

**Bergen Community College**  
Division of Humanities  
Department of Visual and Performing Arts

Course Syllabus

**ART 104**  
**Modern Art**

*An individual classroom syllabus for this course must include as much of the following information as is applicable:*

**Basic Information About Course and Instructor:**

Semester and year:  
Section Number:  
Meeting Times:  
Locations:

Instructor:  
Office Location:  
Phone:  
Departmental Secretary:  
[optional] Office Hours:  
Email Address:

**Course Description:**

**ART-104 Modern Art** and Visual Culture from 1890 to 1940 is a chronological survey of selected works of European and American painting, sculpture, architecture, and photography. These demonstrate both individual artist's innovative thinking and visual art's prominent role in the formation of culture, society, and the idea of modernity in relation to historical art, urbanism, spiritualism and war. 3 lectures, 3 credits. General Education Course - Humanities Elective. No prerequisites or corequisites.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, students will be able to:

Student Learning Outcome:	Means of Assessment:
1. Identify major periods of art history, and exemplary works of art and visual culture, from	Exams

1890 to 1940, that is, Post-Impressionism through Surrealism	
2. Visually analyze art in speech and writing, using appropriate vocabulary, considering both the formal choices of the artist as well as the materials and techniques employed	Exams, oral presentations, papers
3. Describe how political, religious, and economic situations influence the creation of works of art and their meaning and significance	Exams, oral presentations, papers
4. Compare art and architectural production and traditions across artistic movements and cultures	Exams, papers
5. Analyze the difference between perceiving a work of art viewed in reproduction and a work experienced directly within a museum context	Papers
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the contemporary ethical issues of art history and museum practice, including debates regarding the ownership of artworks, art restoration, and authenticity	Classroom discussions and in-class assignments

**For General Education courses:** indicate which Gen Ed/Essential Learning Outcomes (EL1-11, below) are aligned with these Student Learning Outcomes\* using a table:

SLOs:	EL 1	EL 2	EL 3	EL 4	EL 5	EL 6	EL 7	EL 8	EL 9	EL 10	EL 11
1.								X			
2.	X	X							X		
3.	X	X				X		X	X		
4.		X						X	X	X	

<b>5.</b>		<b>X</b>							<b>X</b>		
<b>6.</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>									<b>X</b>

EL1-Effective Speaking  
 EL2-Effective Writing  
 EL3-Mathematical Reasoning  
 EL4-Scientific Reasoning  
 EL5-Technological Competency  
 EL6-Information Literacy

EL7-Social-Behavioral Analysis  
 EL8-Historical Analysis  
 EL9-Humanistic Analysis  
 EL10-Intercultural Awareness  
 EL11-Moral Literacy

**Signature Assignment:**

*The Museum Paper*

Students are required to visit the Museum of Modern Art or the Metropolitan Museum of Art and examine three thematically-related works of art (i.e. portraiture, landscape, movement, the nude, etc.) from three distinct periods studied in this class, following the parameters given by their instructor. In a 3-4 page paper, students will compare and contrast the works considering their techniques, style, and meanings, utilizing appropriate vocabulary and a historical awareness of the period from which they come. (Assesses course SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, and assess EL 2, 8, 9, and 10.)

**Course Content:**

This course is a chronological survey of art in a variety of media, including painting, sculpture, architecture, photography, and prints, in Europe and the Americas, with the aim of developing skills of visual analysis and critical thinking. Works will be considered in terms of technique, formal choices, and historical context. The philosophies of distinct artistic movements will be examined, considering the way that their artists responded to the momentous political, technological, and cultural shifts of the period.

- A. Introduction: The Birth of Modernism (Realism to Impressionism in France)
- B. Post-Impressionism
- C. Symbolism and Primitivism
- D. Art Nouveau
- E. Fauvism in France
- F. Cubism
- G. German Expressionism, including Die Brücke and Der Blaue Reiter
- H. Italian Futurism
- I. American Avant-garde
- J. Dada
- K. Early 20th-century Abstract Sculpture
- L. Abstract Art after WWI, including Neue Sachlichkeit
- M. The Bauhaus
- N. Modern Architecture, including domestic architecture
- O. Early 20th-century Photography
- P. The "Degenerate Art" Exhibition and Influx of Refugee Artists to NYC
- Q. American Social Realism and Regionalism

- R. The Harlem Renaissance
- S. The Mexican Muralists
- T. Surrealism

**Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials:**

Recommended textbook: H. H. Arnason and Elizabeth C. Mansfield, *History of Modern Art*, 7th edition, 2012, Pearson

Ebook edition: ISBN-13: 9780137520992 (rental approx. \$51 from publisher)

Articles on library reserve at the discretion of the instructor

Online resources including:

The Metropolitan Museum of Art's *Timeline of Art History*

([www.metmuseum.org/toah](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah))

Smarthistory's *Reframing Art History* (OER textbook)

([smarthistory.org/reframing-art-history/](http://smarthistory.org/reframing-art-history/))

Art History Resources on the Web

([arthistoryresources.net/ARTHLinks.html](http://arthistoryresources.net/ARTHLinks.html))

Khan Academy, Arts and Humanities: AP/College Art History

(<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history>)

**Research, Writing, and/or Examination Requirement(s):**

Student learning will be assessed with a combination of in-class examinations, oral presentations (as for exam reviews), and written projects that are centered on viewing art in person.

**Grading Policy:**

Grades in this class are determined as follows:

Evaluation/Assessment	Percent	SLO
Quizzes/tests based on lectures, readings	40	1, 2, 3, 4
Paper #1: Finding and evaluating multiple scholarly sources about a single artwork	15	1, 2, 3
Paper #2: The Museum Paper (signature assignment)	15	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Oral presentations/exam reviews	15	1, 2, 3
Class attendance, participation, group work	15	2, 3, 6

Late written work will be accepted, with a one-grade penalty, up to one week past the due date; work will not be accepted past this date. Make-up exams will only

be given with a documentable excuse.

## **Attendance Policy:**

### **BCC Attendance Policy:**

All students are expected to attend every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.

### **Course Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is heavily weighted in the final grade because of the critical role of discussion in this course. Attendance will be taken every meeting and factored into a grade along with any in-class group work or writing. Absences will be excused for religious observance and documented medical issues.

## **Other College, Divisional, and/or Departmental Policy Statements:**

Statement on plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty:

[Academic Matters - Bergen Community College - Acalog ACMS™](#)

Statement on the appropriate use of AI (see the following link for guidance):

[AI-Guidance-Resource-Page.pdf \(bergen.edu\)](#)

ADA statement:

[Disability Services \(Office of Specialized Services\) | Bergen Community College](#)

Sexual Harassment statement:

[HR-003-001.2018-Policy-Prohibiting-Sexual-Harassment.pdf \(bergen.edu\)](#)

Statement on acceptable use of BCC technology:

[Acceptable-Use-Policy.pdf \(bergen.edu\)](#)

Recommended Syllabus Statements from the Office of Specialized Services:

[Syllabus Statements | Bergen Community College](#)

Statement on the purpose and value of faculty office hours.

## **Accessibility Statement**

Bergen Community College is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability (or think you may have a disability) and, as a result, need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this class, complete course requirements, or benefit from the College's programs or services, contact the Office of Special Services (OSS) as

soon as possible at 201-612-5270 or [www.bergen.edu/oss](http://www.bergen.edu/oss). To receive any academic accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with OSS. The OSS works with students confidentially and does not disclose any disability-related information without their permission. The OSS serves as a clearinghouse on disability issues and works in partnership with faculty and all other student service offices.

### **Student Support Services**

Bergen Community College provides exemplary support to its students and offers a broad variety of opportunities and services. A comprehensive array of student support services including advising, tutoring, academic coaching, and more are available online at <https://bergen.edu/currentstudents/>.



### **Sidney Silverman Library Online Resources:**

[Guides BY SUBJECT - LibGuides at Bergen Community College](#)

General Search and Databases: [Library | Bergen Community College](#)

### **Course Outline and Calendar:**

<b>Class:</b>	<b>Topic/Activity:</b>	<b>Assignments/Events:</b>
1	Introduction	
2	Introduction to Modernism: Realism	
3	Introduction to Modernism: Impressionism	
4	Post-Impressionism	
5	Post-Impressionism	
6	Symbolism	
7	Art Nouveau	Ethical issue – Ownership of Art (case study: Klimt’s Lady in Gold)
8	Fauvism in France	
9	Cubism (analytic and synthetic)	
10	Exam Review	Oral presentations

11	Exam One	EXAM ONE
12	German Expressionism	
13	Italian Futurism	
14	American Avant Garde	
15	The 1913 Armory Show	Paper one
16	Dada	
17	Early 20th-century Abstract Sculpture	Ethical issue – Forgery (case study: Modigliani)
18	Exam Review	Oral presentations
19	Exam Two	EXAM TWO
20	Abstract Art after WWI, Neue Sachlichkeit	
21	The Bauhaus	
22	Modern Architecture	
23	“Degenerate Art” Exhibition	
24	American Social Realism and Regionalism	
25	The Harlem Renaissance	
26	The Mexican Muralists	
27	Surrealism	Paper two
28	Exam Review	Oral Presentations
29	Exam Three	EXAM THREE
30	Final Day (Exams returned, grades discussed)	

**Note to Students:** This Course Outline and Calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class.