

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

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Office hours to be arranged by appointment via Zoom.

# 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.
* Visit a gallery or museum and examine exhibition of artwork and document the experience in writing.

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 Timeline: We will briefly look at the history of art. From the earliest art to the Bronze age to the classical and medieval periods in Europe; and ancient Non-Western art
4. Art history Timeline: The renaissance and Baroque, the modern world in late 18th and 19th century, and the 20th century, and the Post-modern world. Classwork/Academic Honesty

## Projects/Writing Assignments

There is a project for each section of the class.

1. A three-page formal analysis essay on an artwork you choose in an earlier assignment.
2. A two-page informal writing assignment can be completed in one of two ways—by following a writing prompt for a virtual museum trip, or in person at an approved art gallery or art museum.
3. A hands on project in which you recreate a museum artwork with objects you have on hand.
4. A content page or slide presentation researching an artist or art movement covered in class.

Writing guidelines and resources are provided in the module for each project. Grading Rubrics are included in the assignments. Modules contain resources to help you begin your research.

Read the assignment guidelines carefully and respond to the assignment; even an excellent paper that does not respond to the assignment will not receive full points. Please reach out with questions and/or concerns.

## Tests

There are seven 50-point quizzes following 2-3 modules worth 300 points

* The quizzes can be taken unlimited times to improve your score.
* Quizzes are open for two weeks and will not be reopened
* Your lowest quiz score will be dropped
	+ Your quiz grade for the class will reflect your 6 highest quiz scores from the 7 quizzes.
	+ If you are happy with your quiz scores at the end of the semester you can skip the final.

## Absences

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

## Academic Honesty

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 an 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.

(Pro-tip: Don’t copy and paste your homework responses from the internet. It may be faster than responding to the content given, but the answers won’t be correct!)

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.

## 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**.

* 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 if one person copied from another.
* Use your own words.
* For duplicate submissions, 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).
* Please reach out to me if you notice another student has copied your words.

## Extra Credit

Extra Credit assignments are located 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 class. Students may complete extra credit assignments totaling 5% of the total points possible in the class or 60 points.

# Grading

## Assignment Grading

To receive full points, respond specifically to the question or prompt that is given using complete sentences. You are graded on the quality, as well as the length of the response.

* The length is specified in the question i.e. 2-3 sentences, one paragraph, two pages.
* Rubrics will be provided with all assignments.
* Make sure you read carefully and address the specifications of the assignment/rubric.

## Final Grade Calculation

Your grade will be determined as a percentage of the total points possible in the class, it will not be calculated by Canvas. **Do not rely on Canvas percentages as an accurate assessment of your grade**—in my experience, students who are close to the next grade on Canvas sometimes receive the lower grade. You may contact me if you have questions about how you are doing, and I will give you an assessment.

## Grading in the College System

Grades earned in each course 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 Grade Scale

## Basis for Grading (subject to change)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Discussions (approx., subject to change) | 300 |
| Assignments (approx., subject to change) | 300 |
| Quizzes | 300 |
| Projects/Writing assignments | 350 |
| TOTAL POINTS | 1250 |

Table Basis for grading

Class Schedule

# Section I: Visual Culture

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week of | Module/Topic | Assignments/Quiz/Projects | Due |
| Aug 22 | Class introductionModule 1**Visual Culture/Art**ART TODAY: Gabriel Orozco Module 2**What is Art/Creativity** **The Function of Art**ART TODAY: Richard Long | *Syllabus/Class Intro Quiz**Discussion: Gabriel Orozco* *Discussion: Watts Towers**Assignment: Goya’s Disaster/war* | 8/28 |
| Aug 22 | Quiz | Quiz 1: Section I.1 (Modules 1-2)  | 9/4 |
| Aug 29 | Module 3**Describing Art: Visual Elements**ART TODAY: Kara Walker Module 4**Principles of Design****Looking critically**ART TODAY: Mark Bradford | *Discussion: Describe an Artwork* *Assignment: Make a color wheel**Discussion: Choose an Artwork* | 9/4 |
| Aug 29 | Quiz | Quiz 2: Section I.2 (Modules 3 & 4) | 9/11 |
| Aug 22 | Project | Section I ProjectFormal Analysis Essay | 9/18 |

# Section II Media

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week of | Module/Topic | Assignments/Quiz/Projects | Due |
| Sep 5 | Module 5**Mark Making:**Drawing and PaintingART TODAY: Peter Doig | *Assignment: Figure Draw Disney* | 9/11 |
| Sep 12 | Module 6 **Carving:** Sculpture and PrintmakingART TODAY: Ai Wei Wei | *Discussion: Martin Puryear**Assignment: Print Questions* | 9/18 |
| Sep 12 | Quiz | Quiz 3: Section II.1 (Modules 5 & 6)  | 9/25 |
| Sep 19 | Module 7 **Photography, Film and Durational Art**ART TODAY: Catherine Opie | Discussion: Sound Art--Janet Cardiff and Christina Kubisch*Assignment: Voyage to the Moon* | 9/25 |
| Sep 26 | Module 8**Art with Function:** Craft and ArchitectureART TODAY: Amalia Mesa Bains | *Discussion: National Museum of African American History & Culture**Assignment: Sunflower seeds* | 10/2 |
| Sep 26 | Quiz | Quiz 4: Section II.2 (Modules 7 & 8) | 10/9 |
| Sep 5 | Project | Section II Project: Virtual Art visit | 10/9 |

# Section III: Ancient to Early Modern World

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week of | Module/Topic | Assignments/Quiz/Projects | Due |
| Oct 3 | Module 9 **Ancient/Early Western Civilization**ART TODAY: Julie Mehretu | *Assignment: Catal Huyuk**Discussion: Palette King Narmer* | 10/9 |
| Oct 10 | Module 10**Ancient Non-Western Art**ART TODAY: El Anatsui | *Discussion: Temple Stupa* | 10/16 |
| Oct 17 | Module 11**The Classical & Medieval Worlds**ART TODAY: Jacob Lawrence | *Discussion: Classical/Medieval* | 10/23 |
| Oct 17 | Quiz | *Quiz 5: Section III.1**(Modules 9-10-11)* | 10/30 |
| Oct 3 | Project | Section III.1 Project: Recreate an Artwork | 11/6 |

# Section IV: Modern/Contemporary World

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week of | Module/Topic | Assignments/Quiz/Projects | Due |
| Oct 24 | Module 12**Renaissance/Baroque**ART TODAY: Kerry James Marshall | *Discussion: Which David?* | 10/30 |
| Oct 31 | Module 13**18th-19th Century Art**ART TODAY: Rachel Whiteread | Discussion: Cats rule dogs drool? | 11/6 |
| Nov 7 | Module 14 **Late 19th century Art** ART TODAY: Wayne Thiebaud | Discussion: 19th century art movements | 11/13 |
| Nov 7 | Quiz | Quiz 6: Section IV.1*(Modules 12-13-14)* | 11/20 |
| Nov 14 | Module 15**Early 20th century Modern Art**ART TODAY: Cindy Sherman | *Assignment: Sound Art--Air forms**Discussion: 20th c. art movements*  | 11/20 |
| Nov 21 | Module 16**Interwar Years Modern Art**ART TODAY: Jasper Johns | *Assignment: Picasso’s Guernica*Assignment: Jasper Johns Regrets | 11/27 |
| Nov 28 | Module 17**Post War Modern Art**ART TODAY: John Baldessari | *Discussion:* Taking the time to see  | 12/4 |
| Nov 28 | FINAL | FINAL: Section IV.2 (Modules 15-16-17) | 12/9 |
| Oct 31 | Project | Section IV ProjectCreate a Research Content Page | 12/9 |

Dates

# Projects

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date Assigned | Project (assignment info for each in own module) | Date Due |
| Aug 22 | I. Formal Analysis Essay | Sep 18 |
| Sep 5 | II. Art Visit/Virtual | Oct 9 |
| Oct 3 | III. Recreate an Artwork | Nov 11 |
| Oct 31 | IV. Research Presentation  | Dec 9 |

# Quizzes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date Assigned | Quiz | Due Date |
| Aug 22 | Quiz 1: S I: Pt 1 (modules 1-2) | Sep 4 |
| Aug 29 | Quiz 2: S I: Pt 2 (modules 3-4) | Sep 11 |
| Sep 12 | Quiz 3: S II: Pt 1 (modules 5-6 | Sep 25 |
| Sep 26 | Quiz 4: S II: Pt 2 (modules 7-8) | Oct 9 |
| Oct 17 | Quiz 5: S III (modules 9-10-11) | Oct 30 |
| Nov 7 | Quiz 6: S IV: Pt 1 (modules 12-13-14) | Nov 20 |
| Nov 28 | Final: S IV: Pt 2 (modules 15-16-17) | Dec 9 |

# Important Semester Dates

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| --- | --- |
| Mon Aug 8 | Start of Fall 2022 semester |
| Mon Aug 22 | Start of this class section |
| Fri Aug 26  | Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a “W” |
| Mon Sep 5 | Labor Day Holiday (no classes, campus closed) |
| Fri Oct 7 | Last day to drop a full-term class (letter grades assigned after this date) |
| Fri Nov 11 | Veterans day (no classes, campus open) |
| Nov 24-25 | Thanksgiving Holiday (no classes, campus closed) |
| Dec 5-9 | Final exams week |
| Fri Dec 9 | End of fall 2022 semester |

Schedule and content are subject to change. Updates will be posted in Class Documents Module