

Course Description Form

Course number and section: ARTH 315 001

Course Topic: HISTORY OF 20th-CENTURY ART

Credits: 3 credits

Term: Term 2

Instructor: Dr. Nathalie Hager

Course Description (aim for no more than 80 – 100 words for your course description):

This course explores the foundations of modernism and its development in Western Europe and the United States through the first half of the twentieth century. It examines the many and various art movements, and analyzes the artistic, political, and social elements inherent within them. Although the course will focus on trends that emerged within Europe, the arrival of numerous foreign artists in cities such as Paris, Rome, and Berlin in the twentieth century compelled both European and non-European artists to expand their world vision. A discussion of foreign artists' contributions to European artistic developments as well as local artists' reactions to the presence will thus be an important component to this course.

Tentative Reading List:

There is no required textbook for this course. Links to required and optional readings and videos will be provided on Canvas (www.canvas.ubc.ca), UBC's learning platform.

Other: Learning Outcomes: During this course students will become familiar with key works of art and issues from the major movements of the twentieth century. They will debate the notion of the modern and investigate how art is a reflection of the society in which it is produced in order to identify and describe the artistic, cultural, and historical importance of selected works of art. They will also learn to recognize and describe the aesthetic elements which mark selected periods and artists to begin to develop an understanding of the chronology and development of art and historiography. Upon successful completion of this course, students will have acquired a strong critical vocabulary for interpreting and evaluating modern art: they will be able to talk critically and perceptively about early twentieth-century visual culture; analyze cultural objects as an academic discipline, with terminology appropriate to art history and visual culture studies; situate types of modern art in their cultural contexts; and undertake research in art history and visual culture studies.