

Queen Mary Summer School 2020

SUM501E Artistic Rebellion in London and Paris
School of Languages, Linguistics and Film

Course outline

Date: 29 June - 17 July 2020

Level: 5

Credits: 15 (Queen Mary credits)

Course leader: Cary Mackay (c.mackay@qmul.ac.uk)

Assessment: 2 x 1,000 word essays (40% each), 10 minute in-class presentation (20%)

Course description:

This course investigates how artists in London and Paris responded to the political, social and technological transformations taking place in European society from 1870 to 1980. It takes a look at the history of modernist art in Paris and its impact on cultural production in London, engaging topics ranging from the influence of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist painting on the Bloomsbury Group, to the influence of Situationism on Punk Rock. The course aims to encourage students to think about the construction of 'official' ideas of culture, and the varying means by which artists have generated their own aesthetics of resistance. Students can expect to make use of London's resources with trips to galleries and museums, as well as walking tours of historic locations.

Learning outcomes:

On completion of the module, students can expect to have acquired:

- knowledge of the political and social history of London and Paris, and the principal modernist and avant-garde artistic movements in Paris and their impact on cultural production in London.
- the tools to analyse a painting, photograph, collage, poster, journal or fanzine as a visual document, as well as the relationship between aesthetics and politics.
- an introduction to interdisciplinary studies.
- developed independent research and time management skills.

Approximate cost:

The tuition fees for the **Artistic Rebellion in London and Paris** course are **£1,700**. There may be additional costs for field trips, such as entry to exhibitions, which will be in the region of **£10 - £20**.

All reading material is provided digitally so you are not required to purchase any books.

Assessments:

The course assessments are not compulsory, however, if you wish to transfer credit for this course to your home university it is essential to complete the assignments.

2 x 1,000 word essays (40% each)

10 minute in-class presentation (20%)

Preparation:

Before you arrive on campus, it is advised that you familiarise yourself with the course content before it begins. You will be given instructions for accessing our Virtual Learning Environment (QMplus) before you arrive on campus.

Teaching:

The course is taught in two two-hour sessions per day (10.00 - 12.00 and 13.00 - 15.00), held Monday to Thursday each week. The morning session will predominantly be comprised of a lecture, while afternoon sessions will involve discussion and activities based on the material covered in the morning session.

Course content:

Session 1	A Europe of Revolutions: introduction to the course and course overview
Session 2	Modern Paris: Haussmannisation and Impressionism
Session 3	Anarchy and crisis in France: Post-Impressionism
Session 4	Aggressive Populism: Cubism and Futurism
Session 5	Bloomsbury: French and British freedoms
Session 6	The Rebel Art Group: Futurism and Cubism in pre-war Britain
Session 7	Field trip to Tate Modern.
Session 8	Anarchist or Marxist revolution? Dada and Surrealism
Session 9	Old and New Romances: British Surrealism
Session 10	Complete control: Situationism and the society of spectacle
Session 11	Anarchy in the UK: Art, Punk and Pop

Suggested reading:

Albright, D., *Putting Modernism Together: Literature, Music and Painting, 1872-1927*, John Hopkins University Press (2015).

Harrison, C., Wood, P. and Gaiger J. (eds.), *Art in Theory, 1815-1900: An Anthology of Changing Ideas*, Oxford: Blackwell, (1998).

Harrison, C., and Wood, P. (eds.), *Art in Theory, 1900-2000: An Anthology of Changing Ideas*, 2nd edition, Malden MA: Blackwell, (2003).

Hobsbawm, E.J., *The Age of Empire: 1875-1914*, New York: Vintage Books, (1989).

Please note that the information provided may be subject to change.