College of Alameda  
Course Syllabus: Modern Art History  
Instructor: Drew Burgess  
Fall 2014

Art4-A1 lecture 40065    Room D312    Monday and Wednesday 10:00AM to 11:15AM  
August 18th (first class) to Dec 8th (the day of the final from 10AM to 12PM)  
3 units---Prerequisite: none (English 1A recommended)    Transferable CSU and UC  
Students may elect to be evaluated with a Grade or pass/no pass  
Office hours in room D316 and Tues-Thurs 10:00AM-12:00PM  
Telephone 748-2216    email: dburgess@peralta.edu  
web page:  http://alameda.peralta.edu/drew-burgess/

Catalog description: “Major visual art forms and movements of the nineteenth  
and twentieth centuries: Concentration on the foremost painters, sculptors, and architects of  
the modern period and their works.”

Course Objective: To develop insight about the spectrum of modern creativity and develop  
knowledge about modern art. We investigate an array of art. The class is inclusive with an  
interesting inquiry concerning culture.

Student learning outcomes (SLOs)
1. Evaluate creation of art in the context of the Modern era—the student explores the creative  
expression of modern times with dialogue in the form of readings and visual material.  
2. Identify movements of Art—the student learns with class discussions visual analysis and  
reading to differentiate the characteristics of art movements.  
3. Analyses varied forms of modern culture—the student investigates the varied features of art  
in relation to modern culture.

Course Content
The course is of the lecture format. It is expected that the instructor will be prepared and that  
students will attend class, participate, and take notes. Students will be introduced to the  
individuals, the ideas, and the evolution of art of the modern era. The course utilizes many  
resources including: lectures with photographs, films, and textbook reading. Reading of the  
textbook is assigned in class.

Discussion is encouraged. What is the art of the Modern era? What is the role of art and artists  
in society? We study art as communication, art as social and political comment and ‘art for art’s  
sake’. What is art today and in the future? How does the subject relate to you?
**Class Management and Conduct**

1. It is ultimately the student’s responsibility to understand important dates and withdraw from the class as necessary.

2. If the student has missed consecutive classes and their intentions are not clear, they may be withdrawn by the instructor. Students who miss class in the first week may be withdrawn from the roster. As the semester progresses, students with multiple absences will likely be withdrawn. Please be courteous regarding these decisions.

3. Please arrive on time for full class session credit—Roll will be called at the beginning of class.

4. Taking notes is recommended.

5. If you miss the midterm a 75% test may be taken the following week during office hours. There is not a make-up for the final.

6. Extra essays may be written for additional credit during office hours—Up to two on different days for 20 points each. The total possible for extra credit is forty points.

7. Please visit me during office hours for the signing of papers or documents. Generally, I do not wish to sign or look at documents during or following class.

8. Please meet with me during office hours if you would like to discuss issues that concern you - I will do my best to help you. (Please recognize too that I may be focused on the class before and after class and that it is not a reflection of my regard for you or your concerns).

**Class Courtesy**

Courtesy is very important.

Please turn off your phone and remove headphones during class. **Please do not record the class or take photographs.** See me for special needs. Under no circumstances may any portion of the class be recorded and exchanged via the internet or other social media. This is an important distinction regarding the right to privacy—including everyone in the class. This agreement may not be violated. Auditing is not permitted (College policy) including children. It is my intention to create a considerate environment for all. Please be mindful of the potential effect of your discourse. Each student is respected and may expect an environment without harassment or bullying.
Peralta District Calendar Spring 2014

August 4    All Fees Due. Drop for Nonpayment of Tuition and Enrollment Fees
August 18   Day and Evening Instruction Begins
August 23   Saturday Instruction Begins
August 31   Last Day to Drop Regular Session Classes and Receive A Refund
Note: Short-term and open-entry classes must be dropped within 10% of the first class meeting to receive a refund.
August 31   Last Day to Drop Regular Session Classes Without a “W” Appearing on Transcripts
August 31   Last Day to Add Regular Session Classes
September 1  Labor Day – Holiday Observance
September 2  Census Day – Instructors Verify Enrollment in Classes
September 8  Last Day to File for PASS/NO PASS Grading Option for Regular Session Classes
October 17   Last Day to File Petitions for AA or AS Degree/Certificate
November 11  Veteran’s Day – Holiday Observance
November 15  Last Day to Withdraw from Regular Session Classes and Receive a “W”.
All outstanding fees are due even if classes are dropped on this day.
November 15  Attendance Verification Day – Instructors Verify Enrollment
Nov.27 – 30  Thanksgiving – Holiday Observance
December 6   Saturday Instruction Ends
December 8-12 Final Examinations
December 12  Fall Semester Ends

Evaluation
1. Actively participating in class-- including groups and assignments, participation in ungraded quizzes and writing in class: 100 points
3. Completion of term paper: 100 points –due November 19th (outline due Oct.22nd)
4. Museum visit assignment: 100 points—due November 3rd
5. Midterm exam— questions and essay: 100 points   October 15th (10AM)
6. Final exam---questions and essay: 100 points   December 8th (10AM-12PM)

Semester total: 500 points

500= 100% 450=90% 400=80% 350=70% 300=60%

Additional guidelines and handouts will be provided for the items listed above. The writing center in the library is recommended for all writing projects. **A preliminary outline of the paper is due October 22nd and it is required for the term paper!** I will discuss the museum visit with you and provide a handout.
Rubric for tests, projects and the semester grade:
A grade of ‘A’ in art history exemplifies steady growth and exceptional work. The grade of ‘A’ is a mark of high achievement. A commitment to the whole process is an essential quality of high achievement. A grade of ‘B’ means the student has done work of high quality, exceeding expectations, and that the work ranks above average. A grade of ‘C’ means the student has done work which meets the requirements for the problem, and appears average. ‘D’ grades indicate the student has not met expectations for the problem, and the work is below average. ‘F’ grades indicate the student has applied little effort in meeting the goals of the problem.

Pass/no pass
If a student elects the grading option of pass/no pass 70% is needed to pass the class. The student must complete all five sections regardless of point total—the final must be completed.

Books in print you may find helpful:
The Art Spirit by Robert Henri
Ways of Seeing by John Berger
But is it Art? by Cynthia Freeland
Look! The fundamentals of Art History by Anne D’Alleva

Online resources:
Online study links on our Art webpage: http://alameda.peralta.edu/art/department-resources/
Our Learning Resource Center: http://alameda.peralta.edu/learning-resource-center/
Oxford Art Online--visit our library: http://alameda.peralta.edu/library/
Smarthistory: http://smarthistory.khanacademy.org/
Purdue Online Writing Lab: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/

A message from the DSPS office:
"If you have a disability which may require classroom or test accommodations, please contact Programs and Services for Students with Disabilities (DSPS) in Room D117 or call DSPS at 510-748-2328. You will need to provide written documentation of your disability. If you think you have a disability but currently have no documentation, DSPS may be able to help you. All information will be kept confidential."
"This document is available in alternate format upon request. Please contact DSPS at 510-748-2328."

Class Practices and Study Habits
1. Come to class and participate!
2. If possible, bring your book. We refer to illustrations as we progress in the material.
3. Take notes---write down the key elements or ‘memory helpers’ of the class discussion.
4. Read the chapters. Organize your thinking with a structured approach.
5. Regular attendance is expected to participate in the quizzes and exams.
6. I will develop the study guide for the exams in class with daily instructions. I write on the board and that will be the structure for information—copy information each class and develop your notes to study with. I encourage you to seek out other students for support and for help as needed. The delivery of information will take place in class.

Art Museums and Cultural Centers of the Bay Area—search online for web pages
Seeing art in person is a different experience than reproductions! See as much art as you can. Index cards for notes and sketches may help. Drawing is for everyone—try it!

East Bay
Oakland Museum of California, African American Museum and Library at Oakland
Museum of Children’s Art—Oakland, Mills College Art Museum, Oakland Asian Cultural Center
Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Phoebe Hearst Museum-Berkeley
Judah L. Magnes Museum-Berkeley, Richmond Art Center

South Bay and Peninsula
San Jose Museum of Art, Mexican Heritage Plaza-San Jose, Japanese American Museum of San Jose, Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum-San Jose, Triton Museum-Santa Clara, de Saisset Museum-Santa Clara University, Cantor Center for Visual Arts-Stanford University

San Francisco
Contemporary Jewish Museum, Museum of the African Diaspora, Mission Center for Latino Arts, Museum of Craft and Folk Art, Chinese Culture Center-San Francisco

A field trip is possible. Please discuss with me ideas you may have. In addition the Art Club on campus may have events or opportunities related to our class.

Art History Essay Writing---some tips
Writing an essay for an exam is probably one of the most challenging aspects of an art history course. An essay should offer insight concerning the subject. To develop insight one must be involved in the art that is studied; one must read about art; and one must practice writing about art. I will help you during office hours.

Visit this link: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/685/01/
Reading and study:

1. We begin with ideas about the era of the late 18th century. Read the first few chapters to familiarize yourself with the art of the changing world. The early 19th century is fascinating. Familiarize yourself with all of the terms and vocabulary. In class take notes, ask me to clarify anything that is confusing.

2. During the following weeks we will discuss art and society. We discuss concepts related to new democratic ideals, realism, art for art’s sake and the sublime. Read these chapters at your own pace. Follow the art we speak about in class.

3. Your success depends on reading and studying. Over the next few weeks we will discuss the arts of the 19th century and the 20th century. Once again follow the conversation and examples of art we view in class. The midterm is on October 15th.

4. Following the midterm we will focus on chapters that bring us into the heart of what is known as Modernism—about the middle of the text and forward. Read the chapters and learn about all of the movements of the period. This section introduces views on art such as social responsibility and a variety of abstract art. Be flexible, study to grasp the material.

5. The reading leading to the final begins with the arts of the mid 20th century. In these chapters you will encounter many new ideas. Finish reading the book and recognize that the cultural world is a changing environment. The final on December 8th will give you an opportunity to express your view.

Prepare to succeed! I look forward to seeing you. Please check your Peralta email account for messages that I may send to everyone. I believe that every student is a great adventurer. The role of the teacher is to present ideas with which to grapple.

To do:
1) participate and study for two exams—a midterm and a final.
2) prepare an outline for a research paper.
3) visit a museum and discuss three works of art.
4) complete a research paper.

“I look back on my life like a good day's work...I knew nothing better and made the best of what life offered. And life is always what we make of it. Always has been, always will be.” (Grandma Moses)

Welcome to the class!