

Art Criticism

Code: 100558
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500239 Art History	OB	3	2

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: spanish (spa)

Some groups entirely in English: No

Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes

Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites beyond the usual third-grade degree.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The aim of the subject is to develop the knowledge, analysis and use of conceptual and methodological tools that allow the student to produce critical content in different areas of art.

The subject is structured in three aspects:

- From a diachronic point of view, there will be a tour of the main lines that have shaped the critical practice since the Second World War
- From a synchronic point of view, it will reflect on the current role of art criticism, rather, on the roles of criticism, basically in its extension towards curating as a configurator of content in art
- And, in a practical sense, the practice of art criticism will be worked on, both from writing and from curating and debate as a basic critical tool.

The subject is configured in strong correlation with the artistic practice and with the artistic manifestations in course. It will encourage critical analysis of the current status of art and the ability to make proposals. In this sense, the subject proposes a work seminar in which to articulate theory and practice.

1. Know the main lines of art criticism
2. Become familiar with tools of analysis and opinion
3. Work on writing and critical argumentation skills
4. Learn to develop projects in the different issues of the critic
5. Develop concepts related to curating as an extension of art criticism
6. Apply the ability to relate concepts and works and diverse cultural productions to each other.
7. Become aware of the relationship between current and critical activity

Competences

- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.

Learning Outcomes

1. Applying the iconographic knowledge to the reading of artistic imagery.

Content

Introduction to art criticism from the configuration of the art system: art and city; Baudelaire; Walter Benjamin
The American critical tradition from Clement Greenberg; the criticism to formalism; the question of gender and queer theory, from Guerrilla Girls, Douglas Crimp, activism against AIDS and gender studies.

Criticism as a critical state: the questioning of its effectiveness; the possible meteorological inescapability; the disappearance of critical space.

Tasks of criticism: curating as an extension of art criticism.

Criticism of art as a rapporteur: the consideration of criticism as a literary form of non-fiction; the definition of an author who speaks for others; the criticism of imagination and originality

Subjectivity vs. trans subject: the trans space of criticism and curating and the configuration of a contemporary subject.

Methodology

Autonomous activities are basically formed by reading and working on the evaluable texts as well as visits to exhibitions.

The directed activities consist of master classes with a high incentive to participation from the visits to recommended museums and artistic centers in the attempt that the discursive practice accompanies a critical praxis and analysis.

The supervised activities are formed by the contributions to the seminars, the contributions in the written tests and the public presentation of the projects of the students

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Master classes (curating introduction)	25	1	
Master classes (history of criticism, space of criticism, the story-teller and the Trans subject)	25	1	1
Type: Supervised			
Critical reading	20	0.8	1
Public presentation of a critical reading project about artistic practices	20	0.8	1
Seminar: the state of criticism; the description and the critical attitude based on the observation.	25	1	1
Type: Autonomous			
Critical reading and writing	20	0.8	1
Exhibitions visiting	15	0.6	1

Assessment

The evaluation is based in the contribution of the student in the dynamics of discussion of the subject and his contributions. It also proposes two evaluable exercises: the public presentation of a research paper; and a final written test.

The student's grade will be "not evaluable" when it has not been submitted to the totality of the tests either on the day indicated on the calendar or on the day of the re-evaluation. Even so, in order to have a re-evaluation option, he must have submitted a minimum of one of the two mandatory jobs and in no case must the grade be less than 3.5

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Implication in the discusiones in the main contents	20	0	0	1
Public presentation of a research paper	40	0	0	1
Writing of a critical essay on a current artistic manifestation	40	0	0	1

Bibliography

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GREENBERG, C. La pintura moderna y otros ensayos. Siruela: Madrid, 2006

GOLDSMITH, Kenneth. Escritura no-creativa: gestionando el lenguaje en la era digital, La caja negra, 2015

GUASCH, Anna. El arte del siglo XX en sus exposiciones: 1945-1995, Barcelona, Ediciones del Serbal, 1997

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MILLET, C. Le critique d'art s'expose. Editions Jacqueline Chambon: París, 1993

NICKAS, Robert. Live Free or Die, París, Les presses du réel, 2000

OBRIST, Hans. Breve historia del comisariado, Exit, 2010.