SPANISH ART AND CULTURAL HERITAGE
Art and Architecture

Course contact hours: 45
Recommended credits: 6 ECTS – 3 US

OBJECTIVES

This course gives an overall view of the art history of Spain from prehistoric times to the present, dealing in more detail with Romanesque, Gothic, Baroque, Modernism and 20th century art. There will be regular visits to museums in order to keep the course as close to real artistic practice as possible. However, this course also has a special focus on the theory aspects of Art History, which we will develop throughout the in-class sessions. Attendance to class and oral participation is very important, and all students are expected to contribute to the class development with their questions and commentaries, preparing beforehand reading assignments and visits to exhibitions. These tasks will be discussed in class.

REQUIREMENTS

Fluent English

Visits to exhibitions are a required component of the course, and students are expected to pay the corresponding entry fee (often at a reduced group rate).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Discriminate Art Historical Periods.

2. Gain an understanding of art objects and traditions in their historical contexts and across cultures.

3. Be adept at identifying and comparing the values (social, political, religious, artistic, intellectual) of diverse cultures through studies of the arts produced by these cultures.

4. Understand 'sacred' vs. 'secular' art and begin to consider the impact of religion and politics in the shaping of visual art.

5. Be able to identify individual art works and architectural monuments by artist's name, title, medium, location of origin, and period of production.

6. Understand the parts of a building and the employ accurate terminology to describe an elevation and a plan.

7. Comprehend the advancements of technology as it impacts art.
8. Observe works of art in a gallery or museum setting and objectively translate and interpret them.

9. Be able to use knowledge and awareness of art terminology and concepts.

10. Have the ability to form and validate personal and others’ opinions through knowledge of artistic movements and sociohistorical events.

11. Demonstrate mastery of analytical skills such as observation and inductive reasoning in interpreting works of art both as formal structures and in relation to social and cultural contexts.

12. Work with others to research and present material via written and oral media.

**CONTENTS**

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<th>Introduction to major twentieth century artistic figures. Picasso, Miró, Salvador Dali and Remedios Varo. Look at the movements with which they were associated and look in detail at key works.</th>
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<td>Modernism and how it was reflected in contemporary art and design. Minimalism. The development of Post modernism and emergence of Pop Art in US; Europe and Spain.</td>
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| *Exhibition Visit relating to work covered in class*  
  Art in the 70’s Ephemeral Art  
  * When attitudes became art*, Harald Szeemann, Suisse 1968  
  Important influential movements from the 1960, breaking with tradition and the reaction to Pop Art... Ephemeral Art: Art Povera. |
| Important influential movements from the 1960s continued, Land Art, Body Art and Feminist Art. Reading material and examples.  
  *Visiting artist whose work is related to areas being covered in class.* |
| Spanish painting and sculpture 1960s.  
  Chillida, Orteiza, Tapies, Saura, Brossa, Guinovart, Canogar, Millares......  
  Analysis of sculptural and pictorial issues, technique, artist work progress, development of style.  
  *MACBA library study session.* |
| Mid-term Presentations |
| Mid-term presentation overflow if necessary.  
  Mid-term Feedback  
  *Spanish painting and Sculpture museum visit* |
| Introduction to Conceptual Art and conceptualism in Spain in the ‘60s and ‘70s  
  Encuentros en Pamplona, Ibiza  
  Antoni Llena, Grup de treball, Antoni Muntades, Francesc Abad, Fina Miralles, Francesc Torres, Àngels Ribé... |
| Art in the 1980s  
  Documenta de Kassel 1982  
  New Painting Movements, German Neo Expressionism, Italian Transvanguarda... |
TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Classes will be conducted in seminar format promoting student participation. Attendance is not compulsory, but is crucial to attain a satisfactory grade. The student’s active participation to assigned individual and group presentations is essential during the semester. Visits to Museums, Galleries and Private art collections directly complement class seminars. It is important to remark that most of the theoretical material covered in class is fundamental to undertaking the case studies and the final exam. Students will also have access to external academic libraries which they are encouraged to use to source information for their studies.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Mid-term exam: 20%
Exhibition Papers: 15%
Class participation and in-class Presentation: 25%
Final Exam: 40%

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Required reading:


Recommended reading:

Manchester University Press.

Selected bibliography in Spanish and Catalan

General art collections
HISTORIA DEL ARTE HISPÁNICO. Varios volúmenes. Editorial Alhambra.