

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: CONTEMPORARY ART IN ITS CONTEXTS
Status: Definitive
Code: **7001HB** (116496)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool School of Art & Design
Teaching School/Faculty: Institut D'Etudes Superieures Des Arts

Team	Leader
Stuart Borthwick	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7
Credit Value: 30.00
Total Delivered Hours: 137.00
Total Learning Hours: 300
Private Study: 163

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	90.000
Seminar	45.000
Tutorial	2.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS2	Essay of 4000 words	60.0	
Reflection	AS1	Learning plan and literature review	40.0	

Aims

*To have a thorough understanding of the social, political and economic background of the contemporary art market from c1900 to the present day in order to be able to critically assess current structures and practices.
Analyse and assess the mechanisms and structures with the at market today using a variety of research methodologies.
To provide a thorough understanding by which the production, presentation and*

exchange value of contemporary art can be analysed and defined, seeking a synergy between various disciplines.

To develop advanced critical skills of analysis and a conceptual understanding of research methodologies in the field of contemporary art.

To be able to research, analyse and discuss the work or career of the artist within its aesthetic and economic context and exchange values.

To develop students' ability to work critically and independently, presenting ideas in an original, cogent and well-constructed argument.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Place contemporary art within its historic, social, political and economic context from c1900 to the present day.
- 2 Critically assess the mechanisms and structures within the art market today, based on a thorough knowledge and understanding of the research methodologies used by social, cultural and economic historians.
- 3 Evaluate critically the methods by which a work of art or artist is presented and valued in the contemporary art market in relation to shifting modes of dissemination and commercialization.
- 4 Demonstrate advanced critical skills of analysis and a conceptual understanding of research methodologies in the field of contemporary art.
- 5 To use multi-disciplinary tools to describe, analyse and contextualize the historical and contemporary practice of the art market.
- 6 Work critically and independently, presenting ideas in a cogent and well-structured argument.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

4000 words	1	2	3	4	6
Learning Plan and Lit. Review	4	5	6		

Outline Syllabus

Semester one:

each week focuses on a specific issue and examines it through the lens of cultural history and art history. Students investigate the FIAC art fair as a case study of the presentation of contemporary art. Visits to museums place the art object in the development of contemporary art. The study trip to Berlin focuses on the historic development of art in the first half of the twentieth-century in addition to the examination and exploration of an important centre of contemporary art.

Themes include: the historic context for the origins of the contemporary art market in Paris, the development of the avant-garde between collector and dealer, the birth of

cultural politics and the notion of public good, the art market and economic crisis, the American model of the private foundation, the development of public collections of modern art.

Semester two:

Each week explores different themes through discussions with professionals in the art world and visits to museums and galleries to study contemporary art on display in London. Themes include: popularisation and public patronage, the power of display: changing forms of display as an index of market demands, the trajectory of the commercial art dealer, the world of art and the word of art, the editorial manners and roles of art trade magazines.

Learning Activities

Taught sessions are through lectures and visits to museums, dealers and contemporary art fairs in Paris and London, Basel, Glasgow and Liverpool. Students will identify, analyse, discuss and debate key issues in weekly workshops and present research in seminars. Individual learning is through seminars and written assignments, which include a study plan and literature review and a critical review of the work of an artist.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Assouline, P.
Publishing Year	1991
Title	An Artful Life
Subtitle	A Biography of Kahnweiler, trans. Charles Ruas
Edition	
Publisher	Fromm International Pub. Corp
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Braudel, F.
Publishing Year	1992
Title	Civilization & Capitalism 15th-18th Century
Subtitle	The Structures of Everyday Life Vol. 1-3
Edition	
Publisher	University of California Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Greenberg, C.
Publishing Year	1973
Title	Art and Culture

Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Thames and Hudson
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Hobsawn, E.
Publishing Year	1995
Title	The Age of Capital 1848-1875
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Weidenfeld & Nicolson
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	O'Doherty, B.
Publishing Year	1999
Title	Inside The White Cube
Subtitle	the Ideology of the Gallery Space
Edition	
Publisher	University of California Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Richard, S.
Publishing Year	2009
Title	Unconcealed the international network of Conceptual Artists 1976-77 Phd Anglia-Ruskin University
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, Ridinghouse Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Schlain, L.
Publishing Year	1999
Title	The Alphabet and the Goddess
Subtitle	the Conflict between Word and Image
Edition	
Publisher	Allen Lane
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Schubert, K.
Publishing Year	2000
Title	The Curator's Egg
Subtitle	The Evolution of the Museum Concept from the French

	Revolution to the Present Day
Edition	
Publisher	London: One Off Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Staniszewski, M.
Publishing Year	1998
Title	The Power of Display
Subtitle	a history of exhibition installations at the Museum of Modern Art
Edition	
Publisher	MIT Press
ISBN	

Notes

The year-long module takes place at the IESA premises, Paris (September to January) and at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, London (February to June).