

**ENG 375H and ART 375H**  
**Modernism in Art and Literature**  
**SPRING 2014**

**Text and Readings:**

*Modern Art: Impressionism to Post-Modernism*, ed. David Britt, ISBN 11893400  
*As I Lay Dying*, William Faulkner, Vintage Books  
*The Dharma Bums*, Jack Kerouac, Penguin Classics  
*Cane*, Jean Toomer, Liveright Publishing  
*The Crying of Lot 49*, Thomas Pynchon, Harper Collins

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this course we will study visual art and literature of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. We will analyze styles and ideas leading up to the artistic production of our own age, and consider varying defining characteristics of the labels “Modernism” and “Postmodernism.” The course will emphasize the social, political and ideological contexts in which the works were created over aesthetic concerns. Looking for ideological relationships between art and literature, places where ideas connect and places where they diverge, will provide a broad understanding of ways context influences art and, perhaps, vice versa.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Upon the successful completion of this course, motivated and hard-working students should be able to:**

- 1. convey in writing an accurate interpretation of 20<sup>th</sup> Century art as forms of artistic expression;**
- 2. recognize and interpret the significance of important cultural references, such as landmarks, works of art and literature, symbols, documents, historical events and figures, traditions and customs;**
- 3. exhibit an understanding of concepts, styles, and functions in 20<sup>th</sup> century art and literature;**
- 4. identify the main point an author makes in a written work, infer the author’s position on thematic elements of the text, and marshal evidence to document an analytical response to that text;**
5. analyze how technology, ideas and social conditions affect art and literature;
6. identify and analyze aspects of Modernism and postmodernism in art and literature;
7. exhibit an understanding of the relationship between idea and practice in art, literature and cultural phenomenon;
8. demonstrate clear writing and effective research skills.

**EVALUATION**

1. Participation and Presentations (15% of course grade)
  - a. Students are expected to outline all Art readings and bring questions or specific comments of interest from all the readings to each class for discussion.
  - b. Students will present short subjects to the class as assigned and are expected to otherwise engage in class discussion. Specific instructions as to how the presentations will be done is included in an attachment to this syllabus.

2. Short Essays/Reaction Paper (60% of course grade)

There are no exams in this class but five papers will be assigned and represent 60% of your overall grade. Please be sure you take them very seriously.

- a. There will be 3 Art reaction papers, worth 10 points each
- b. There will be 2 English analysis papers, worth 15 points each

3. One research paper and concept piece. (25% of course grade)

This final project requires both a 4-5 page research paper on any topic covered in class otherwise related to art and literature from 1900 to now. Specific instructions about the research paper will come, but the final paper will integrate themes in art and literature. In addition, a creative conceptual piece will apply the knowledge learned in the process of writing the paper. More information about this conceptual project will be forthcoming.

STAC's grading equivalents

<b>A</b>	<b>4.000</b>
A-	3.667
B+	3.334
<b>B</b>	<b>3.000</b>
B-	2.667
C+	2.334
<b>C</b>	<b>2.000</b>
C-	1.667
<b>D</b>	<b>1.334-1</b>

**OTHER RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**Attendance** is essential. Poor attendance will be reflected in your grade. 3 missed classes may result in your failing the class. Being late 3 times equals 1 absence.

**Incomplete:** A grade of incomplete may be granted to students who have suffered serious personal illness or critical, emergency circumstances during the academic term, resulting in failure to complete all assignments by the end of the quarter. Please refer to the college catalog for additional information.

**Classroom Conduct:** Respect for the other students is required  
No headphones or cell phones are allowed during class time  
Absolutely no texting or computer use other than that related to class materials (see Electronic Use Policy below)

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ALL STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW**

**1. Students with Disabilities**

Students requiring accommodations for a documented disability should notify the instructor before the end of the first week of class.

**2. Academic Integrity**

Academic Integrity, a commitment to honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility, is the foundation of the learning process. All members of the St. Thomas Aquinas College community are held to the

highest standards of academic honesty. While we recognize the participatory nature of education, we take academic integrity very seriously, and the College policy on academic dishonesty details consequences that can include dismissal from the College. That policy can be found in both the Student Handbook and the College Catalog.

As a student in this class, you must demonstrate your commitment to academic integrity by submitting work which originates in your own imagination, analytical faculties, or your own knowledge, which you have done yourself, and which represents your very best efforts. When appropriate, your work should be supplemented and supported by other sources; however, you must always insure that these sources are properly cited using the recommended documentation system.

### **Electronic Use Policy**

Faculty members at St. Thomas Aquinas College have the discretion to regulate the use of electronic devices in their classes, and students should not use such devices without the expressed consent of the professor. This policy covers cell phones, PDAs, laptop computers, or any other device the use of which might constitute a distraction to the professor or to the other students in the class, as determined by the professor. Students with documented disabilities should discuss the issue of laptop use with their professor at the beginning of the semester.

When a professor designates a time during which laptop computers may be used, they are only to be used at the discretion of the faculty member and in accordance with the mission of the college. Professors can develop specific and reasonable penalties to deal with violations of these general policies. For more extreme cases of classroom disruption, refer to the College's Disruptive Student Policy.

*Please refer to your catalog for Drop-Add Procedures and Withdrawal Procedures.*

## Course Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Class Topic</i>	<i>Assignments Due on Date Listed</i>
1. Wed Jan/22	Introduction—to course, methods, websites, etc.	Review class website: www.barbarayontzatstac.edu
2. Mon Jan/27	Review Traditions and Modernism's break with tradition.	Read Impressionism Manet 11-22.
Wed Jan/29	Impressionism, Post-Impressionism  Student Presentation: <i>Industrial Revolution</i> _____ <i>Japanese Prints</i> _____	Read: 22-77 Monet—22-27 Degas—40-47 Cassatt—47-48 Cezanne—48-56 Gauguin, Van Gogh—63-68  Check artwork on Met website Art paper 1 assigned
3. Mon Feb/3	SNOW	
3. Wed Feb/5	SNOW	
4. Mon Feb/10	European Modernism: Expressionism  Student Presentation: <i>Freud and the Subconscious</i> __Alyssa____	Read: 109-114 Munch—122-125 Kandinsky—141-145 Berlin Vienna—148-151  Check artwork on Met website
Wed Feb/12	Literary Impressionism Harlem Renaissance  Student Presentation: <i>Henri Bergson</i> ____Michele_____	Reading due: Crane, Zola, Jean Toomer, <i>Cane</i>  Art paper 1 due

5. Mon Feb/17	Discuss Toomer	Reading due: Toomer, <i>Cane</i>
Wed Feb/19	Literary Modernism Student Presentation: <i>World War 1</i> ___Savannah___	Reading due: Faulkner, <i>As I Lay Dying</i>  Literature Paper 1 assigned
6. Mon Feb/24	Literary Modernism  Student Presentation: <i>Stream of Consciousness</i> ___Kathryn___	Faulkner, <i>As I Lay Dying</i>  Literature Paper 1 assigned
Wed Feb/26	European Modernism: Cubism	Cubism—161-172 General Cubism 161-164 Pablo Picasso & Georges Braque 164-bottom 172  Futurism-179-191 and/or website to understand  Check artwork on MOMA and Met websites
7. Mon Mar/ 3	Dada  Student Presentation: <i>Andre Breton</i> ___KC._____  Marcel Duchamp ___Heather_____	Dada—204-226 Marcel Duchamp- 189 and bottom 204-208 Dada in Zurich 210-216 Dada in Paris 217-18 and 224-226 Dada in Germany 219-223  Check artwork on MOMA website  Literature paper 1 Due
Wed Mar/5	Surrealism  Student Presentation: <i>Freud and Dreams</i> ___Amanda_____	Surrealism—226-251 Max Ernst Salvador Dali Rene Magritte Postscript 249-250

		Check websites
8. Mon Mar/ 17	Modernist Poetry	Selections from E.E. Cummings
Wed Mar/19	America to the Armory Show Student Presentation: <i>The Great Depression</i> ____Nicky____ Student Presentation: <i>The Politics of Unionization</i> ____ Eugene____	TBA  Art Essay 2 assigned
9. Mon Mar/ 24	After WWII: Abstract Expressionism Europe after the war.  Student Presentation: Zen in America 50s and 60s ____ Bill____ <i>The Atom Bomb</i> ____ Adriana____  Student Presentation: <i>Europe after WWII</i> ____ Vincent____	Read: Abstract Expressionism 253-273 Jackson Pollock 262-266 Willem de Kooning 266-269 Mark Rothko 271-274 and site  Check website
Wed Mar/26	Hands On Art Experience: Abstract Expressionism	Read: AE in Europe 285-292 Jean Dubuffet 287-288 Karel Appel 300-301  Alberto Giacometti see website Francis Bacon see website  Art Essay 2 due

10. Mon Mar 31	American and England: Beats and Pop  Student Presentation: <i>Beat Poets</i> ____Sarah____ <i>Television in the 50s</i> ____Nick_____	Read: 305-326 Pre-pop New York 306-310 Roy Lichtenstein 310-314 Andy Warhol 314-320 (top) British Pop 332-349  Art Essay 3 assigned
Wed April 2	King of the Beats	Reading due: Jack Kerouac, <i>The Dharma Bums</i>
11. Mon Apr 7	King of the Beats	Jack Kerouac, <i>The Dharma Bums</i>
Wed April 9	Postmodernism  Student Presentation: <i>Civil Rights Movement</i> ____Joe_____ <i>Women's Movement</i> ____Alyssa S_____	Read: Intro 359-360 Minimalism 361-371 Process Art 372-376 Carl Andre Robert Morris Eva Hesse John Chamberlain  Art Essay 3 Due
12. Mon Apr 14	American Postmodernism Postmodernism _____	Reading due: Thomas Pynchon, <i>The Crying of Lot 49</i> Selections from Frank O'Hara Proposals for Final project Due
Wed Apr 16	American Postmodernism	Thomas Pynchon, <i>The Crying of Lot 49</i> Literature essay 2 assigned
13. Mon Apr 21	Postmodernism continued	Read: Process, Action and performance 375-382 Joseph Beuys Richard Long Christo Nam Jun Paik
Wed Apr 23	Conceptual Art and End of the Century	Read: Conceptual art, neo expressionism, etc 382-405 Barbara Kruger Cindy Sherman Lucian Freud

	Contemporary Photo ____Joy_____  Graffiti  _____	Anslem Kiefer Jeff Koons Jean-Michel Basquiat Tony Cragg  Literature essay 2 Due
14. Mon Apr 28	Student Presentations	Schedule with the instructors Final project Due
Wed Apr 30	Student Presentations	Schedule with the instructors Final project Due

Course Schedule is Subject to Change. Please be sure to check Class website for updates.

Murray: Green

Yontz: Yellow, *Modern Art: Impressionism to Post-Modernism*

All essays due: Blue



