Moravian College
Syllabus
Art History 229, Modern Through Post-Modern Art, Fall 2007
Thursday 6:30-9:30 PM
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Office hours: Thursday evening 6:00-6:30 and 9:30-10:00PM by appointment. Students may meet with instructor in classroom

Course Goals Through a combination of class discussion, video and slide presentations, and lecture, students will
- Recognize important western images and artists from the mid 1800’s to the late 20th and early 21st centuries and be able to identify fundamental elements of the major schools of Modernism.
- Express their ideas using the vocabulary of art criticism and formal analysis, working individually and in small groups
- Produce a cumulative total of 25 pages of written work (papers and exams), which fulfill the ‘Writing Intensive’ requirement.

Required texts

Requirements and Grades
Attendance and participation are required for each class. Class participation includes active listening and involvement in discussions. After two absences, your grade will be lowered by one letter grade per class missed. Being late on three occasions will add up to one absence. After four absences, you will receive a failing grade.

10% of final grade

Group Presentations- Each group will engage in a discussion for 15 – 20 minutes about your topic. Each group will select a moderator to structure the discussion. The group may vote a member out if s/he does not participate in writing and preparation for the presentation. A member who is voted out of a group will not receive a passing grade for the presentation. Each member of the group will write a 12-page research paper on an aspect of the topic. Members of the group will work together to proofread, edit, and help each other with their papers. Fifty percent of the grade (15% of your final grade) will be based on the group work, fifty percent (15% of your final grade) based on your individual work (paper and presentation.) Topics will be chosen/assigned by the third week of class. Papers due on day of presentation
30% of final grade
Individual Compare/Contrast Paper
Each student will give a 10-minute presentation on a particular artist, comparing and contrasting two works (early and late). You may use the equipment in the classroom (internet, slides, PowerPoint, etc.) in your presentation. You will also be required to hand in a compare/contrast paper (4 pages). Papers due on day of presentation. 30% of final grade

Mid-Term Essays
Same topic, two formats, Comparative and Critical (see The Art of Writing About Art) Topics will be chosen from list two weeks before the essays are due. (4 pages each, total 8 pages) Due October 18. 30% of final grade

All papers and exams are to be returned no later than two weeks after the due date or in any case no later than the next to the last class meeting.

Classroom Protocol
Please do not use laptops or other electronic equipment in the classroom. All pagers and cell phones are to be turned off so as not to disrupt the class. Appropriate classroom behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students’ access to their learning goals.

Honor Philosophy
The academic honesty policy is stated explicitly in the Student Handbook

Students with Disabilities
Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with their professors during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact Academic Services.

Topics and scheduled classes

Week 1, August 30
Week 2, September 6

Individual topics, groups, presentation dates, and group topics assigned.
Read pages 54-80, Modern Art

Week 3, September 13
Read pages 81-100 Modern Art

Week 4, September 20
Chapter 6, Architecture, Tradition and Innovation, 1880-1914

Individual Presentations 1 and 2. Read pages 101-131 Modern Art

Week 5, September 27
Chapters 7 and 8, Expressionism and Fauvism in France and Germany. The Bridge and the Blue Rider Groups. Look at: Matisse, Andre Derain, Maurice de Vlaminck, George Rouault, Raoul Dufy, George Braque, Kees van Dongen. Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Erik Heckel, Karl Schmidt-Rottluff, Emile Nolde, Otto Muller, Max Pechstein, Vassily Kandinsky, Gabriele Münter, Franz Marc, Lyonel Feininger, Paula Mohderson-Becker, Kathe Kollwitz, Paul Klee, Egon Schiele, Oskar Kokoshka, Otto Dix, George Grosz, Max Beckmann, Ernst Barlach, Individual Presentations 3 and 4. Read pages 132-162, Modern Art

Week 6, October 4
Week 7, October 11
Chapters 11 and 12, Dada, Fantastic Art, and Surrealism. Look at: Henri Rousseau, Marc Chagall, Giorgio de Chirico, Eugene Atget, Jean Arp, Sophie Tauber Arp, Marcel Duchamp, Francis Picabia, Man Ray, Hanna Hoch, George Grosz, Kurt Schwitters, Max Ernst, Andre Mason, Joan Miro, Salvadore Dali, Yves Tanguy, Kay Sage, Rene Magritte, Paul Delvaux, Hans Bellmer, Meret Oppenheim, Alberto Giacometti, Picasso, Roberto Matta, Individual Presentations 7 and 8
Read pages 196 – 233 Modern Art

Week 8, October 18 (Midterm essays due)
Read pages 234 – 246 Modern Art

Week 9, October 25
Read pages 247 - 264 Modern Art

Week 10, November 1
Read pages 265-297 Modern Art
Week 11, November 8
Individual Presentations 15 and 16
Group 3 Presentation
Read pages 298 - 339 Modern Art

Week 12, November 15
Individual Presentations 17 and 18
Group 4 Presentation
Read pages 340-387 Modern Art

(Noymeber 22, Thanksgiving Day, No Class)

Week 13, November 29
Individual Presentations 19 and 20
Week 14, December 6 (Last class)

Feminism and Contemporary Art. What’s happening today? Look at
Romare Bearden, Duane Hanson, Philip Pearlstein, Joyce Kosloff, Susan
Rothenberg, Johathan Borofsky, Jennifer Bartlett, Elizabeth Murray, Nancy
Graves, Judy Phaff, Cindy Sherman, Cy Twombly, Frank Stella Magdalena
Abakanowicz, Keith Haring, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Brice Marden, Barbara
Kruger, Robert Mapplethorpe, Kiki Smith, Matthew Barney, William Kentridge,
Kara Walker

Group Topics
Please refer to your Art of Writing About Art handbook for help with choosing a topic,
posing a research question, finding a thesis, etc. Examples are given below.

The following is a list of broad topics. Your group will break the topic down into 5
categories. You will be graded as a group and as individuals, so it is in your best interest
to proofread and help edit your classmates’ papers.

Impressionism, Post Impressionism, Symbolism, Nabis, Fauvism, Expressionism,
Cubism, Futurism, Early American Painting, The Armory Show, “The Eight,” The
Harlem Renaissance, , Vorticism, Suprematism and Constructivism, Bauhaus, Non-
Objective Art, School of Paris, Dada and Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism and the
New York School, Pop, Op, Minimal, Earthworks, Conceptual and Feminist art,
Installation and Performance Art, “Neo-Dada” and contemporary trends.

http://www.langara.bc.ca/library/reshelp/assign/art_hist_paper.html
http://www.wesleyan.edu/writing/workshop/departments/arha.html
http://www.dvc.edu/english/Learning_Resources/TopicSentenceDefandEx.htm

Examples of how to formulate topics

General Topic: Cubism.

Group Topic ideas:

- How were Cubists influenced by, Byzantine, African, Iberian, Oceanic art, and
  late work by Cezanne ? (each student may take a separate section)
- The Cubist Circle: Braque, Gris, Duchamp-Villon, Leger and Picasso.
- Cubism and the Industrial Revolution. What’s the connection?
- The Influence of Cubism on Futurism

Individual Topics: Picasso and Braque, their changing paths.

- Analytic and Synthetic Cubism, a stylistic comparison.
- Cubism and African Art
- Braque and Balla, a Critical Comparison
- Cezanne and the Cubists
- African Masks and Les Demoiselles d'Avignon
- Leger and the Machine Age