

9-2013

ARTH 350.01: Contemporary Art and Art Criticism

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School of Art
ARTH 350 (Contemporary Art and Art Criticism, 3 credits
TTH 2:10-3:30, Fall Semester 2013, Fine Arts 302

Associate Professor Valerie Hedquist, 305A Fine Arts Building
E-mail: valerie.hedquist@umontana.edu;
Office hours: Tuesday 3:30-4:30 p.m. and Wednesday 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Course description: Survey of artists, art works, critics and theories from 1970's to the present. Introduction to major art movements and ideas of the Post-Modern era. Special emphasis given to firsthand experiences with art at local venues and direct engagement with contemporary art criticism published in newspapers, journals, magazines, and other media.

Required text: Brandon Taylor, *Contemporary Art, Art Since 1970*, Pearson, 2005.

Recommended Resources: Additional books, catalogues, and articles will be available through Course Reserves at Mansfield Library or at the Art Resource Center in the Fine Arts Building. Articles and websites will be available through Moodle Learning Management System.

Learning Objectives:

- Develop improved observation and analysis of contemporary art
- Comprehend various interpretive perspectives and the complexities of categorization
- Develop aesthetic evaluative criteria and apply them to contemporary art
- Become familiar with contemporary artists and art works through first-hand viewing and careful reading of art criticism

Requirements for Course: You are expected to attend class and participate in discussion. All assigned course work must be completed in order to earn credit for the class. Students are expected to keep copies of all assigned work. Students will utilize Moodle at <http://umonline.umt.edu> for course syllabus, other course materials, announcements, and grades. Grades will be calculated as follows:

Three Comparison Essays, with required revisions, 100 points each/300 points total
Three Examinations: 100 points each/300 points total

Grading: 600-540 = A; 539-480 = B; 479-420 = C; 419-360 = D; 359 or less = F

Students with disabilities or special needs should see the instructor.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

Week 1, 27 and 29 August

Introduction and What came before the postmodern?
Taylor, Alternatives to Modernism, Chapter 1

Week 2, 3 and 5 September

Post-Minimalism

Week 3, 10 and 12 September

Art c. 1968: Joseph Beuys and Arte Povera

Week 4 17 and 19 September

First-Generation Feminist Art/Pattern and Decoration
Taylor, Victory and Decline, the 1970s, Chapter 2

Week 5, 24 and 26 September

Marina Abramović, *The Artist Is Present*
Examination 1

Week 6, 1 and 3 October

Architectural Sculpture and New Image Painting

Week 7, 8 and 10 October

Art World of the 1970s: American Neoexpressionism, Italian Transavantguardia and German Neoexpressionism
Taylor, *The Politics of Painting, 1972-1990*, Chapter 3

Week 8, 15 and 17 October

Media Art and PoMo Art Theory, Consumer Society and Deconstruction Art

Week 9, 22 and 24 October

Art World of the 1980s: East Village Art, Commodity Art and NeoGeo
Taylor, *Images and Things: the 1980s*, Chapter 4

Week 10, 29 and 31 October

Gerhard Richter, *Painting*
Examination 2

Week 11, 5 and 7 November

Art World of the 1990s
Taylor, *In and Beyond the Museum: 1984-1998*, Chapter 5

Week 12, 12 and 14 November

The 'Other'
Taylor, *Marks of Identity: 1985-2000*, Chapter 6

Week 13, 19 and 21 November

Art of the 21st century
Taylor, *A New Complexity: 1999-2004*, Chapter 8

Week 14, 26 November

Venice Biennale 2011 and 2013

Thanksgiving Break

Week 15, 3 and 5 December

Artists of Africa and Asia
Taylor, *Other Territories: 1992-2002*, Chapter 7
Examination 3