



# DART1300 Histories of Contemporary Art: Part 1

Term T1, 2019

## Course Information

**Units of Credit:** 6

## Course Overview

### Course Description

This course introduces you to the histories and contexts that inform the major themes of contemporary art. Marx and Engles famous phrase 'all that is solid melts into air' reflects the disruption in culture, society and politics over the last 150 years. This course will help you understand the unique role of art in creating, analysing and experimenting in a context of permanent change. It takes a thematic approach to art history, examining a variety of responses and strategies artists use across different cultures, disciplines and times so that you can locate the intersecting histories that inform contemporary art and visual culture. You will focus on the late 19th century to the 1960s to develop a foundational context for your future study. You will be introduced to formal and critical visual analysis, art theory and philosophy as tools for a deeper and more nuanced understanding of art. You will gain knowledge of the histories of contemporary art through activities that will develop academic research, reading and writing skills, critical discussion and reflection skills.

### Course Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify and describe the major themes and histories informing contemporary art.
2. Describe and interpret artworks using formal and critical visual analysis.
3. Demonstrate foundational academic skills to select appropriate sources, apply referencing conventions, and structure academic writing.

### Teaching and Learning in this Course

This courses uses a variety of teaching approaches:

#### Blended/online

- Review - assessment tool
- Turnitin - originality checking
- Echo360 - lecture recording
- Moodle - learning management system

#### Lectures

You attend a weekly lecture complemented by extensive audio-visual material, which introduces you to key themes, context, theories and examples drawn from art.

#### Tutorials

Weekly tutorials consist of small groups of twenty-five students. Complemented by audiovisual material as well as set readings the tutorials provide the appropriate framework for you engagement and discussion with course themes and relevant examples. You will build your analytical and interpretative skills through these strategies.

## Assessment

	TITLE	WEIGHTING	ASSESSMENT TYPE
Assessment Task 1	Critical Response File	50%	Extended Writing Task
Assessment Task 2	Academic Essay	50%	Extended Writing Task

## References for this Course

Resources (including course readings) are available on Moodle and [Leganto](#). UNSW Library is the primary resource for research.