

ARTH 112

ART HISTORY 2: AFTER THE REVOLUTION



Mark Rothko, *No. 14*, 1960, oil on canvas, 290.83 x 268.29 cm (San Francisco Museum of Modern Art)

Art History

School of Art History, Classics and Religious Studies Victoria University of Wellington

> Trimester 2, 2010 12 July to 13 November 2010

ARTH 112 ART HISTORY 2: AFTER THE REVOLUTION

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 12 July to 15 October 2010 Study week: 18 to 22 October 2010

Examination period: 22 October to 13 November 2010

Course co-ordinator Peter Brunt, OK 310

Email: peter.brunt@vuw.ac.nz

Ph: 463 5805

Office hours: by appointment

Class times and locations All lectures are in Hunter (HU) LT 323

Wednesday & Friday 10.00 – 10.50 am

Weekly tutorials will be held in Old Kirk (OK) 319. Tutorials begin in the third week of term (times to be

advised).

Lecturers Peter Brunt

Raymond Spiteri Roger Blackley Geoffrey Batchen Rebecca Rice

Tutors Stephanie Tzanetis (Tutor coordinator)

Peter Bisley Rene Gerlich Elizabeth Crayford

Tutor office hours and contact details will be advised

by your tutors in the first tutorial

For more information: See Blackboard (http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz)

Art History is situated on the 3rd floor (ground floor) of the Old Kirk building. You will find the Art History Office in OK 306. The Art History administrator is Pippa Wisheart, (ph: 463 5800). Notices regarding the course will be posted

on the board adjacent to her office.

For general information about Art History see:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/art-history/

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawlsrefunds.aspx

Course outline

ARTH 112 is an introduction to the history of art, its forms, functions, meanings and contexts, since the French Revolution. The course is organised chronologically though at various moments through the course attention is drawn to connecting themes, issues and topics. It complements ARTH 111 Art History 1: Rock Art to Revolution (covering art history before 1800).

The aim of the course is to give students an understanding of the key shifts in art practice that have occurred since the French Revolution. Thus students will be introduced to the historical terms and categories developed by art historians to explain the diversity of art since the eighteenth century. Within its broad chronology, ARTH 112 encourages students to see art as a product of particular times and places, and to appreciate that art's value is determined not by a set of universal and eternal standards, but in terms of particular social, political and cultural conditions and institutional frameworks.

In this way ARTH 112 expands upon conventional histories of art to question art history's assumptions and limits. The course recognises art history as a 'western' discipline developed to explain 'great' works of art, so we seek to alert students to the politics of such a project and to introduce material outside its terms, including the art of non-western and indigenous cultures, popular forms, new and alternative media, design and craft traditions.

Learning objectives

In this course you will:

- develop an understanding of the chronology of the history of art within a framework of ideas and themes
- be introduced to the skills of visual analysis; including a basic understanding of the techniques and materials of art
- be introduced to the language, theory and practice of art history, and the concepts needed to progress in the discipline
- develop skills of analysis and argument, to evaluate the visual and read selected art history texts with care, using both to construct an argument
- develop writing and editing skills in the presentation of art historical material
- develop basic library skills appropriate to the discipline
- be encouraged to participate in tutorial discussions

Lecture programme

Lectures are on Wednesday and Friday, 10.00-10.50 am, Hunter LT 323

Lecturers are Peter Brunt (PB), Raymond Spiteri (RS), Roger Blackley (RB), Geoffrey Batchen (GB) and Rebecca Rice (RR). Attendance at lectures is strongly recommended, as lectures provide the key basis for an understanding of the material covered in the course, and their contents are not available in any other form.

For each lecture, you should read the relevant pages (listed below) of the course textbook:

Kleiner, Fred S. & Christin J. Mamiya, *Gardner's art through the ages*, 13th ed. Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth, 2009.

(You may use the 12th edition [2005] but note that the page numbering will be different.)

1	Wed 14 July	Introduction: Europe in the age of Napoleon France's conquest of Europe and the plunder of its greatest art for the Musée Napoleon is related to the rise of a new approach to art history. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 751-783	PB
2	Fri 16 July	Modern history and the rise of nationalism Examines the changing nature of history painting since the French Revolution, reflecting the new attitudes to history which emerge in the romantic era. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 766-793	RB
3	Wed 21 July	Romantic landscape Examines the attitudes to nature evident in the romantic landscape art that developed in Britain, France, Germany and the New World. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 793-798	RB
4	Fri 23 July	Madness and genius: the imagination in romantic thought Reveals how the romantic period stressed the expressive potential of art, encouraging artists to explore the irrational and unconscious. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 784-793	RB
5	Wed 28 July	Eroticism and orientalism in 19th-century art Explores the impact on European art of colonial expansion, including the academic appropriation of ancient or mythological worlds to stage erotic displays. Reading: Nochlin, 'The imaginary orient' in Handbook, pp 36-49	RR
6	Fri 30 July	Images of the floating world: Japanese <i>Ukiyo-e</i> prints Considers the development of the woodblock print in Japan in the late 18th and early 19th centuries and the subsequent reception of these prints by the west. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 735-794, 829	RR
7	Wed 4 Aug	Great Exhibitions: the Empire and its others Explores London's Great Exhibition of 1851 and other events through which imperial nations expressed their power and prestige	RR

Reading: Gardner's 13th edition, pp 810-814

8	Fri 6 Aug	Photography and the modern world Considers the development of photography from the mid 19th century and its relationships with other art media. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 814-818	GB
†	Fri 6 Aug	ESSAY 1 DUE	
9	Wed 11 Aug	The modern city and scenes of bourgeois leisure Looks at how Paris became a glittering centre of leisure and consumption, inspiring artists to focus on contemporary urban life. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 822-831	RS
10	Fri 13 Aug	European art at the fin de siècle Investigates how and why late 19th-century artists – from the primitivist fantasies of Gauguin in Tahiti to the mystical reveries of Redon in Paris – retreated from naturalism in search of deeper meanings. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 831-843	RB
11	Wed 18 Aug	Modernity and the avant-garde I: movements and manifestos Examines the concept and practice of the avant-garde with reference to the first two decades of the 20th century. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 909-939	RS
12	Fri 20 Aug	Modernity and the avant-garde II: Abstraction Traces the history of abstraction in 20th-century painting as one of the key developments of modernist art. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 948-953, 970-978	RS
		Mid trimester break 23 August to 5 September	
13	Wed 8 Sept	Modernity and the avant-garde III: conformity, dissent and utopia Examines purism and surrealism in France and constructivism in Russia as examples of how avant-garde movements between the wars laid claim to and contested the culture of modernity. Reading: Gardner's 13th edition, pp 926-950	PB
14	Fri 10 Sept	Other modernisms: The Harlem Renaissance and Mexican modernism Examines two examples of modernism outside the European and American mainstream. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 936, 956, 958-960	PB
15	Wed 15 Sept	The International Style Traces a history of modern art, architecture and design focusing on those artists, architects and designers who were working to realise their utopian vision of an integrated programme of modern design in tune with the realities of modern life. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 960-966	PB

16	Fri 17 Sept	Art and mass culture Examines the relationship between modern art and mass culture. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 981-987	PB
17	Wed 22 Sept	The American avant-garde Explores abstract expressionism and minimalism as two distinctively American developments that have had a profound impact on the history of art after 1945. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 972-987	PB
18	Fri 24 Sept	Art in the age of discontent: 1968 and its aftermath Looks at developments in art in the late 1960s and 1970s in the context of the various social upheavals that occurred at this time. Reading: Cooke, Lynne, excerpts from 'The Independent Group: British and American Pop Art, in Handbook, pp 112-119; Gardner's 13th edition, pp 1014-1020	RS
†	Fri 24 Sept	ESSAY 2 DUE	
19	Wed 29 Sept	What is postmodernism? Introduces and defines the key concepts of postmodern art and theory. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 987-1024, 1008-1013	RS
20	Fri 1 Oct	Appropriating art and the art of appropriation: New York in the 1980s Examines the art scene in New York in the 1980s to provide a context for postmodern art. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 987-1002	RS
21	Wed 6 Oct	Postmodern art and the politics of difference Examines why and how social and cultural issues have been addressed by contemporary artists. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 994-1000	PB
22	Fri 8 Oct	Gender and identity in art after 1970 Examines how artists have explored their sexual identities to review the role the body plays as a key subject in art since the 1970s. Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 989-993	RR
23	Wed 13 Oct	New media art Explores the interface between technology and art since the 1960s, and the issues addressed through 'new media art'.	GB
24	Fri 15 Oct	Reading: Gardner's 13 th edition, pp 1021-1024 Art in today's world Considers the fate of art in an era of globalising communications technologies.	RR

Reviewing lecture images

Images shown in lectures are available for viewing on the web via Blackboard. They can be accessed from any terminal in the student computing suites on campus. A demonstration of how to access the images on the web will be given at the first tutorial, together with a handout with instructions for accessing Blackboard.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Downloading lecture images on home computers can be frustratingly slow. We recommend that you use the terminals on campus.

Course delivery

ARTH 112 consists of 24 one-hour lectures and 9 one-hour tutorials as outlined here. Please note that tutorials are discussion-based and we expect that you do the reading before your tutorial and come prepared to participate.

Tutorial programme

Tutorials are compulsory (You must attend a minimum of 7 out of 9 tutorials.) Tutorials are important as they supplement lectures. They provide an opportunity to deal in more depth with some of the ideas and issues raised and they are the best context for you to ask questions about the course.

To benefit from and participate in the tutorial programme it is essential that you read the set readings for each session that are given below. Readings for the tutorials are in your **ARTH 112 Course Handbook** which is available from the Memorial Theatre foyer for the first two weeks of trimester and then from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building. The Handbook also contains 'session cover sheets', a set of study questions for each group of readings. Use this to assist your comprehension of the texts. You should come to tutorial prepared to discuss your responses with your tutor and other students.

The tutorial programme for ARTH 112 begins in the third week of the course. The time and venue of the sessions will be announced in the first lecture.

Week beginning:

26 July Introduction + Nature and the Romantic temperament

As well as introducing you to your tutor, fellow students and ARTH 112, this tutorial will explore the various strategies with which 19th-century artists confronted a constantly changing but age-old natural world. We will consider how landscape became a vehicle for emotional and pictorial exploration in the nineteenth century.

Reading: Handbook, pp. 17-34

- Andrews, Malcolm, 'Nature as picture or process?', chapter 8 from Landscape and western art, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999, pp. 177-199
- Constable, John, 'Letters and notes on painting (1802-1836)', in Taylor, Joshua C., *Nineteenth century theories of art,* Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987, pp. 297-306
- Ruskin, John, 'Contrasted faculties: Millais and Turner', from Clark, Kenneth, *Ruskin today*, London: Penguin, 1964, pp. 217-218

2 August The imaginary orient

The idea of the 'orient' is investigated to consider the cultural dynamics that operate in depictions by European artists of 'oriental' subjects.

Reading: Handbook, pp. 36-49

• Nochlin, Linda, 'The imaginary Orient' (1982) in *The politics of vision:* essays on nineteenth-century art and society, London: Thames and Hudson, 1991, pp. 33-59

9 August Art and reproduction

Innovations in the technologies of reproduction are considered for their impact on the availability and value of works of art.

Reading: Handbook, pp 51-61

- Benjamin, Walter, 'The work of art in the age of mechanical reproduction', (1936) in Frascina, Francis and Jonathan Harris (eds), *Art in modern culture: an anthology of critical texts*, London: Phaidon Press, 1992, pp. 297-307
- Davis, Douglas, 'The work of art in the age of digital reproduction (an evolving thesis: 1991-1995)', in *Leonardo*, vol. 28, no. 5, 1995, pp. 381-386

16 August Baudelaire's *flâneur* and the modern subject

A text by Baudelaire is used to examine how the city and its crowds embody what he termed 'the heroism of modern life'.

Reading: Handbook, pp 63-81

• Baudelaire, Charles, 'The painter of modern life', (1863) in Mayne, Jonathan (trans and ed), *The painter of modern life and other essays*, London: Phaidon Press, 1964, pp.1-18, 24-40.

Mid-trimester break

6 September Modernisation, modernity, Modernism and the avant-garde

This tutorial investigates the notion of the avant-garde and its relationship to modernisation, modernity and Modernism.

Reading: Handbook, pp 83-92

- Harrison, Charles and Paul Wood, 'Introduction' to 'Part II: The idea of the modern world', in Harrison and Wood (eds) Art in theory 1900-2000: an anthology of changing ideas, (2nd edition), 2003, Blackwell Publishing, pp. 127-131.
- Marinetti, Filippo Tommaso, 'The foundation and manifesto of futurism', (1909) in Harrison, Charles and Paul Wood (eds), Art in theory 1900-1990: an anthology of changing ideas, 1992, pp. 145-149
- Boccioni, Umberto et al, 'Futurist painting: technical manifesto', (1910) in Harrison and Wood (eds), 1992, pp. 149-151
- Marc, Franz, 'The "Savages" of Germany' and 'Two pictures', in Harrison and Wood (eds) Art in theory 1900-2000: an anthology of changing ideas, (2nd edition), 2003, pp. 93-95
- Braques, Georges, "Thoughts on painting", (1917) and Pablo Picasso
 'Picasso Speaks' (1923), in Harrison and Wood (eds), 2003, pp. 214-217

13 Sept Dada and Surrealism

This tutorial will examine surrealist and dada practices, images and techniques for exploring ideas about desire, identity and the unconscious.

Reading: Handbook, pp 94-106

- Tzara, Tristan, 'Unpretentious proclamation', Seven Dada manifestos and lampisteries, Barbara Wright (trans), 1977, London: Calder Publications, pp. 15-17
- Breton, André, 'First Manifesto of surrealism', (1924) in Harrison and Wood (eds) Art in theory 1900-2000: an anthology of changing ideas, (2nd edition), 2003, pp. 447-453
- Kachur, Lewis, *Displaying the marvellous: Marcel Duchamp, Salvador Dali, and Surrealist Exhibition Installations*, Cambridge and London: MIT Press, 2001, pp. 78-88

20 Sept No tutorial

27 Sept Formalism and its critics

This tutorial uses the writings of 20th-century art critics to introduce the key tenets of formalist art criticism. We will then consider the challenges posed to formalism and its critics by Pop and conceptual art in the 1960s.

Reading: Handbook, pp 108-126

- Greenberg, Clement, 'Modernist painting', (1961) in Frascina, Francis and Jonathan Harris (eds), *Art in modern culture: an anthology of critical texts*, London: Phaidon Press, 1992, pp. 308-314
- Cooke, Lynne, excerpts from 'The Independent Group: British and American Pop Art, a "Palimpcestuous" Legacy', in Steven Henry Madoff (ed) *Pop Art: a critical history*, Berkeley, London: University of California Press, 1997, pp. 385-386, 389-396.
- Kaprow, Allan, 'The education of the un-artist Part I' (1971) in Jeff Kelley (ed), *Allan Kaprow: essays on the blurring of art and life*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993, pp. 97-109

4 October Key terms of postmodernism

Key concepts such as 'death of the author', pastiche and parody, quotation and appropriation are defined and explained.

Reading: Handbook, pp 128-150

- Barthes, Roland, 'The death of the author' (1968) in *Image/Music/Text*, Great Britain: Fontana/Collins, 1971, pp. 142-148
- Hopkins, David, 'Postmodernism: theory and practice in the 1980s', in After modern art: 1945-2000, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 197-231

11 Oct Art and the politics of difference

This tutorial examines two readings that express voices from the 'margins' which raise questions about issues of gender and cultural identity politics in the latter part of the twentieth century.

Reading: Handbook, pp 152-176

- Nochlin, Linda, 'Why have there been no great woman artists?', Art News, January, 1971, pp. 23-39, 69-71
- Fusco, Coco, 'Passionate irreverence: the cultural politics of identity', in Wallis, Brian et al (eds), Art matters: how the culture wars changed America, New York and London: New York University Press, 1999, pp. 63-73

Assessment

ARTH 112 is **assessed** by means of two essays (20% and 30%) and a two-hour examination (50%). **All** assignments must be submitted and the final examination sat for mandatory course requirements to be met.

The dates when assignments are due are as follows:

Essay 1 (1000 words) 20% 5 pm Friday, 6 August Essay 2 (1500 words) 5 pm Friday, 24 September

Final examination (2 hours) 50% that exam period (22 Oct to 13 Nov)

The date for your final examination will be announced later in the year. It is expected that you will be available to sit the exam during the examination period (22 October to 13 November), so don't make other plans until you know the actual exam date. This is **NOT** an open book exam.

Make sure you make a copy of your assignments and essay before placing them in the Art History assignment box in the foyer of Old Kirk, Level 3 (ground floor). You must attach an assignment or essay cover sheet to your work, and sign it. Late assignments and essays should be handed in to your tutor or the Administrator. Your tutors will inform you when marked assignments will be returned. This takes place in tutorials.

The course assignments are designed to fulfil the teaching objectives outlined on page 3. In particular:

The first essay requires you to read relevant art-historical and critical literature, testing your ability to organise this and to construct an argument. It provides an opportunity for you to investigate an aspect of the history of art in light of the themes and issues discussed in lectures, using specific examples to illustrate your points. You will be introduced to the conventions of art history writing and to the necessary skills to meet academic standards in the discipline.

The second essay will allow you to benefit from the feedback on your first essay and to further refine your writing skills. It will require a more polished execution of the essay assessment criteria.

The final examination will require you to review the entire course to ensure you have grasped key ideas and concepts and that you have a firm understanding of the chronology of art. You will be tested on your knowledge of specific works of art as well as expected to answer questions that both concentrate on specific aspects of the course and range across wider themes and issues.

Marking

Assignments and essays are marked by your tutors and lecturers with sample cross-checking to ensure similarity of grading occurs. A **second opinion** may be requested in the final assessment of any piece of written work. Your exam is marked by the lecturers with similar cross-checking.

Expected workload

The university recommends that approximately **13 hours per week**, inclusive of lectures and tutorials, be given to a 100-level course in order to maintain satisfactory progress. Please make sure you can set aside at least this amount of time throughout the course: it

is not worth taking on a greater workload than you can manage. All assignments are designed to develop your observational and analytical skills, as well as your abilities to research, write and present relevant material. Their nature and timing will help you evaluate and review your progress through the course.

Mandatory course requirements

The Mandatory course requirements are defined in the University Calendar. To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- a) Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- b) Attend at least **7 out of 9 tutorials**; a good contribution to tutorial discussions will make a difference to your grade if you are borderline
- c) Sit the final examination.

No assignments will be accepted after Friday 15 October 2010. All requirements are strictly enforced.

Art History has a policy that no extensions will be granted. If you have medical or other problems preventing you from meeting a deadline, you must contact your tutor or lecturer at the earliest opportunity. Without arrangements having been agreed to, late assignments and essays will be penalised by the deduction of two percentage points for each day beyond the due date. The reasons exceptions are not made are that we cannot privilege some students over others; we must adhere to a defined programme of marking; and results must be furnished to Student Records on time. It is also important that we ensure students keep up with the course.

There are limited aegrotat provisions for the internally assessed component of the course. You must sit the end-of-year exam to pass ARTH 112. Aegrotat passes for the examination can only be considered on the provision of a medical certificate and on the fulfilment of mandatory course requirements.

Essay writing:

You must pay attention to setting out, correct spelling and grammar. You should type your essay, presenting it double-spaced, on one side of the page, with a generous left-hand margin. Always proofread your essay carefully, or get a friend to do so, as poorly presented material can be very distracting for a marker, and will lose you marks. *Researching and Writing Art History Essays*, the handbook that sets out standard practice, is available from Student Notes and via Blackboard under Course Documents and is essential reading for the satisfactory completion of all art history assignments. This will provide you with clear guidelines to ensure you meet our standards for the writing of assignments. In particular, it notes that quoted passages must be properly acknowledged. Failure to do this could result in a claim of plagiarism. (See Victoria University of Wellington's policy on plagiarism on p. 23 of this course outline).

ESSAY 1

Due: Friday 6 August 2010

1000 words (20%)

Please read the instructions carefully. To do well in this essay you will need to address all parts of the question.

Question

Select one work from the list below and write a brief critical account of the **production** and **reception** of the artwork. Your answer should address the six points that follow the list of works.

- Jacques-Louis David, Oath of the Horatii (1784; Musée du Lourve, Paris)
- Casper David Friedrich, *Abbey in the Oak Forest* (1809-1810; Alte Nationalgalerie, Berlin)
- Francisco Goya, The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters, from Los Caprichos (1798; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.)
- Thomas Cole, The Oxbow (View from Mount Holyoke, Northhampton, Massachusetts, after a Thunderstorm) (1836; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York)
- Eugène Delacroix, Women of Algiers in their Apartment (1834; Musée du Lourve, Paris)
- James Mallord William Turner, Rain, Steam and Speed The Great Western Railway (1844; National Gallery, London)
- Gustave Courbet, The Stone Breakers (1849; formerly Gemäldgalerie, Dresden, destroyed in 1945)
- Paul Gauguin, Aha oe feii? What! Are you Jealous?) (1892; State Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, Moscow)
- Pablo Picasso, Still Life with Chair-Caning (1912; Musée Picasso, Paris)
- Marcel Duchamp, Fountain, (1917; second version 1950, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York)

1. Provide basic information about the work you have chosen to write on, that is, artist's name, title of the work, date, medium, dimensions, collection or current location.

You must use correct citation style for artworks – see Researching and Writing Art History Essays.

5 marks

2. Give a brief physical description of the work.

Here you should expand on the basic details listed above to characterise the work's appearance in terms of its scale, materials and visible qualities. Keep in mind that i) you will be looking at reproductions of the work, so you need to think about its actual physical characteristics; and ii) that its current location may not be the same as the one for which it was initially made (i.e., provenance).

5 marks

3. What is the subject of the work?

What is the work about? Is there a narrative or story? If it is figurative, what do the figures represent? If it incorporates text, what does it mean? If it is abstract, is there a

mood, an effect, an idea the artist is trying to convey? Are there symbols, metaphors or allegories at play in the work?

20 marks

4. What is the style of the work?

What is distinctive about its visual design, manner or arrangement? Is there a logic to its composition? How have colour and/or materials been used and to what effect? What mood does it convey? Can you relate it to other works you may know?

20 marks

5. What is the historical context of the work?

When and where was the work made? To what extent or in what ways does the work relate to its historical context? Has the significant of its context changed from when the work was initially produced (i.e., the history of the work's reception)?

20 marks

6. Include a bibliography of published works consulted in the preparation of the essay.

The bibliography should include a range of different publications, such as

- i) monographs on the artist or specific work;
- ii) journal articles that discuss the work;
- iii) exhibition catalogues or a catalogue raisonnée on the artist;
- iv) websites (such as the museum or gallery where to work is located).

You should adopt a critical attitude towards all source material, since the quality of published sources can vary from excellent to abysmal (particularly material published online). More information about appropriate sources for this essay will be provided in tutorials.

10 marks

Notes

All references must be properly cited. Refer to Researching and Writing Art History Essays, or use the reading list at the back of the course outline, for guidance on the correct citation of books, catalogues, and articles. If you use the Internet to locate required material, please ensure you follow appropriate conventions when citing the online source. In addition to a full citation of the page or article you must record the item's web address plus the date you accessed it.

The purpose of this assignment is twofold. First, it is an exercise in writing-up the result of a body of research. You will need to read a range of source material to identify the salient features of the work, organize this information in a coherent fashion, and apply it to the description and interpretation of a specific artwork. You need to keep in mind that the primary object of your discussion is the artwork, yet this work can only be approached through the prism of what other people have said about the work. Second, this assignment is an exercise in the mechanics of academic writing. It is important to learn the appropriate method for structuring an argument, using footnotes, citing sources, and compiling a bibliography.

This assignment is also designed to familiarise you with the University Library, particularly the **online catalogue**. Learning how to use the library is vital for your studies, particularly when you are required to research material for essays and assignments. For this assignment you should also make use of **databases** available online.

The library runs tutorials on the use of the catalogue and databases. You can access information about these either in person from staff in the Reference and Research section or online at http://www.vuw.ac.nz/library/instruction/practical-sessions.shtml. To ease demand, key items have been placed on Closed Reserve. A list of material on Closed Reserve and 3-Day Loan is also available online (go to the library homepage (http://www.vuw.ac.nz/library) then to the webbased catalogue and search Closed Reserve and 3-Day Loan under the course number).

ESSAY 2

Due: 5pm Friday 24 September 1500 words (30%)

Select ONE of the following:

- 1. The history of art from the French Revolution to the present has been characterised in terms of the values of progress and newness, and yet for various reasons artists have been concerned with the past. Discuss this statement with reference to ONE of the following:
 - the use of historical themes or subjects by Romantic artists;
 - the fascination of modern artists' with the iconography of modern life;
 - the fascination of modern artists' with 'primitive' art forms and life styles;
 - the return to historical styles and subjects by postmodern artists.
- 2. While in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries galleries and museums became the primary sites for the public display of art, artists have consistently challenged the limitations of those spaces. Focus on ONE of the following phenomena and describe how and why artists have tested the institutionalisation of art:
 - Artist-run exhibitions and exhibition spaces;
 - Site-specific and installation art;
 - performance art;
 - new media art.
- 3. Examine the ways in which certain styles and theories of modern art in the nineteenth and/or twentieth centuries became associated with *utopian* ideals. You may concentrate on one example OR contrast two or three.
- 4. Discuss how EITHER women OR non-western cultures have been represented in the history of art after 1800. Consider the implications of these depictions and conclude with a consideration of how EITHER one woman artist OR one artist of non-European heritage has sought to contest these stereotypical representations in their art.
- 5. Discuss the evolution of photography as an artistic medium from its discovery in the mid-nineteenth century to its role in the world of contemporary art. How has the status of photography been transformed in the context of contemporary art?

Criteria for assessment of essays:

Assessment of your essays will be based on the following criteria:

- understanding and definition of question;
- formulation and development of argument;
- use of visual and written resources;
- originality and independence of thought;
- mechanics (legibility, presentation, grammar, spelling, documentation).

Reading

The set text for ARTH 112 is: Kleiner, Fred S. & Christin J. Mamiya, *Gardner's art through the ages*, 13th ed. Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth, 2009. (You may use the 12th edition [2005] but note that the page numbering will be different.)

We strongly recommend you buy this book. It is available from VicBooks. Only a limited number of copies will be available in the VUW Library.

Reading material essential for tutorials is provided in the **Course Handbook**. This is available from VicBooks and should be bought by all students. Art History's *Researching and Writing Art History Essays* is available on Blackboard.

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of VicBooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from VicBooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am - 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

In addition to these, the following titles are either on **closed reserve or three day loan**. (A few titles are not, as they are in the Architecture and Design library.) These resources complement the basic set texts for the course and have been selected on the basis of the lecture programme contents. Additional reference material relevant to individual lectures may also be included on the image lists handed out in lectures.

General introductions to art history and theory:

Berger, John, Ways of seeing, London: BBC and Penguin Books, 1972. ND1150 W359 Carrier, David, Principles of art history writing, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania State University Press, [1991], 1994. N380 C316 P

Carter, Michael, Framing art: introducing theory and the visual image, Sydney: Hale & Iremonger, 1990. N70 C324 F

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The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

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