

An Introduction to Modern European Art

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A short introduction to the development of modern art in Europe focusing on Realism, Impressionism, Surrealism, Abstract Art and Conceptual Art and examining key works on display in Liverpool collections. Introductory lectures will take place at the university and follow-up sessions will be gallery-based with interactive workshops and discussions.

Subjects to be examined over six sessions:

- Context: social and art historical background
- Work and legacy of key European artists
- Concepts and styles associated with Modernism
- Critical reception of artists associated with Modernism
- Modern art in Liverpool collections (visit to Tate, FACT, Walker etc)
- Public art found on the streets of the city (such as Banksy's 'Cat')

Course Objectives:

- To introduce students to the history and development of Modern Art in Europe
- To identify the key artists associated with Modernism through detailed examination and discussion of their works.
- To gain a critical knowledge and understanding of art historical concepts and be able to identify major artistic styles associated with Modernism
- To examine the effects of Modernism on British art (Walker Art Gallery)

Session One: Introduction to Modern Art in Europe

Thursday 4th July

9-10.50 at 126 Mount Pleasant

The course begins with an introduction to Modernism in Europe with a focus on Impressionism, Post Impressionism, Cubism and Surrealism. Students will learn about the social and art-historical backgrounds to these movements and learn to identify styles of key artists such as Monet, Degas, Van Gogh, Cézanne, Picasso and Dali.

Session Two: Walker Art Gallery

Tuesday 2nd July

11-12.50 Meet outside 126 Mount Pleasant to walk down to Walker Art Gallery

Following a short break we will walk to the gallery and continue to discuss developments in early 20th century art, focusing on works in the Walker Collection. Workshops will take place in the gallery and students will be assessed on their contribution to these activities.

Session Three: Art in Post-War Europe

Thursday 11th July

9-10.50 Meet at 126 Mount Pleasant

Following the atrocities of World War II, many artists in Europe looked for new ways of expressing their angst through painting and sculpture, and also began to incorporate new materials and processes into their works. We will discuss the development of Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Conceptual Art and the pluralist approach of artists at the end of the Twentieth Century.

Session Four: Tate Visit

Thursday 11th July

11-12.50 meet outside 126 Mount Pleasant to walk to Tate Gallery

Following a short break we will walk down to the Albert Dock and discuss some examples of public art on the way. At the Tate, students will take part in gallery workshops based on selected artworks from the current displays. There will also be an opportunity to visit the new Chagall exhibition and the Open Eye Gallery at Mann Island.

Session Five: Presentations

Tuesday 16th July

9-10.50 Meet at 126 Mount Pleasant

Students will be asked to deliver a short presentation on a work of art in this session which will form part of their overall assessment for the course. (Details will be provided in Session One)

Session Six: Art in the 21st Century

Tuesday 16th July

11-12.50 meet at 126 Mount Pleasant

We will conclude the course with a visit to FACT, one of Liverpool's newest contemporary art galleries for a guided tour of the latest exhibitions. We will also discuss some of the recent public art in the redeveloped RopeWalks area near to the gallery, such as Banksy's 'Cat'.

Reading List

David Cottington, *Modern Art: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford, 2005

Andrew Graham-Dixon, *Art: The Definitive Visual Guide*, Dorling Kindersley, 2008

Julian Stallabrass, *Contemporary Art: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford, 2006

Simon Wilson, *The Tate Guide to Modern Art Terms*, Tate Publishing, 2008

Useful Websites:

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/walker/>

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/vgm/index.html>

<http://www.tate.org.uk>

<http://www.artinliverpool.com>

<http://www.fact.co.uk>

<http://www.thebluecoat.org.uk/>

<http://www.openeye.org.uk/>