Course Description:

This is an introductory course for understanding and appreciating art. The course explores the relationship of art with society and culture. It introduces students to the history of art through major art movements. Furthermore, this course shall lead students to inquire about the need of human beings to create images. It shall study art as an image making process and shall study how technology shaped representation of images.

Beginning from the origins of art to the European Renaissance, surveying the art movements from the 17th to 19th century, the course shall focus on the complexities of 20th century Modern art in the West and then in India – this course shall familiarize students with the most iconic artworks of all times. Along with the major artists of the art movements, the aesthetic principles shaping these movements will also be discussed.

Course Outcomes:

After the course, the students will be able to:

- Engage with a work of art
- Develop an understanding of style, genre and overall effect in a piece of art
- Understand important movements in art history
- Develop a deep rooted appreciation of art
- Explore the relationship between the art practices and aesthetic principles shaping it through the socio-political background of the era

Selected Readings: (E-copies will be provided by the Instructor)

- *Ways of Seeing* – John Berger
- Sections from *The Story of Art* – E. H Gombrich
- Sections from *Aesthetics from Classical Greece to Present: A Short History* – Monroe C. Beardsley
- sections from *Gardner's Art Through the Ages* – Fred Kleiner
- “Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction” - Walter Benjamin
- “Avant Garde and Kitsch” - Clement Greenberg
- “Richard Mutt Case” - Marcel Duchamp
- “The Window and the Camera”, *Technology as Symptom and Dream* - Robert D Romanyshyn

Course Expectations:

- This is a reading intensive course
- Students are expected to interact in the class
**Evaluation Scheme:**

- Presentation / Class Discussion: 20
- Review Essay: 20
- Class Quiz: 20
- Term Paper: 40