

Alt Text: Sculptural artwork made of rope and latex suspended from 13 points on the ceiling

Eva Hesse. No Title (1970) Detail

Course Syllabus ART 2

## Introduction to Visual Culture

# Course Description

Lecture course to learn the cultural significance of the arts. Instruction will cover media and movements. Students will also learn the elements and principles of design to understand the visual language of the arts and the methods used by artists to communicate ideas to the public. Course also emphasizes the multicultural dialogue that occurs throughout different communities in the world. (2019-20 Reedley Course Catalog, p. 175)

# Instructor

Stephanie Bradshaw

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Office hours to be arranged

# Communication Policy

Communication with your instructor is important to your academic success, especially in an online class. There are several ways to communicate with me in this class.

* When class announcements are made, you can reply to share a question with your classmates and me.
* For direct/personal communication, my preferred method of communication is Canvas Inbox.

You may message me whenever you like, and I will usually get back to you within a few hours. On evenings and weekends, it may take longer, but within 24 hours. If you don’t hear back from me in that time, you may resend your message.

* If you prefer to voice chat, I can arrange a Zoom meeting with you.

Alternatively, you can also share questions and answer questions with your classmates in Café Chat in the course documents module. I will give up to 20 extra credit points at the end of class for communication here, so drop by and leave a comment/question.

## Office Hours

Regular office hours have not been scheduled. I am available by arrangement at a time convenient to you via chat or zoom. If my scheduling a regular drop-in time would be beneficial to you, please let me know.

# Student Learning Outcomes

## Student Learning Objectives:

* Recognize the breadth of art, and why humans make it.
* Identify the categories used to organize artwork: stylistic, cultural, time period, use of technique/media.
* Investigate and discuss artists’ unique interpretations of the complex world they inhabit.
* Recognize the visual elements and principles of design and employ them to describe artwork.
* Write an analysis of an artwork constructing a unique thesis and supporting it with description.
* Respond to your own visit to a gallery or museum and examine an exhibition of artwork and document the experience in writing, or respond to a virtual prompt.

## Class Organization

This class is an introduction to the study of art and visual culture. The content is divided into three sections:

1. What is Visual Culture? What is art, how art is defined, who makes art, how art functions, and what are the principles we use to look at and study art
2. Media of art: The materials used to create art, and other media with which art can be created. Art is made in many more ways than the manipulation of physical materials like charcoal or paint or clay or marble.
3. Art history: Prehistory/early civilization, non-Western, Early modern World, (Renaissance/Baroque) From the earliest art to the bronze age; the classical and medieval periods in Europe;
4. Art history: Modern/Contemporary world the modern world in late 18th and 19th century, and the 20th century, and the Post-modern world. Classwork/Academic Honesty

# Classwork

## Projects

1. One 3-page analysis essay on an artwork you choose.
2. One 2-page informal writing assignment can be completed in one of two ways: visit an approved art gallery or art museum; respond to a virtual museum visit prompt.
3. Recreate an artwork from a museum using yourself, friends/family, ordinary objects and photograph it
4. One content page or slide presentation researching an artist or art movement covered in class.

## Tests

There are 7 quizzes in the class—2 for each of the first 3 sections, and 1 for the final section of the class:

* lowest quiz score will be dropped.
  + This means you do not have to complete the final quiz if you have already completed quizzes 1-6
* Quizzes may be taken unlimited times to improve your score.
* No extension, no late quizzes without arrangement in advance

## Assignments

Short written assignments respond to the content provided—read a short article, watch a short video or both. For full points, respond to the questions or writing prompt as specified (i.e., Complete sentences, 2-3 sentences, 1 paragraph, etc).

## Discussions

## Discussions are included in most modules; you will often be asked to share your own response to what you learned. The best posts synthesize the content. Read the prompt and write the specified amount (i.e., 2-3 sentences, or 1-2 paragraphs).

## Extra Credit

Extra Credit assignments are available.

* Find them in the Extra Credit module at the bottom of the home page.
* Each assignment will open with the content/chapter they are associated with and are due on the last day of the semester.
* Students may complete extra credit assignments worth 5% of the total points in the class or about 60 points.

# Attendance

In an online course, attendance is calculated based on when student work is completed and submitted. You may be dropped if you do not submit any gradable material in a two-week period without communicating with the instructor.

# Grading

## Due Dates/Late work

* All new assignments will open on Sundays at midnight and are due a week later.
* There is a 3-day late extension after the due date during which time assignments will not be considered late—through Wednesday at midnight.
* All assignments may be submitted late, however a 10% late penalty may be imposed on assignments submitted after the extension.

## Assignment Grading

### Successful Responses

* Rubrics are provided for all assignments.
* All submitted work should be typed and submitted in a text document or by typing directly into the assignment’s text box. Photographs of handwritten work will not be graded.

## You are graded on the quality, as well as the length of your response.

* The length is specified in the question (2-3 sentences, 1-2 paragraphs, etc)
* The quality refers to how well you respond to the prompt. Read the prompt carefully and respond—be specific.
* Many assignments will ask you to think and respond with your own thoughts/feelings about the content—rather than reporting back the facts you have learned.

### Shortcuts don’t work

Rather than responding to the content assigned, some students feel they will save time by using Google to find the answers to the prompts.

* These submissions do not successfully acknowledge the material that has been assigned and respond to the question and do not receive full points.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be used as a tool to help you craft well written sentences.

* However, when you use it to generate your responses to specific questions, it may not successfully address what the assignment is looking for.
* AI scours the internet and uses all available content to craft a response. This means it is often very general, very unspecific, and doesn’t really say anything and these responses to not receive full points.

## Working in Groups

Working with a study partner or group on assignments is a great way to facilitate your understanding of the class material, but the work you turn in *should be your own*. Each student working in a group should use their own words to create a unique response.

* If a duplicate assignment is submitted by more than one student, I have no way of knowing if a sharing and communicating process took place, or one person copied from another.
* When two students submit the exact same response to an assignment, I will divide the points possible. (i.e. when the same 30-point assignment is submitted by two students, each student will receive 15 points).

## Final Grade Calculation

I will add up all the points earned in the class and determine your grade percentage. At any time during the class, you may contact me if you have questions about how you are doing. Do not rely on Canvas for your grade Canvas percentages may not be an accurate assessment of your grade--class content sometimes changes during the course of the semester, and your *grade at any time reflects only your percentage for what you have turned in, not all of the class content (ie assignments you did not turn in)*.

## Grading in the College System

Grades are earned each course and are recorded on the student’s permanent record. Grades represent the evaluation of student achievement of course objectives and learning outcomes.

* The college uses a five-letter grading system. A, B, C, and P are passing grades, satisfactory or better.
* D and NP are passing but less than satisfactory grade.
  + D grade is passing but is not considered satisfactory for meeting many of the college graduation/degree/major requirements or course prerequisite requirements**.**
  + **Also, the D grade may not satisfy transfer requirements to four-year institutions**
* F is a failing grade; it is not a passing grade. Units of credits are earned for all passing grades. (2019-2020 Reedley College Catalog)

## Grade Scale

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 90-100% | A | Excellent |
| 80-89% | B | Good |
| 70-79% | C | Satisfactory |
| 60-69% | D | Passing, less than satisfactory |
| -59% | F | Failing |

Table 1 Grade Scale

## Basis for Grading (subject to change)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Discussions (approx., subject to change) | 195 |
| Assignments (approx., subject to change) | 317.5 |
| Quizzes | 300 |
| Projects | 340 |
| TOTAL POINTS | 1152.5 |

Table 2 Basis for grading

# Academic Honesty

### Plagiarism

Cheating, plagiarism, or engaging in other academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Plagiarism constitutes the use of the work of others without proper citation of the resource.

* **Plagiarized essays will be given a score of zero, with one opportunity to address the problem and resubmit, a second instance of will be given a zero.**
* Plagiarized homework assignments will not be graded and marked with a zero.

Plagiarism violates Administration Regulation 5500, Student Standards of Misconduct, and is subject to various disciplinary measures including removal from class, suspension, and expulsion. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to,

* failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others.
* failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration.
* submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved.
* failing to observe security systems and software copyrights.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week of | Module/Topic | Assignments/Quiz/Projects | Due |
| Aug 7 | Class introduction Module 1 **Visual Culture/Art**  ART TODAY: Gabriel Orozco | *Syllabus/Class Intro Quiz*  *Discussion: Gabriel Orozco* | 8/13 |
| Aug 14 | Module 2 **What is Art/Creativity**  **The Function of Art**  ART TODAY: Richard Long | *Assignment: Goya’s Disaster/war*  *Discussion: Watts Towers* | 8/20 |
| Aug 14 | Quiz | Quiz 1: Section I.1 (Modules 1-2) | 8/27 |
| Aug 21 | Module 3 **Describing Art: Visual Elements**  ART TODAY: Kara Walker | *Discussion: Choose an Artwork* | 8/27 |
| Aug 28 | Module 4 **Principles of Design**  **Looking critically**  ART TODAY: Mark Bradford | *Assignment: Make a color wheel* | 9/3 |
| Aug 28 | Quiz | Quiz 2: Section I.2(Modules 3 & 4) | 9/10 |
|  | Project | Section I Project Formal Analysis | 9/3 |

Table 3 Section I

# Section II Media

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week of | Module/Topic | Assignments/Quiz/Projects | Due |
| Sep 4 | Module 5 **Mark Making:**  Drawing and Painting  ART TODAY: Peter Doig | *Assignment: Figure Draw Disney* | 9/10 |
| Sep 11 | Module 6 **Carving:** Sculpture and Printmaking  ART TODAY: Ai Wei Wei | *Assignment: Print Questions* | 9/17 |
| Sep 11 | Quiz | Quiz 3: Section II.1 (Modules 5 & 6) | 9/24 |
| Sep 18 | Module 7 **Photography, Film and Durational Art**  ART TODAY: Catherine Opie | *Assignment: Voyage to the Moon* | 9/24 |
| Sep 25 | Module 8 **Art with Function:**  Craft and Architecture  ART TODAY: Amalia Mesa Bains | *Discussion: National Museum of African American History & Culture*  *Assignment: Sunflower seeds* | 10/2 |
| Sep 25 | Quiz | Quiz 4: Section II.2 (Modules 7 & 8) | 10/8 |
|  | Project | Section II Project: Virtual or In-Person Art visit | 10/2 |

Table 2 Section II

# Section III: Ancient to Early Modern World

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week of | Module/Topic | Assignments/Quiz/Projects | Due |
| Oct 2 | Module 9 **Ancient/Early Western Civilization**  ART TODAY: Julie Mehretu | *Discussion: Palette King Narmer* | 10/8 |
| Oct 9 | Module 10 **Ancient Non-Western Art**  ART TODAY: El Anatsui | *Discussion: Temple Stupa* | 10/15 |
| Oct 16 | Module 11 **The Classical & Medieval Worlds** ART TODAY: Jacob Lawrence | Discussion: Cats Rule Dogs Drool | 10/22 |
| Oct 16 | Quiz | Quiz 5: Section III.1 (Modules 9, 10, 11) | 10/29 |
|  | Project | Section III.1 Project: Recreate an Artwork | 10/22 |

Table 3 Section III

# Section IV: Early/Modern/Contemporary World

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week of | Module/Topic | Assignments/Quiz/Projects | Due |
| Oct 23 | Module 12 **Renaissance/Baroque**  ART TODAY: Kerry James Marshall | *Discussion: Which David?* | 10/29 |
| Apr 3 | Spring Break |  |  |
| Oct 30 | Module 13 **18th-19th Century Art**  ART TODAY: Rachel Whiteread | *Assignment: Something that Stayed with me* | 11/5 |
| Nov 6 | Module 14 **Late 19th century Art**  ART TODAY: Wayne Thiebaud | Discussion: 19th century art movements | 11/12 |
| Nov 6 | Quiz | Quiz 6: Section III.2 (Modules 12, 13, 14) | 11/19 |
| Nov 13 | Module 15 **Early 20th century Modern Art**  ART TODAY: Cindy Sherman | *Assignment: Picasso’s Guernica* | 11/19 |
| Nov 20 | Module 16 **Interwar Years Modern Art**  ART TODAY: Jasper Johns | Discussion: Choose a topic for the final project | 11/26 |
| Nov 27 | Module 17 **Post War Modern Art**  ART TODAY: John Baldessari | *Assignment: Sound Art Christina Kubisch and Janet Cardiff* | 12/3 |
| Dec 1 | FINAL | FINAL: Section IV.2 (Modules 15, 16, 17) | 12/8 |
|  | Project | Section IV Project Create a Research Content Page | 12/8 |

Table 4 Section IV

## Important Dates

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Day of the Week | Event |
| August 4 | Friday | Last day to add a full-term or short-term first nine weeks Fall 2023 class in person by 5:00 pm |
| August 6 | Sunday | Last day to add a full-term or short term first nine weeks Fall 2023 class using Self-Service by 11:59 pm |
| August 7 | Monday | Start of Fall 2023 Semester |
| August 7-October 6 | Monday-Friday | Short-term fall 2023 classes, first nine weeks |
| August 18 | Friday | Last day to drop a Fall 2023 full-term class for full refund |
| August 25 | Friday | Last day to register for a Fall 2023 full-term class in person with add authorization  Last day to drop a Fall 2023 full-term class to avoid a “W” in person |
| August 27 | Sunday | Last day to drop a Fall 2023 full-term class to avoide a “W” on Self-Service  Last day to add a Fall 2023 full-term class with add authorization on Self Service |
| September 4 | Monday | Labor Day Holiday (no classes, campus closed) |
| October 1 | Sunday | Deadline to apply for graduation for Fall 2023 |
| October 6 | Friday | Last day to drop a full-term Fall 2023 class (letter grades assigned after this date) |
| October 9-December 8 | Monday-Friday | Short-term Fall 2023 classes, second nine weeks |
| November 10 | Friday | Veterans Day observed (no classes, campus closed) |
| November 23-24 | Thursday-Friday | Thanksgiving Holiday (no classes, campus closed) |
| December 4-8 | Monday-Friday | Fall 2023 final exams week |
| December 8 | Friday | End of Fall 2023 semester |
| December 11-29 | Monday-Friday | Winter Recess (campus open December 11-22; campus closed December 25-January 1) |

Table 5 Important dates

Schedule and content are subject to change