US-UK Art History (Master Year 1 / Fall)

Master in English and American Language, Literature and History / Faculty of Liberal Arts

Introduction

This seminar's main objective is to introduce the students to the general notions of art history, then to explore four thematic issues specifically related to the artistic, social and political practices of the studied country (US in 2024-25 / UK in 2025-26). These thematic sessions are regularly updated according to current events, the current programme of exhibitions in Paris, France and even Europe, students' research, etc. This course deals with painting, sculpture, architecture, art object, photography, film and television works and any other reproduction support, intending to inscribe them in their historic, social and cultural context. The ambition of this odd-numbered semester class is eventually to prepare the students for the thematic in-depth study offered by the even-numbered semester class.

Objectives

Disciplinary and Cultural Knowledge Skills (Cognitive)
- Organize and interrelate the main periods & movements of UK/US art
- Acquire a visual literacy that you can verbally articulate and persuasively convey
- Recognize & evaluate specific formal elements of artistic language (eg. media, technique, content, subject, composition, structure, color, light, texture, perspective, proportion, space, etc.)
- Relate relevant biographical information to artistic production
- Situate artistic movements within the context of significant political & social events

Critical Thinking Skills (Oral & Written)
- Evaluate the impact of historical and theoretical concepts upon art
- Reveal the motivations behind the production
- Reveal how artistic interpretation is bound by history, culture & individuality
- Be able to research, write and defend an essay in conventional form explaining the outlook, techniques and impact of artists in historical perspective

Duration

1 semester

Teaching languages

- English

Conditions of submission

If you need more information about this course, kindly send an email to: incomingdri@icp.fr

Admission

Prerequisite

Prerequisites training

Everyone is welcome in this class however a background in Art History is welcome as it is meant for Master's degree students.

Program

Methods of Instruction

The course is divided into lectures on a weekly basis, during odd-numbered semesters. It is based on discussions in class, before and after students' presentations. Each session is dedicated to one specific period or one movement of UK/US art.

Assessment and Final Grade

- one oral of 15mn in class (50% of the grade)
- 3,000 words hand-in paper (50% of the grade)