

**CUYAMACA COLLEGE**  
**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD**

**ART 145 – CONTEMPORARY ART**

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 such as painting, sculpture, earthworks, photography, performance, installation, printmaking and architecture will be discussed in relation to the cultural dialogue they establish or to which they respond.

**Prerequisite**

None

**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

**Course Objectives**

Students will be able to:

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

**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, quizzes, exploratory activities, and written exercises that measure students' ability to recognize the contributions and cultural perspectives of contemporary art movements throughout the world.
- 2) Exam, quizzes, exploratory activities, and written exercises that measure students' ability to analyze, assess, and derive meaning from contemporary works of art throughout the world according to the principles of design and aesthetic qualities.

**Special Materials Required of Student**

None

**Minimum Instructional Facilities**

Smart classroom with dual slide projectors, large screen

**Method of Instruction**

- 1) Lecture and group discussion
- 2) Research projects

**Out-of-Class Assignments**

- 1) Readings
- 2) Writing reports or journaling
- 3) Collect references and/or art materials
- 4) Research assigned themes or concepts
- 5) Computer searches
- 6) Museum or gallery visits

**Texts and References**

- 1) Required (representative examples):
  - a. Arnason, H.H., and Elizabeth C. Mansfield. *History of Modern Art*. 7th ed. Vol. 2. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, 2014.
  - b. Lucie-Smith, E. *Movements in Art Since 1945 (World of Art)*. London, UK. Thames and Hudson, 2020.
  - c. Foster, H., Kruass, R., and Bois, Y. *Art Since 1900:1945-Present*. 3rd edition. London, UK. Thames and Hudson, 2016.
- 2) Supplemental:
  - a. Handouts and/or assigned readings
  - b. Chadwick, W. *Women, Art, and Society (World of Art)*. London, UK. Thames and Hudson, 2020.
  - c. Wood, P. et al. *Art in Theory: The West in the World – An Anthology of Changing Ideas*. Hoboken, NJ. Wiley-Blackwell, 2021.
  - d. Fineberg, J. *Art Since 1940: Strategies of Being*. 3rd edition. London, UK. Pearson, 2010.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Use art vocabulary to identify and analyze the formal and aesthetic components in works of art of the contemporary period from 1945 to the present or the processes by which they are made.
- 2) Articulate, analyze, compare, and contrast artistic qualities, major works, and significant individuals in art beginning in 1945 and draw parallels to contemporary events and social structures utilizing.
- 3) Analyze the diverse social, political, economic, or cultural perspectives that affect the course content and how creatives' works and actions contest, assert or mediate social and cultural power related to race, class, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, and/or religion.