



ART  
APPRECIATION  
Spring 2012

(Robert Smithson,  
Smithson building  
Spiral Jetty, Great  
Salt Lake, Utah,  
April 1, 1970)

Prof. Sean Ward

Art 103 DF - Art Appreciation (61777) 3 credit hrs Spring 2012

Professor: Sean Ward

Time: Thursday, 9:30am - 12:10pm

Classroom: Harold Washington College (HWC), 8th floor, Room 806

Office: HWC, 8th floor, Room 831

Office Hrs: Thursday, 12:30-1:30p or by appointment.

Email: TBA

Phone: TBA

Online: Blackboard (Bb) will be used for this course on a regular basis and is required for class.

Textbook: Getlein, Mark. Living With Art, 9th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2010.

There is a copy on reserve in HWC Library, but you will still need to purchase Connect at bookstore.

## Catalog Description

Appreciation of artworks taken from all cultures and periods. Writing assignments, as appropriate to the discipline, are part of the course. 160 minutes per week, three (3) credit.

## Course Description

This class is designed to heighten your awareness, understanding and appreciation of art. You will develop your observational skills needed to recognize, understand and describe artworks through language. Using vernacular associated with the arts you will learn how to contextualize works of art within a culture. You will better understand the role of art throughout all cultures around the world and history.

Reading assignments, papers, weekly writing assignments and notebook activities will be used to learn and reinforce ideas, concepts and information introduced in class and our textbook. Lectures, digital presentations, field trips, in-class assignments, group activities will be a regular part of class time to build and expand your art experiences and knowledge.

This class is a place for ideas and questions, so please be respectful of each other and keep statements relevant to the topic at hand. The environment should be a place where you teach each other about your discoveries, alongside teaching yourselves and me.

## Course Objectives

During the course of the semester I will:

- 01 Introduce the importance of art through readings, demonstrations, blackboard, class discussions and field trips.
- 02 Show how to recognize art in our daily lives.
- 03 Introduce how to discern the difference between subject and objective interpretations of art.
- 04 Introduce ways of effectively seeing, understanding and analyzing art to assist you in being able to verbalize your interpretations of artwork.
- 05 Introduce how art is a reflection of the time in which its created.
- 06 Instill a respect for the technique, craft and work ethic needed to create art.
- 07 Inspire you to be a life long enthusiast, supporter or practitioner of art.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course you will:

- 01 Have a fuller understanding and appreciation of art and its history.
- 02 Understand why art is an important part of everyday life and have a broader recognition of its role in our lives.
- 03 Understand the difference between objective and subjective responses and interpretations of artwork.
- 04 Be comfortable analyzing and speaking about artwork in an informed and articulate manner utilizing language based on the principles and elements of art.
- 05 Understand how art reflects the ideals, concerns, beliefs, knowledge, history and technology of the culture and time it was created.
- 06 Appreciate the skill, effort, craftsmanship, investment of time and hard work needed to create artwork.
- 07 Be motivated and inspired to continue your pursuit of art beyond this class as an artist, historian, collector, patron or simply as an art enthusiast.

## Grading

"Remember, I'm going to mark you, it's my great pleasure to reward real effort, it's my great pleasure to punish stupidity, laziness and insincerity. These marks won't make much difference in your later life, but my reaction to you will, but the reactions of your classmates to what you do will.

Your classmates are your world, your future will be like this now, as you relate to your present, you will relate to your future, recognize your weakness and do something about it."

-Paul Thek, Artist (Teaching Notes)

Assignments must be completed by the predetermined due date and all due dates are final. There are no "redo's" or extra credit projects, so manage your time carefully in order to successfully complete work on time. Below shows the top percent of each letter grade, which is determined by the combined average of the assignments' (completed and handed in ) letter grades for your mid-term and final grade.

Tally of all Assignments include: Weekly Assignments + In-Class + Papers + Final Project + Notebook

A	100%
B	90%
C	85%
D	75%
F	65%

### Grading Categories

#### Weekly Assignment (Questions and Vocabulary)

Weekly assignments are in association with your readings. I require that you be active readers meaning that you participate while reading - taking notes, highlighting, etc. After each assigned reading section, you must hand in a printed sheet of 10 questions and 10 vocabulary words. These 10 questions are to be based on what you read. They can range from something you did not understand or something you disagreed with to something you are more curious about. The 10 vocabulary words are determined by words you thought were important in the text or words you did not understand. You are required to provide the definition of the word (do NOT simply copy and paste from a dictionary, for example dictionary.com). This is to be printed out and is due at the beginning of the following class with your name clearly stated.

#### In-Class Assignments

There will be in-class assignments and group participation/presentations required of each student. This also includes regular participation in discussions during class.

#### Course Participation / Active Pursuit

Art Appreciation meets once a week for 2hrs & 40mins. Each individual is expected to contribute and participate in course activities. Students actively pursuing a course are completing assignments on time, maintaining regular attendance, verbally contributing during class discussions and attending all field trips. Dialog during class discussions allows you to effectively apply the lexicon (art vocabulary) introduced in the readings and lectures. Class discussions give you the chance to demonstrate your ability to describe art and its ideas and form intelligent, insightful opinions and observations of your own.

All lectures, presentations, and demonstrations that take place in class and are not repeated, so it's important to be on time for class. There is a minimum of 1 - 2 hours a week of out of class time that will be needed to effectively complete assignments. Out of class time includes checking Blackboard at least once a week, researching additional texts, periodicals and websites and sketching and writing in your visual journal for assignments and reading the textbook.

### Papers

There will be 4 short papers. This does not include the final paper. These 4 short papers are related to our field-trips and will be explained prior to each field-trip requiring one of these. Each will be 500-700 words in length. This will be printed and handed in.

### Final Project

The Final Project will be a group assignment, concerning the last 10 chapters of our textbook. Students will be divided into 10 groups to cover each chapter. Each group will be assigned a chapter, which they will research together and create a 15 minute presentation for the class- including slides. Each person of the group must hand in a written paper of 1,500 to 2,000 words in length including a bibliography of 3 other sources besides the textbook. There will be time in-class to meet with your group. This will be uploaded to Blackboard.

### Notebook

At the back of this syllabus will be questions that are to be answered in your notebook when asked to in conjunction with other assignments. This notebook is for you to write down observations, notes, and to use with other assignments given. These will be checked as part of your mid-term grade and final grade.

### Field Trips

Field trips are a required part of class and will have specific assignments to be completed based on the trip to the venue. Most field trips are free, but one trip will be made to the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago that will cost \$1.00 admission.

## POLICIES

### Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory for successful completion of the course. Attendance is taken at the beginning (9:30am) and sometimes the end of class. Any arrival after attendance is taken is considered late. If you're more than 30 minutes late or leave more than 30 minutes before class is dismissed, you will receive an unexcused absence for the day. Each individual is allowed two (2) unexcused absences during the semester. The final grade will be lowered one letter grade for each additional unexcused absence. Be on time with all necessary supplies and items for class and be prepared to stay entire time (till 12:10). Two (2) lates or two (2) early departures equal one unexcused absence. If a class is missed the individual is still responsible for the information covered in the missed class. The same quality and quantity of work is also expected as if you were present. All due dates also remain the same and any missed papers, assignments, etc, will need to be made up at the discretion of the professor and possibly in a different format. Excused absences will be addressed individually to assist with covering missed information during the office hours of the professor.

### Accountability/ Plagiarism Policy

Blackboard will be used to hand in (upload) your final project. Handing in a paper without properly giving credit to sources or if copied from someone else or a web source is plagiarism. These are all serious offenses and will result in a failing grade for the assignment and possible failure of the course. Please refer to the Student Policy Manual ([www.ccc.edu/student/AcademicPolicies](http://www.ccc.edu/student/AcademicPolicies)) for further details regarding Academic Dishonesty, Penalties and Standards of Conduct.

### Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy

All Cell phones, pagers and electronic communication devices must be TURNED OFF during class. You cannot answer, talk or text message on cell phones or any other electronic device in or during class. You will be asked to leave class immediately if doing so. If it appears you are texting or using an electronic device in class, I will ask you and if this persists you will be asked to leave class. No exceptions and zero tolerance policy regarding this matter.

### Special Needs

Please let me know if you have special needs due to a learning disability, health problems, or anything else that may affect your performance in this course. If you received services or qualified to get extra time on exams, you will most likely qualify for the same accommodations here. Contact the Disability Access Center (DAC) by calling (312) 553-6096 or visiting Room 107.

### General Class Rules for Safe and Productive Environment

01 No food in class.

02 Disruptive behavior or sleeping will not be tolerated in class and you will be asked to leave if the behavior continues.

03 No guests, pets or visitors during class.

04 Everyone is expected to be courteous and respectful of others in class. I will not tolerate abusive or offensive language during class. Intimidation, harassment or forms of discrimination towards others in class will also not be tolerated.

No exceptions and zero tolerance policy regarding this very serious matter.

I reserve the right to change the syllabus, course requirements, grading system, or calendar at any point. You will be notified immediately of any changes.

### Art Appreciation Semester Overview Spring 2012

This schedule is JUST an overview and is subject to change.

Week	Dates	Day	Reading for following class	Assignment	In-Class Topic
1	January 19	Thurs	Chapters 1,2,3	Syllabus Discussion: What is Art? Movie: Bill Cunningham New York	What is Art?
2	January 26	Thurs	Chapters 1,2,3	Discussion: Objective vs Subjective First Paper Assigned Field Trip: Art Institute of Chicago	How to Interpret Art
3	February 2	Thurs	Chapters 4, 5	Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Chaps. 1,2,3 Due Second Paper Assigned Field Trip: Art Institute of Chicago	Looking at Art
4	February 9	Thurs	Chapters 4, 5	Third & Fourth Papers Assigned Field Trip: Art Institute of Chicago	Looking at Art
5	February 16	Thurs	Chapters 6, 7	Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Chaps. 4, 5 Due Discussion: What did you discover at the Museum?	Discover Art
6	February 23	Thurs	Painting? A State of Utter Idiocy (Frank Reijnders) Women and Painting (Marlene Dumas)	Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Chaps. 6, 7 Due Third & Fourth Papers Due Discussion	Painting, Drawing

Week	Dates	Day	Reading for following class	Assignment	In-Class Topic
7	March 1	Thurs	Chapters 11,12,13	Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Painting? A State of Utter Idiocy, Women and Painting Movie: Painter's Painting	Painting, Drawing
8	March 8	Thurs	Learning from Little Haiti (Ernesto Oroza)	Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Chaps. 11,12,13 Due Discussion	Sculpture, Architecture, Daily Life
9	March 15	Thurs	Chapter 9	Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Learning from Little Haiti Movie: My Architect: A Son's Journey	Sculpture, Architecture, Daily Life
10	March 22	Thurs	The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction (Walter Benjamin)	Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Chap. 9 Due Discussion: Our Relationship to Photos	Photo
11	March 29	Thurs		Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction (Walter Benjamin) Visiting Artist	Photo
12	April 5	Thurs		No Classes Spring Break	
13	April 12	Thurs	Verb List Compilation (Richard Serra) Lygia Clark: In Search of the Body (Guy Brett) The Method of Physical Actions (Stanislavski)	Field Trip: MCA Museum of Contemporary Art	Looking at Art
14	April 19	Thurs	Beware (Daniel Buren) PostProduction (Nicolas Bourriaud)	Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Helio Oiticica's Parangoles: Body Events, Verb List Compilation, Lygia Clark: In Search of the Body Discussion Final Project Assigned Movie: La Ribot Distinguida	Performance Art
15	April 26	Thurs	Let's Get Physical (David Bradley) Viewing Copies (Sven Lutticken)	Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Beware, PostProduction Discussion Work on Final Project	Conceptual Art, Critique
16	May 3	Thurs		Weekly Assignment (Qs and Vocab) Let's Get Physical, Viewing Copies Discussion Work on Final Project NOTEBOOK WILL BE CHECKED TODAY	Video/ Digital Art

Week	Dates	Day	Reading for following class	Assignment	In-Class Topic
17	May 10	Thurs		Final Project	

### **Required materials for successful completion of projects**

Notebook/Composition Book, approx. 8" x10" for notes and worksheet assignments

Assorted Graphite Pencils- 6B & 2B, 4H for drawing in your visual journal and drawing/sketch assignments

Pencil Sharpener

Eraser (black or white)

Large Glue Stick

Inexpensive general adhesive for collage materials for surfacing

Thumb Drive: Any size to save and place digital files on computer in class.

### **Recommended materials**

Digital Camera (or camera phone)

Needed for successful completion of visual journal assignment. Images needed for collage, reference and research during semester.

### Notebook Questions

(Edited Source: Paul Thek, Artist's Artist edited by Harold Falckenberg and Peter Weibel) These are questions that are to be answered as assignments in your notebook. I will check that you are answering the questions, but will not read your answers - this is for yourself. It is important to understand where you are and in context of your own life when looking at art. Please date the page in your notebook of each round of questions.

1978-1979 Paul Thek taught a graduate seminar and 1980-1981 an undergraduate seminar at the Cooper Union School of Arts in New York. He prepared the following questions for his students. Name, age, birthdate, place of birth, position in family, nationality, religion, education, hobbies, career plans, parents' education, parents' birthplace, parents' religion.

Where do you now live? With whom? For how long? What income do you have? From what source? What property do you own?

What are your requirements in a friend? Lover? Mate?  
What kind of art do you like? Painting? Sculpture? Music?

What do you read? How often? Do you buy books?  
What is your favorite color?  
What are your politics?  
Have you ever been seriously ill?  
Serious accidents?

What do you do on a date?  
What is the purpose of dating?  
Do you believe in premarital sex?  
What happens after death?

Tell us about other members of your family.  
Tell us about a close friend.  
Tell us about someone who inspires you.  
Tell us about the most exciting thing you ever saw, did.

How many rooms are there in your home?  
How many floors? What floor do you live on?  
Do you have your own room? Do you share it? With whom?  
What does your room look like?  
On what do you sleep? In what? In what position?

Do you take baths or showers? Do you use perfumes or deodorants?  
What style of look do you prefer?

Are you interested in sports? Which? How often?

Do you believe in abortion? Do your parents?

What is your worst physical feature? Your best?  
What is the main source of difficulty between you and your parents?  
Teachers? Friends?



What annoys you the most in others?  
What kind of teacher do you prefer?  
If you were a teacher, what would you propose?  
How would you grade your students?

What is eternity? What is love? What is art?  
What is a symbol? What is religion? What is psychology?

Who are your role models?  
Who is the person closest to you at the moment?  
Who is the person physically closest to you at the moment?  
What in your life is your greatest source of pleasure?

How do you know you like someone?  
How do you know that someone is interested in you?  
How do you know that you are happy, sad, nervous, bored?  
What does this school need? This room? You? This city? This country?

What is an abstraction?  
What is a mystery religion?  
What would it be like if you behaved with absolute power?

Redesign a rainbow.

What is an icon?  
Why does an icon have to be human?  
What is sacred? Profane?  
What is the most beautiful thing in the world.

Design something to sell on the street corner.  
Design something to sell to the government.  
Design something to put on an altar.  
Design something to put over a child's bed.  
Design something to put over your bed when you make love.

Design a black mass out of any materials you can find.  
Design a work of art that fits in a matchbox, a shoebox.  
Design a new clock face.

What is the difference between philosophy and theology?

What is the purpose of art?  
What does 'spiritual' mean to you?

What is the most difficult thing in life for you?  
Can art be useful in dealing with this difficulty? In what way?

What is 'service'?  
What is the purpose of society? of government?

What is the surest way to happiness?

What is attractive in a woman. A man?

What are the qualities of physique most attractive?  
What are the personality problems of being an artist?

What is it like to be an American in the 21st century?  
What is our unique role?

Who is Obama?  
What languages do you speak? Spoken at home?  
What religious articles do you have in your home? Your family home?

Illustrate your strangeness.

Design a box within a box to illustrate selfishness.  
Design a throne.

Why are you here?  
What is a shaman?  
What do you think has been the greatest hurt, mental and physical,  
that you suffered?

What do you think are the qualities of a life fully lived?  
Can you suggest a project, for yourself or for a group, or for any  
number, which might deepen your sensitivity to time?  
What is greed?  
What is verbal knowledge?  
What does tactile mean?  
Can you show me an example of tactile sensitivity in your personal  
life?

How much time should you work on a class project?  
How much time should you think about it? Discuss it?

What do you think of money? Make a structure explaining to me your  
concept of money or out of money.

Should art be useful? Useless?  
What is pablum?

What is capitalism? Communism? Socialism?  
What is leisure?

What is waste?  
How can we humanize the city?  
How can we humanize Harold Washington? How can we redesign Harold  
Washington?  
What should the student lounge look like? Where?