# Course Outline

Course Number: ART 125  
Course Title: Topics in Contemporary Art  
Credits: 3  
Hours: 3 lecture  
Prerequisites: ENG 101 or divisional permission  
Co-requisities: None

### Catalog description:

Exploration of trends and topics in contemporary art from 1945 to the present, involving a diverse range of artists who challenge preconceived notions of the role of art in today’s society. Students learn to identify, analyze, and write about art through multi-media presentations, discussions, artists’ talks, and a field trip.

### Required texts/other materials:

* *Twentieth- Century American Art*, Erika Doss, Oxford History of Art

### Last Revised 2012

### Course Coordinator

Michael Welliver Ext. 3522  
wellivem@mccc.edu

### Information Resources

* *Art 21*, Season I, II, and III, DVDs, PBS Home Video,
* *American Visions*, VHS 5 tape set, PBS Home Video,
* *Twentieth Century American Art*, Erika Doss, Oxford History of Art
* *The Humanistic Tradition*: Volume 6: Modernism, Globalism, and the Information, Age, Gloria K Fiero, McGraw-Hill
* *Ways of Seeing*, John Berger
* *Beyond the Brillo Box*, Arthur Danto
* *Interpreting Art*, Terry Barrett
* Various periodicals including: *Artforum*, *Art in America*, *Bomb*, and *Flash Art*
* Various internet sites including [A sky filled with Shooting Stars](http://www.askyfilledwithshootingstars.com/wordpress/)

### Course Competencies / Goals:

The student will be able to:

1 Identify and analyze artists, trends and movements of the 20th century (from 1945to the present).

2 Contextualize the art of today within the societies that create it, including cultural and technological influences.

3 Argue the value of a given artwork and interpret it's meaning in group discussions.

4 Research and appraise artwork through written and oral presentations and develop a personal voice as an interpreter.

5 Question the complex motivations behind art being made today, including personal, political, and economic incentives.

6 Visit an art gallery or museum, and differentiate between viewing reproductions and original artwork. Write about the experience.

### General Education Knowledge Goals

Goal 1. Communication. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Goal 4. Technology. Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

Goal. 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Goal 7. History. Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance. Goal 8. Diversity. Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.

Goal 9. Ethical Reasoning and Action. Students will understand ethical issues and situations.

### MCCC Core Skills

Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

Goal B. Critical Thinking and Problem-solving. Students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills in analyzing information.

Goal C. Ethical Decision-Making. Students will recognize, analyze and assess ethical issues and situations.

Goal D. Information Literacy. Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Goal E. Computer Literacy. Students will use computers to access, analyze or present information, solve problems, and communicate with others.

Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation. Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations.

Goal G. Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility. Students will demonstrate an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness.