat Rooms

Discussion Boards
 E-mail Communication
 Telephone Conversations
 Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms
 Discussions
 Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Exams/Tests	Midterms and finals include both objective and essay style questions. For example: a. Final Exam Essay: Write a 3–4-page, handwritten essay comparing and contrasting a selected work from the post-impressionist period and a selected work from the Neue Sachlichkeit movement. The compared/contrasted works of art should be from similar categories of art, i.e., two paintings, two sculptures, etc. Essay will be evaluated on identification, discussion of formal elements, discussion of apparent and symbolic content and development of historical context.
Quizzes	Quiz after each unit of study. Quizzes may include both objective and essay-style questions.
Essays/Papers	Comparison/Contrast Essay based on museum visit. For example: Choose two works from the permanent collection at SFMOMA. Compare and contrast these works in terms of color, line, form, and content. Connect these works to their historical context, as discussed in class.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Selected readings from textbook, periodicals or library collection covering periods, cultures and artists discussed in lecture.

For example:

1. Read chapter four, pages 72-77 covering the influence of modern steel manufacturing on architectural design at the end of the 19th century.
2. Read the supplemental handout covering the rise, importance and influence of art criticism in the 1950s.

Writing Assignments

1. Written evaluations of art viewed in museums and galleries.

Write a three-page essay based on an artwork from SFMOMA or Hess Winery Collection.

For example:

Using Francis Bacon's Portrait of a Man write a visual analysis exploring the materials, the use of paint, the composition, and the content. Connect this work to postwar European culture.

2. Topical essays expanding on course material.

For example:

Write a two-page essay comparing and contrasting a Surrealist and Abstract Expressionist painting, paying particular attention to the tenets of each movement and how these are expressed visually.

Other Assignments

1. Research project/presentation

For example:

Students are to select a topic related to a specific artist or movement covered in the course content. In a 4–5-page paper students analyze at least two works of art in terms of visual characteristics and link the works to their historic contexts. Each student will summarize his/her essay in a formal presentation, using PowerPoint/KeyNote.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials**Material Type**

Textbook

Author

Holzwarth, H.W.

Title

Modern Art A History from Impressionism to Today

Edition/Version

1st

Publisher

Taschen

Year

2019

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Mansfield, E.C.

Title

History of Modern Art

Edition/Version

7th

Publisher

Pearson

Year

2012

Course Codes (Admin Only)**ASSIST Update**

No

CB00 State ID

CCC000314969

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No