

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Module Title	Modern and Contemporary Chinese Art
Module Code	ART 422
Module Credits	5
Pre-requisites (including Year 1)	N/A

Description

Course Overview
<p>This course aims to offer a comprehensive exploration of the critical history of modern and contemporary Chinese art, spanning from the conclusion of the Qing dynasty in 1911 to the present day. Throughout the course, we will delve into key art movements, prominent artists, regional artistic developments, and the underlying conceptual foundations that have shaped Chinese art during this period. Our examination will encompass various art forms, including painting, sculpture, mixed media, video, photography, and installation art. We will focus on significant artistic achievements, chosen for their exceptional quality and historical significance.</p> <p>Our approach will involve a deep analysis of individual artworks and major artistic styles within their historical context. Furthermore, we will explore how these artworks relate to the broader cultural landscape, considering aspects such as religion, philosophy, literature, as well as the political and social history of China.</p>
Method of Teaching and Learning
<p>This module will be taught using a combination of lectures, tutorials and consultation hours. Learning will also be reinforced by appropriate readings from the course text.</p>
Syllabus
<p>Modules</p> <p>Module 0</p> <p>Introduction and Overview of the Course</p> <p>Module 1</p> <p>China 1911-1949, the Modern Period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claudia Brown and Ralph Gabbard, "Transition" • Claudia Brown, "'On the International Stage" • Janet Baker, "On the Mainland and Out of Bounds"

- Michael Sullivan, *Art and Artists of Twentieth Century China*, pp 27-51
- Talks at Yan'an Forum on Literature and Art
- Lecture by Dr. Claudia Brown, "Some Precursors of Contemporary Art in Asia: China."
- The Life and Times of Pan Yu-liang

Final project requirements will be posted in Module 1, so that students will have sufficient time to think about how they want to present it.

Module 2

China 1949-1976, the Socialist period/Mao period

- Claudia Brown and Ralph Gabbard, "History painting"
- Claudia Brown and Ralph Gabbard, "Cultural Revolution"
- Claudia Brown and Ralph Gabbard, "Jiang Qing and Cultural Revolution Taste"
- Julia F. Andrews, "The Art of the Cultural Revolution"
- Jacopo Galimberti, et al. "Introduction: the art of contradiction"
- Gao Minglu, "Avant-Garde and Revolution in Twentieth-Century Chinese Art."
- Lecture by Dr. Ralph Gabbard: "Thoughts on the Cultural Revolution."
- Art in the Cultural Revolution: The Establishment of a New Image
- China: Art, Power and Revolutions, 1950-1976
- The Revolution They Remember

Module 3

China 1976-1984, the Beginning of Contemporary Chinese art

- Claudia Brown and Ralph Gabbard, "Pictorial Realism," "Folk Art Connection," "Legacy in Ink Painting," "No Name Group," "Stars Group," "Grass Society," "Anti-Spiritual Pollution Campaign"
- Li Xianting, "About the Stars Art Exhibition"
- Wu Hung, *Contemporary Chinese Art: Primary Documents*, pp. 5-18.
- Gao Minglu. "Chapter 2: Academicism and the Amateur Avant-Garde in the Post-Cultural Revolution Period (1979-1984)."
- Paul Gladston, *Contemporary Chinese Art: A Critical History*, pp. 84-163.
- Lecture by Huixian Dong: "The Beginning of Chinese Contemporary Art."
- The No Name Painting Association
- Wang Keping, the sculptor, talking about The Stars Art Group

Module 4

China 1985-1989, '85 New Wave and the Arrival of Avant-Garde

- Wu Hung, *Contemporary Chinese Art: Primary Documents*, pp.51-78
- Gao Minglu, "Chapter 3: The Map of the '85 Avant-Garde Movement."
- Gao Minglu. "Chapter 4: The "China/Avant-Garde" Exhibition of 1989."
- Paul Gladston. "The Northern Art Group (Beifang yishu qunti)."

- Paul Gladston. "'Xiamen Dada (Xiamen Dada)."
- Song Ling in Conversation with Paul Gladston.
- Lecture by Huixian Dong, '85 New Wave
- Xiao Lu, Performance at the China/Avant-Garde Exhibition
- Gu Wenda, Interview
- Inner Visions: Avant-Garde Art China

Module 5

China 1990-2000, Globalization and the Art Market

- Zhang Huan, Ma Liuming, and Qian Zhijian. "Performing Bodies: Zhang Huan, Ma Liuming, and Performance Art in China."
- J P. Park. "The Artist Was Present: Documentation, Reconstruction, and Interpretation of Performance Art in China."
- Xu Hong, Tao Yongbai, and Lin Tianmiao, Contemporary Chinese Art: Primary Documents. pp 193-197.
- Sasha Su-Ling Well and, Experimental Beijing, pp. 1-40.
- Merlin, Monica, Women Artists in Contemporary China
- Peggy Wang, "Chapter 5: Zhang Peili, Dangers of Definition"
- Peggy Wang, "Art Critics as Middlemen: Navigating State and Market in Contemporary Chinese Art, 1980s-1990s."
- Lecture by Huixian Dong, Chinese women artists
- Julia F. Andrews, Women Artists in Twentieth Century China: A Prehistory of the Contemporary
- Peggy Wang, The Future History of Contemporary Chinese Art.
- Art Basel discussion, Early Days: The Chinese Art Market in the 1990s.
- M+ Walkthrough with Curators Pi Li and Yokoyama Ikko

Module 6

China 2000-2022, New Trends

- Christopher Beam. "Beyond Ai Weiwei: How China's Artists Handle Politics"
- Richard Vinograd. "Making Natural Languages in Contemporary Chinese Art."
- Rebecca Jennison. "Painting Life Back into History—Hung Liu's 'Hard-Won' Feminist Art."
- Michael Young. "He Gong: Chengdu Studio Visit"
- Zhou Ying. "Chapter 6 The Contemporary Art Ecologies."
- Xu Bing, Intellectual by Nature, Poet at Heart
- Xu Zhen, 'Artists Change the Way People Think
- Art in Smog

Assessment

Assessment Type	% of Final Mark
Midterm Exam 1	25%
Midterm Exam 2	25%
Final Exam	30%
Homework	15%
Course Participation	5%

Textbooks

Mandatory Textbooks

Title	Author	ISBN/Publisher
Contemporary Chinese Art: Primary Documents	Wu, Hung	9780870706479/The Museum of Modern Art
Total Modernity and the Avant-Garde in Twentieth-Century Chinese Art.	Gao, Minglu	9780262014946/The MIT Press

Optional Textbooks

Title	Author	ISBN/Publisher
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Reference Textbooks

Title	Author	ISBN/Publisher
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