

# Contemporary Art and Art Education: Postmodern Art & Art Education

**GV5522, Spring 2008**  
3 credit hours (Graduate)  
Tuesday 6:30 ~9:20 PM  
Classroom: 美教 305B

National Hualien University of Education  
College of the Arts  
Dept. of Art Education  
Office TEL: 03/822-7106 ext. 1930

## Instructors:

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Office Hours: Wed. 11:00 am~2:00 pm and by appointment

## Course Description:

The concept of Postmodernism is as puzzling as the time frame of contemporary art. This ambiguity, however, is one of the characteristics of Postmodern art. In this class, we shall come to examine what Postmodern art is and what Postmodern art education is considered to be.

To be contemporary, we shall integrate modern technology into our postmodern pedagogy. In so doing, we are not only encounters of postmodern art, but also producers and meaning-makers of postmodern art.

## Course Objectives:

It is hoped that through the learning process of this class, you will

- Develop a better understanding of the contemporary art and art education of the Postmodern era;
- Acquire adequate language of art so as to be able to engage in the discourse of contemporary art, or art criticism;
- Acquire certain multimedia production skills so as to be able to produce multimedia ePapers

## Format of the Course:

This class will take place in such formats as DVD-watch, reading, writing, discussion, and gallery/museum visit, as well as multimedia acquisition and production.

### Required Texts:

- *Art:21* DVD (v.1~v.3). (v.4 recently published)
- *Art:21 Art in the Twenty-first Century* (v.1~v.4)
- *Postmodern Art Education* by Efland, Sturh, & Freedman
- *Art Education: Issues in Postmodernist Pedagogy* by Roger Clark

### Responsibilities and Course Policies:

1. **Attendance:** Timely attendance is honored. Your regular and timely attendance is required. PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE FOR CLASS.

All are required to attend the final weeks of presentations. Otherwise, your final grade might not be given.

All absences require an email to the instructor explaining the reason for the absence, preferably before the class meeting.

In order for an absence to be excused, you must provide appropriate documentation (i.e., a medical excuse from your doctor). The document must be received **no later than** the class following the absence, unless otherwise arranged with the instructor. **One's final course grade will be reduced by half a letter grade for each unexcused absence that occurs after one excused or unexcused absence.** One may fail the course due to poor attendance. It is your responsibility to meet with the course instructor to discuss extended periods of absence due to medical problems.

Three (3) incidents of unexcused tardiness and/or leaving class early equals to one unexcused absence.

Should you be absent, it's your responsibility to find out what you have missed and turn in your assignments in time.

2. **Guidelines for Class Discussions:** All are expected to use appropriate terms and language within all course discussion. Racial slurs, derogatory names or remarks disrespectful of the rights and dignity of "others" will not be tolerated. Beliefs and worldviews divergent from yours may be shared. Respect for those differences is to be maintained within the classroom.
3. **Class Participation:** Active participation in classroom is highly valued. Therefore, excessive absences and highly inconsistent participation will impact your grades negatively. Quality participation includes consistent attendance, obvious preparation for class, asking pertinent questions and offering relevant comments, taking notes, actively engaging in classroom discussions and other activities, working constructively in the group and submitting assignments on time.
4. **Late Assignments:** **Assignment grades are reduced by 1/2 a letter grade for every weekday an assignment has not been handed in after the assigned due date.** Late assignments can be handed in at the beginning of class on scheduled class days, during office hours, or in the instructor's mailbox.

5. **Plagiarism:** Copying or claiming someone else's words, ideas, or works (i.e., essays, term papers, in part or in full) as your own is considered plagiarism. APA or MLA citation style should be used when using words or ideas of other people. Suspected cases of plagiarism will lead to serious consequences that range from probation to expulsion. Be sure to consult the course instructor, if you have questions about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, or collaboration.

### **ADA Statement:**

If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability (defined by the office for the impaired services), please contact me as soon as possible, so that we can discuss the course format, your needs, and potential accommodations.

### **Assignments:**

Except the final paper, all assignments are due in **hard-copy** form at the start of each class, unless otherwise announced. The final paper's final draft should be turned in **hard-copy** form as well as **emailed**.

#### **1. Participation and Contribution**

Timely attendance and active participation are highly valued. Your contribution to the class is as helpful to your own learning as it is to others of this class.

#### **2. Exhibition ePaper**

For this assignment, you are required to attend a contemporary art exhibition. It does not matter whether the artists from Taiwan or not. As long as the artist still active in art production, that should be fine. Well-known artists who are not producing much right now will not fit into this category.

If doubt, we can discuss about it.

Your analysis of the exhibition should well-utilize contextual information about the artist, his/her style, academic background, personal background, and general trends of art that surround or influence the artist.

About the artist's artworks, you might use denotation- and connotation- analyses to dismantle meaning of the work or the artistic expressions.

#### **3. Final Paper (Draft 1 and Final Draft) and Presentation**

For the final paper, you are required to write about an artist, or artists, of your choice. You may choose one or a few; it's up to you. You should do your own research, write about the artist/s in terms of the artist's cultural context, and analyze how the artists make sense of the world.

**Grading:**

Participation and Contribution,	15
Exhibition ePaper	40
Final Paper (Draft 1: 15 + Final Draft: 30)	45
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TOTAL	100

**Grading Scale:**

A :	100-95	A-:	94-91		
B+:	90-87	B:	86-83	B-:	82-80
C+:	79-77	C:	76-73	C-:	72-70
D+:	69-65	D:	64-60	D-/F:	59 and lower

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References:

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- Lovejoy, M. (1989). *Postmodern currents: Art and artists in the age of electronic media* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Ann Arbor, MI: UMI Research Press.
- Smith-Shank, D. L. (2004). *Semiotics and visual culture: Sights, signs, and significance*. Reston, VA: National Art Education Association.
- Risatti, H. (1998, ed. & intro). *Postmodern perspectives: Issues in contemporary art* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Upper Saddle River: NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Romer, T. A. (2003). Learning and assessment in postmodern education. *Educational Theory*, 53(3) 313

**Postmodern Art & Art Education**  
GV5522 Spring 2008  
Tentative Schedule

	<b>Tue.</b>	Activities	Assignments	Reading Due	
W 1	02/26	Holiday			
W 2	03/04	Syllabus overview			
W 3	03/11	Artist DVD Discussion		Choose two postmodern artists	
W 4	03/18	Artist DVD Discussion	Exhibition & artist's info	Collected information	
W 5	03/25	<b>Visit an Art Exhibition</b>		Multimedia records (Library video-recorder)	
W 6	04/01 04/02	Multimedia e-Paper (Computer Lab)	Exhibition Report due		
W 7	04/08	Discussion	Multimedia ePaper due	Contemporary tech learning Rm 204, (lab time TBA)	
W 8	04/15	Artist DVD Discussion		Postmodern Art Ed 1	
W 9	04/22	Artist DVD Discussion		Postmodern Art Ed 2	
W 10	04/29	Artist DVD Discussion		Modernism vs Postmodernism 1	
W 11	05/06	Artist DVD Discussion		Modernism vs Postmodernism 2	
W 12	05/13	Artist DVD Discussion	Final paper topic	Modernist Paintings.	
W 13	05/20	Artist DVD Discussion		Postmodern Art 1	
W 14	05/27	Artist DVD Discussion		Postmodern Art 2	
W 15	06/03	Artist DVD Discussion	Final paper draft	Postmodern Art 3	
W 16	06/10	Independent work			
W 17	06/17	Presentations	Final paper due		