

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

ART 145 – CONTEMPORARY ART HISTORY: 1945 - PRESENT

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

Survey of the major artists and art movements from 1945 to the present. Includes such major topics as the analysis and summary of Modernism, the transition from Modern to Post-Modern art, the emergence of non-traditional art media, and the analysis of the influence of global multiculturalism in art. Specific art practices (e.g., painting, sculpture, earthworks, photography, performance, installation, printmaking, architecture) will be discussed in relation to the cultural dialogue they establish or to which they respond.

Prerequisite

None

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Define the appropriate terminology and vocabulary associated with contemporary art between 1945 and the present
- 2) Recall significant works of contemporary art
- 3) Analyze and interpret the primary contemporary art movements
- 4) Compare and contrast the predominant stylistic characteristics of contemporary art movements
- 5) Comprehend the cultural, social, political and theoretical issues—such as Feminism and Multiculturalism—that influenced the artistic development of these contemporary movements

Special Materials Required of Student

None

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Standard classroom with dual slide projectors/large screen, VCR/monitor, DVD player, Smart Cart, overhead projector

Course Content

- 1) The history of Modernism through Post-Modernism
- 2) A review of Late Modernism, Abstract Expressionism and Modernist art philosophy
- 3) Contemporary art movements of the early 1960s such as Pop Art, Happenings, and Kinetic Art
- 4) Art movements from 1965-1975 including Minimalism, Conceptual Art and Feminist Art
- 5) Issues of social, political and theoretical importance
- 6) Art movements from 1976-1985 including Neo-Expressionism, Graffiti Art and Installation Art within the context of the social, political and cultural climate that influenced them
- 7) Art between 1986 and the present along with a discussion of Postmodernism and Multiculturalism within the increasingly global social, political and cultural climate

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and group discussion
- 2) 35mm slide/CD-ROM lectures
- 3) Viewing/discussion of art videos
- 4) Assigned readings
- 5) Research projects

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Exams (objective, essay)
- 2) Written museum assignment
- 3) Term paper
- 4) Presentation on research of an artist

Texts and References

- 1) Required: Fineberg, Jonathan. Art Since 1940: Strategies of Being. 2nd edition. Prentice Hall, 2000.
- 2) Supplemental: None