

**Current Artistic Works and Debates**

Code: 100579  
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500239 Art History	OT	3	0
2500239 Art History	OT	4	0

**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 specific entry requirements. However, English proficiency is desired for working with the bibliography and reference materials. Showing interest in the current socio-politic challenges, as well as, for art and its relation with technology and society is also highly recommended.

**Objectives and Contextualisation**

Context:

In the programme, current artistic production will be analyzed towards the understanding of the artistic involvement in our changing society, and how art interprets and communicates the crucial events redefining it.

With this aim will be studied the material and methodological research conducted by artists. Special attention will be due to how art interrogates himself about how our world is perceived and known? what is the situation of the human being in an ever increasingly complex world? what are their capacities for action?. Summarizing, the programme looks at the big challenges that our epoch is facing and how artistic creation deploys all available medium to propose possible alternate futures.

Objectives

After introducing the spaces and the ecosystem of contemporary creation and by means of the analysis of selected artworks:

- The students will gain knowledge of the contemporary creative environment and how it has evolved after the adoption of new technologies and media, also what are the new concepts and values arising during the process.
- They will learn how to contextualize the evolution of new forms of artistic production, the formation of new creative environments and what are the outstanding artists, events and publications.
- They will understand the relation between art, technology and society.
- They will know the concepts that define the evolution of contemporary art.
- They will acquire the domain of the material and historical analysis of contemporary creations.
- This programme offers additional tools enriching the formation of the student and their own creative proposals.

## Competences

### Art History

- Applying the specific scientific methodologies of the discipline of Art History.
- Critically analysing from the acquired knowledge a work of art in its many facets: formal values, iconographic significance, artistic techniques and procedures, elaboration process and reception mechanisms.
- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Interpreting a work of art in the context in which it was developed and relating it with other forms of cultural expression.
- Producing innovative and competitive proposals in research and professional activity.
- Recognising the evolution of the artistic imagery from the antiquity to the contemporary visual culture.
- 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.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Accurately defining and explaining an artistic object with the specific language of art criticism.
2. Analysing ideas about an artistic phenomenon in a given cultural context.
3. Analysing the creators of an artistic phenomenon in a specific cultural context.
4. Analysing the recipients of an artistic phenomenon in a specific cultural context.
5. Applying the iconographic knowledge to the reading of artistic imagery.
6. Connecting an artistic imagery with other cultural phenomena within its period.
7. Distinguishing the elaboration techniques and processes of an artistic object.
8. Efficiently presenting knowledge in oral and written form.
9. Encouraging creativity and fomenting innovative ideas.
10. Engaging in debates about historical facts respecting the other participants' opinions.
11. Examining an artistic imagery and distinguishing its formal, iconographic and symbolic values.
12. Explaining the reception mechanisms of a work of art.
13. Identifying the artistic imagery, placing it into its cultural context.
14. Identifying the main and secondary ideas and expressing them with linguistic correctness.
15. Reconstructing the artistic outlook of a particular cultural context.

## Content

The syllabus introduces current art environment by means of the analysis of a set of selected artworks they created in response to different subjects. The proposed artworks show art in relation with technologies and new production media, at the same time, that illustrate the artistic reaction to contemporary challenges like the adoption of artificial intelligence, the collapse of natural resources and the recent geopolitical changes.

- Art participation and democracy
- Art and gender
- Art simulacra and immersion. New representation environments
- Art and control
- Art and ecology (Anthropocene)

## Methodology

Attendance-based

The space of the classroom will be dedicated to the material and historical analysis of artworks from the current creative environment, they selected accordingly the subjects proposed in the contents.

In this space, the student will be also informed about cultural events and motivated to participate in the cultural city life.

Finally, the classroom will be the stage for the student's participative interventions and oral presentations

#### Tutorials

The students will receive methodological and bibliographical tutorship and will be guided in the realization of supervised activities.

#### Online mentorship

The teacher will encourage the creation of a group in one social network popular among the students. This group will be aimed to share information about interesting exhibitions and other useful materials.

### Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Master classes	40	1.6	3, 4, 2, 13, 5, 1, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 10, 15, 6, 8
Type: Supervised			
Written comentaries about artworks. Research work and oral presentation	40	1.6	3, 2, 9, 15
Type: Autonomous			
Individual preparation of homework	70	2.8	9, 14, 8

### Assessment

#### Critical review 1 and 2

During the course, the students must realize two critical reviews of artworks or exhibitions proposed by the teacher (25% + 25% final qualification)

#### Research assignment and oral presentation

Teamwork and classroom oral exposition. After organizing themselves in teams, the students will choose one subject from the list proposed by the teacher. After research about the subject, they must prepare a short classroom presentation (15 min.). They will be required to present the selected artworks in their context and to explain their relationship with the selected topic.

Conjointly the presentation, the students must deliver the developed research material for its evaluation. In addition to the quality of the research work, will be evaluated the capacity of the students for organizing themselves as a team and prepare an effective presentation. (20% of the final qualification)

#### Written test

At the end of the course will take place a written test, consisting of 5 questions to be developed by the students showing the correct assimilation of the taught programme (25% final qualification)

#### Participation

Due to the openness and actuality of the programme, it is important that the students participate and show interest by the current socio-political and cultural context. Participation in the classroom will be evaluated ( 5% of final qualification)

### Qualifications revision procedure

In the moment of realization of each evaluative activity, the teacher will inform the students (Moodle) about the reassessment procedure and dates.

### Reassessment procedure

To take part in the reassessment procedure it is required the previous realization of at least four of the evaluation activities, as well as not having punctuated under 2 in any of the realized activities. Please note that only failed assignments could be reassessed.

The reassessment of the research assignment and oral presentation will consist of the delivery of a research work made individually, including the explanation of the research procedure and the graphical presentation of the attained results. Classroom participation cannot be reassessed.

The reassessment of other activities will consist of the repetition of the failed test/coursework during the assigned reassess period.

## Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Classroom participation	5%	0	0	1, 10
Critical review 1	25%	0	0	3, 4, 2, 13, 5, 1, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 10, 15, 6, 8
Critical review 2	25%	0	0	3, 4, 2, 13, 5, 1, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 10, 15, 6, 8
Research assignment and oral presentation	20%	0	0	3, 4, 2, 13, 5, 1, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 10, 15, 6, 8
Written test	25%	0	0	3, 4, 2, 13, 5, 1, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 10, 15, 6, 8

## Bibliography

Manovich, Lev (2005) El lenguaje de los nuevos medios de comunicación. La imagen en la era digital. Paidós Iberica.

Shanken, Edward (2013). *Inventar el Futuro: arte - electricidad - nuevos medios*. Trans. [Everardo Reyes García](#) y [Pau Waelder Laso](#). Brooklyn: [Departamento de Ficción](#), 2013. ISBN: 978-0-9846555-1-9.

Cubit, Sean and Paul, Thomas (2013) *Relive*. MIT Press.

Hayles, Katherine (2002) *Writing Machines*, MIT Press.

Ryan Bishop, Kristoffer Gansing, Jussi Parikka, and Elvia Wilk (eds.) (2016), *across & beyond - A transmediale Reader on Post-digital Practices, Concepts, and Institutions*, Sternberg Press.