ART 342: MODERN ART II: WESTERN ART, 1880-1960
RHODES COLLEGE, FALL 2011

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Outline

Modern Art II is a survey of major art movements of the western world, from the late-nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century, beginning with Post-Impressionism and ending with Abstract Expressionism. Amongst other issues, this course will explore the meaning of modernism, the social and aesthetic goals of the avant-garde, and the emergence of abstraction. Movements discussed include symbolism, fauvism, cubism, futurism, dada, surrealism, and abstract expressionism.

Art 342 is the second course in a three-part sequence designed to trace the development of modernism in the visual arts in the West since the eighteenth century. Though the emphasis of the course is on the visual arts, the ideas examined are applicable to courses covering the same chronological period in history, languages, and philosophy. The reading assignments and class discussions will challenge you to consider art’s relationship to broader culture in this period, while the course research paper aims to hone your critical, interpretative, and writing skills. The course exams are designed to ensure that you have mastered all of these objectives through the identification of key works of art and the explication of their significance in relation to the broader themes of the class. This course is excellent preparation for upper division courses in late-modern and contemporary art history and theory. It is an intermediate level course with no prerequisites. Art 342 is a combination lecture and discussion course.

N.b., Although we will attempt to adhere as closely as possible to this syllabus, details are subject to change.

Required books:
- Herschel B. Chipp, Theories of Modern Art, University of California Press, 1968

Recommended books:

Important dates:

9/6: Visual analysis due
9/15: Quiz 1
9/22: Reading day (no class)
9/27: Research paper topic due
10/11: Quiz 2
10/18 fall recess
11/1: Abstract and annotated bibliography due
11/3: Quiz 3
11/6: Thanksgiving (no class)
11/22: Futurist Thanksgiving
11/24: Thanksgiving (no class)
11/29: Writing portion for work-shopping due
12/1: Research paper peer edit
12/6: Research paper due
12/8: Reading day
12/12: Final exam (8:30am)
### Week 1

8/25, Thursday – Introduction

### Week 2

8/30, Tuesday – Art and Art Institutions in the 19th Century

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Read: Books</th>
<th>Read: Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arnason: pp. 1-41</td>
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9/1, Thursday – Post-Impressionism I: Seurat, Cézanne

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Read: Books</th>
<th>Read: Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arnason: pp. 51-60</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chipp: 16; 21-23</td>
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### Week 3

9/6, Tuesday – Post-Impressionism II: Van Gogh, Gauguin, Toulouse-Lautrec

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Read: Books</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arnason: pp. 69-75, 79-81</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chipp: 31-34; 40-41, 58-60; 79</td>
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Visual analysis due

9/8, Thursday – Symbolism, Decadence, and the fin de siècle

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arnason: pp. 60-62, 82-86, 94-109</td>
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### Week 4

9/13, Tuesday – Primitivism in Modern Art

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<tr>
<th>Read: Books</th>
<th>Read: Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chipp, ‘On primitivism’, pp. 78-86.</td>
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<td>Gill Perry, “Primitivism and the Modern”</td>
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9/15, Thursday– Quiz 1

### Week 5

9/20, Tuesday – Expressionism in France: Matisse and the Fauves

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arnason: pp. 110-128</td>
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9/22, Thursday – Reading day (no class). Please investigate research paper topics
Week 6

9/27, Tuesday – Modern Sculpture: From Rodin to Brancusi

Read: Books
Arnason: pp. 64-69; 128-132

Read: Readings

Research paper subjects due. Be prepared to share your work with the class, even if you are unsatisfied with your progress. Arrange for individual meetings.

9/29, Thursday – Expressionism in Austria and Germany Part I: Die Brücke

Read: Books
Arnason: pp. 133-143

Week 7

10/4, Tuesday – Cubism

Read: Books
Arnason: pp. 158-192


Read: Readings

10/6, Thursday – Futurism and de Stijl

Read: Books
Arnason, pp. 206-219; 286-296


Read: Readings

Week 8

10/11, Tuesday – Quiz 2

10/13, Thursday – Expressionism in Germany Part II: Der Blaue Reiter

Read: Books
Arnason, pp. 143-152

Read: Readings

Week 9

10/18, Tuesday – Fall recess (no class)
### 10/20, Thursday – School of Paris after WWI

**Read:** Books
Arnason, 264-284

**Read:** Readings

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### Week 10

#### 10/25, Tuesday – The Bauhaus

**Read:** Books
Arnason, pp. 297-317

**Read:** Readings

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#### 10/27, Thursday – Dada in Western Europe and New York City

**Read:** Books
Arnason, pp. 235-254
Chipp, 'En Avant Dada', 377-382

**Read:** Readings

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### Week 11

#### 11/1, Tuesday – Marcel Duchamp

**Read:** Books

**Read:** Readings

Annotated bibliography and abstracts due.

#### 11/3, Thursday – Quiz 3

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### Week 12

#### 11/8, Tuesday – Surrealism part I

**Read:** Books
Arnason: pp. 318-359

**Read:** Readings
Salvador Dalí, “Un Chien Andalou” (1929)
André Breton, “The Mediums Enter” (1922)
André Breton, “After Dada” (1922)

#### 11/10, Thursday – Surrealism part II

**Read:** Books

**Read:** Readings

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## Week 13
### 11/15, Tuesday – The Rise of Fascism in Europe

**Read:** Books
- Chipp, ‘Speech inaugurating the ‘Great Exhibition of German Art’, 474-483

**Read:** Readings

### 11/17, Thursday – How New York Stole the Idea of Modern Art

**Read:** Books
- Chipp, ‘Statement’, 544-45

**Read:** Readings

## Week 14
### 11/22, Tuesday – Futurist Thanksgiving

### 11/24, Thursday – Thanksgiving (no class)

## Week 15
### 11/29, Tuesday – Abstract Expressionism and the Cold War

**Read:** Books
- Arnason, pp. 403-428

**Read:** Readings

Prepare a significant portion of writing to share with the group

### 12/1, Thursday – European Art After the War

**Read:** Books
- Arnason: pp. 439-454; 465-468

**Read:** Readings

**Final peer edit**
Week 16

12/6, Tuesday – Quiz 4

Research paper due

12/8, Thursday – Reading day (no class)

Final

Monday, December 12, 8:30 a.m.