

SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC
Winter Semester 2015
ARTH*2070-01
ART OF THE USA



INSTRUCTOR: Kristin Patterson
TIME: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00 – 11:20pm
LOCATION: MacKinnon Building, Rm. 114
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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, 11:30-12:30 pm

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

In art, the 20th century has been referred to as "The American Century." Artists in the USA have a tradition of creating new visual languages, of using new ideas and technologies, and of representing the vanguard. Where did these ideas originate, and how has the USA determined our notion of what art is? This survey course focuses on modern American artists, on the evolution and growth of modern visual culture, and on how technologies and societies impact on artistic taste.

Prerequisite(s): 1 of ARTH*1220, ARTH*1510, ARTH*1520

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a chronological survey that focuses on modern American art of the 20th century. The changing forms and styles of art will be examined within social, political, and cultural contexts from the Chicago World's Fair of 1893 through the pluralism of the 1990s. We will explore numerous movements and developments within American visual culture including The Gilded Age, Modernism, Regionalism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Conceptual Art, Performance Art, Feminist Art, Black Art, Neoexpressionism, Postmodernism, Public Art, and Diasporic Art. Close attention will be given to the changing role of patrons, art critics and museum collections over the duration of the course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be confident identifying and discussing different styles and movements within American art
Students will be able to analyze aspects of American visual culture within appropriate cultural contexts
Students will gain an understanding of the issues and debates that accompany the production and reception of American art

REQUIRED TEXT:

Twentieth-Century Art by Erika Lee Doss, ISBN: 0192842390 (Oxford University Press, 2002).
Students will be responsible for additional readings that will be posted on CourseLink.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Pop Quiz in class	5%
Midterm Exam	25%
Pop Quiz in class.....	5%
Written Assignment (maximum 6 pages)	25%
Two-hour Final Exam (April 10, 2015, 11:30-1:30, location TBA).....	40%