

FACULTY OF ARTS AND LETTERS

DEGREE COURSE: **FASHION AND DESIGN BA**

SUBJECT: HISTORY OF MODERN ART

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OBJECTIVES

This course is planned to:

1. provide a basic knowledge of the most important artistic facts from the beginning of the Fifteenth Century to the French Revolution, with a special focus on the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries, to provide a clear view of their historical evolution.
2. reconstruct the context of the most important modern masters, both in chronological and geographical terms.
3. analyse the most significant works of art produced in that period. It is very important to understand them on the basis of the different technical styles and to understand the relations with those who commissioned or purchased them.
4. learn how to read and understand the works of art, starting from those proposed in slides.
5. teach how to recognize the works of art, their chronological and geographical context.
6. develop a good competence of the technical lexicon, making use of the Glossary in the recommended textbooks.

CONTENTS

- 1) An overview of the most significant moments of modern art history:
 - a. From the beginning of the Fifteenth Century to the French Revolution (i.e. from the first Florentine Humanism to the spreading of Neoclassicism and the first Pre-romanticism in Europe);
- 2) Specific topics about the Fifteenth and Eighteenth Centuries:
 - a. The Renaissance: Filippo Brunelleschi, Donatello in Florence and Padua, Masaccio and Masolino at the Cappella Brancacci, Piero della Francesca, Bottega dello Squarcione, Mantegna in Padua and Mantua, Carlo Crivelli and Botticelli.
 - b. Rococò and its different phases;
 - c. Neoclassicism, Antonio Canova and Jacques Louis David;
 - d. Giambattista Tiepolo;
 - e. Vedutism, Canaletto, Bellotto.
- 3) Focused analysis of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries (Mannerism and Baroque): pivotal figures of painters, sculptors, collectors and patrons to allow an understanding of the evolutions of the stylistic typologies, and more importantly, of the birth of the collecting practice in the Seventeenth Century.

ASSESSMENT

Written exam: Multiple choice and open questions.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS

E. H. Gombrich, *The Story of Art*, 1950.

F. Haskell, *Patrons and Painters*, 1969.

H. Langdon, *Caravaggio. A life*, 2002.
