

Painting and Phenomena: A Seminar in Art Criticism

Intitulé du cours / Course title

Discipline <i>Academic field</i>	Aesthetics & Art Criticism
Enseignant <i>Teacher</i>	O'Neill CUSHMAN
Contact <i>E-mail address</i>	ocushman@gmail.com
Niveau de formation <i>Academic level</i>	2ieme Année
Volume horaire <i>Hours</i>	20h
Langue <i>Language</i>	English

Description du cours / Course outline

This is a reading-and-discussion-based class focused on understanding and seeing particular visual and philosophical phenomena in art and architecture, with a particular focus on paintings. Students will develop a sense of major themes and phenomena that underly the history of painting in France, Europe more broadly, and with other traditions that have had a particular historical and aesthetically influence on it. Each week, students will be assigned a short reading done by an artist, a philosopher, an art critic, a poet, a writer, an art historian, etc, and be asked to reflect on that reading. In class, we will discuss the reading together (this is not a lecture class) with the objective of coming to a deeper understanding of it. We will then examine a series or comparison of images, looking together at how these phenomena manifest themselves in the works of art. At the end, students will demonstrate an ability to evaluate a selection of paintings with all of these phenomena in mind.

Objectifs pédagogiques du cours / Course objectives

To provide opportunities for the student to:

- Develop their capacity to see.
- Combine studio art production with liberal arts disciplines.
- Enhance their awareness of the relationship between perception and imagination.
- Develop their historical and critical sense so that artistic expression is linked to a larger tradition.
- Formulate an integrative relationship between knowledge and intuition, perception and concept, self-expression and global awareness.

- The student will exhibit a deeper knowledge of the European artistic tradition, a perception of what may link one work of this tradition to another, and the ability to compare and contrast these works with those of other cultures.
- The student will improve their ability to dialogue, and read and write coherently about formal and content issues using specific examples at the level of form and specific phenomena to justify their aesthetic judgements concerning works of art.
- The student will demonstrate an on-going willingness to seek connections between the existing art forms of different periods and cultures with their attempts to articulate an individual point of view.

Plan de cours par séance / *Course content for each session*

- 1) Introduction and Orientation
- 2) Drawing - Statement by Rembrandt
- 3) Color - Delacroix "Conversation with Chopin", Baudelaire "Quelques Caricaturistes Français", Corot "Advice to Pissarro", Van Gogh Letters Nuenen Oct. 1885 & Arles July 1888
- 4) Statement and Rendering - Flannery O'Connor "The Nature and Aim of Fiction"
- 5) Light - Dante, "Canto XXXIII Paradiso, Divine Comedy"
- 6) Volume - Corot "Corot par lui meme" Selection, Leo Marchutz "Letter to Chappuis"
- 7) Form and Content - Lionello Venturi, "Painting and Painters"
- 8) Architecture - Christopher Alexander "The Timeless Way of Building"
- 9) Form - Étienne Gilson "Painting and Reality"
- 10) Tradition - TS Eliot "Tradition and the Individual Talent"

Références bibliographiques / Bibliography

Alexander, Christopher	<i>The Timeless Way of Building</i>
Badt, Kurt	<i>Cézanne</i> (selections)
Baudelaire, Charles	<i>Curiosités, Esthétiques</i>
Delacroix, Eugène	Journal and Correspondence (selections)
Danté	'Canto XXXIII Paradiso'
Eliot, T.S.	'Tradition and the Individual Talent'
Fry, Roger	<i>Cézanne</i> (selections)
Genet, Jean	<i>L'Atelier d'Alberto Giacometti</i>
Gilson, Etienne	<i>Painting and Reality</i> <i>Ontology of Paintings</i> 'Form and Being'
Marchutz, Leo	Letters to Adrien Chappuis
O'Connor, Flannery	'The Nature and Aim of Fiction'
Rewald, John	<i>Cézanne</i> (selections) <i>History of Impressionism</i> (selections)
Van Gogh, Vincent	<i>Letters of Vincent Van Gogh</i> (selections)
Van Hoogastraten	Rembrandt on drawing, 1640-48
Venturi, Lionello	<i>Cézanne</i> (selections) <i>Painting and Painters</i> (selections)

Mini CV de l'enseignant / Mini CV of the teacher

2016-Present: Professor of Art, Art History & Aesthetics, Institute for American Universities /

American College of the Mediterranean

2014-2016: Assistant Professor of Art, Art History & Aesthetics, Institute for American Universities /

American College of the Mediterranean

2016: Master of Fine Arts, the TransArt Institute, University of Plymouth, England

2011-2012: Fellow, The Marchutz School of Fine Arts, Aix-en-Provence

2011: BA, Philosophy, Kenyon College, Gambier, OH, USA