

Course Code: ART 163 (IAI F2 902)

Course Title: History of Modern Art

Department: Arts, Media, and Social Sciences

Effective Date: Summer 2026

PCS Code: 1.1 - Baccalaureate/Transfer

CIP Code: 50.0703

Repeatability: 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 3-0-3

Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 3

Lab: 0

Clinical: 0

Total: 3

General Course Information

Catalog Description

History of modernism in art from French Revolution to present with emphasis on contemporary issues. (Also in Salzburg Program)

General Course Objectives

To understand the visual languages and historical contexts of art in the modern world.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
None	Placement out of CCS 098	None

Prerequisites

None

Methods of Evaluation

Students take 1-3 hour exams and one final: these are mixed objective-essay exams. Students are required to complete writing components that may include, but are not limited to: reaction papers, discussion posts, group or individual projects/presentations, and research papers, totaling 6-10 pages which make use of both primary and secondary sources.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Gardner's Art Through the Ages: A Global History, Fred S. Kleiner ISBN 9781337630702

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Creativity and Innovative Thinking: Students will design, present, and interpret materials, information, and ideas in innovative ways.
- Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate perspectives, evidence, and implications, and to locate, assess, and use information effectively.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Introduction and Formal Elements	1. Develop specialized vocabulary of art terminology that will enable engagement in discussions about art with clarity and precision.	1	0	0
Prehistory of Modernism	1. Recognize the historical circumstances and the thought processes behind a variety of movements and styles.	2	0	0
Post Impressionism	1. Explain why sociopolitical changes altered ideas about the nature and subject matter of art in the late 19th century.	2	0	0
Symbolism	1. Examine the issues of imagination, fantasy, and formal changes in the art of the Symbolists. 2. Demonstrate, through writing appropriate to the course and subject, an appreciation for and understanding of other cultures and their influence on others.	2	0	0
Origins of Modern Architecture and Art Nouveau	1. Evaluate the new technology and changing needs of urban society and their effects on architecture. 2. Examine how architects were able to think differently about space as a result of new technology and materials. 3. Describe the organic forms of Art Nouveau in art and architecture.	2	0	0
Fauvism	1. Explain the evolution of Modernism and the growth of the avant-garde in the early 20th century. 2. Explore the Fauves' interest in color and in the altering of space.	2	0	0
Expressionism (German and Austrian)	1. Explain the various influences on the work of the German and Austrian Expressionists. 2. Analyze the use of line, color, space, and emotion in the work of the German and Austrian Expressionists.	3	0	0
Early 20th Century Sculpture	1. Compare and contrast the art of various artists as well as the major movements in the modern period, including early 20th century sculpture.	2	0	0
Picasso, Cubism, and Cubist-Inspired Movements: Orphism, Futurism, Russian Abstraction and Constructivism, and De Stijl	1. Examine Picasso's personal styles and impact on Modern art. 2. Explain the goals/objectives of Cubism and Cubist-inspired movements such as Orphism, Futurism, Russian Abstraction and Constructivism, and De Stijl. Compare and contrast the art of various artists as well as the major Cubist-inspired movements. 3. Examine the forms and utopian notions in Suprematism, Constructivism, and in De Stijl.	5	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Dada, Fantasy, and Surrealism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate an understanding of the contributions of Dada. 2. Explain the European postwar malaise and the importance of cathartic subject matter in Expressionist art. 3. Examine the origins, development, methods, and content of Surrealism and Fantasy art. 4. Analyze how contextual variables lead to different interpretations of a work of art. 	4	0	0
Early Modernism in the United States and Mexico	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate the art of various artists as well as the major movements in Early Modernism, including in the United States and Mexico. 2. Examine issues of rebellion and the depiction of social injustice in art. 3. Recognize that American and Mexican artists had different goals in their art and that these goals affected their choice of subject matter and the formal qualities of their work. 	5	0	0
Modern Architecture and International Style	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine the early 20th-century belief that art could contribute to improving society. 2. Examine the International style in architecture and the concept of modernism in architecture. 	2	0	0
Abstract Expressionism (Gestural and Color Field)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain what the Abstract Expressionists were expressing through their work. 2. Compare and contrast gestural and chromatic abstraction. 3. Analyze form, function, and/or context to infer or explain possible intentions for creating specific works of art. 	3	0	0
Sculpture after 1945	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine chronology, styles, techniques, and themes to compare, contrast, and interpret sculptures from varied perspectives and cultures. 	2	0	0
Neo-Dada, Pop, and Happenings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine functions and effects of art and consider influential forces like beliefs, politics, gender, and ethnicity. 	3	0	0
Minimalism (Painting, Sculpture, Architecture)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine the formal elements of Minimalism and its emphasis on objecthood. 2. Explain the artistic qualities of Minimalism. 	1	0	0
Postmodernism-Post-Modern architecture, Radical Realism, Conceptual Art, Earthworks and Site-Specific, Feminism, Neo-Expressionism in Europe, Graffiti Art in the United States, and Art in the 1980s and 1990s	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognize the interest in multiculturalism and the acceptance of art forms beyond the Western canon. 2. Discuss the various modernist and postmodernist styles, artists, and representative works of art. 	4	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
45	0	0