

# Unit 09: Contemporary Art and the Future of Art

Content Area: **Fine Arts**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **9-12 sessions**  
Status: **Published**

## **Brief Summary of Unit**

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Art History Part 2 will provide students with an introduction to college coursework in art history. In this course, students will examine major forms of artistic expression from the Renaissance to the present. Their explorations will enable them to develop an understanding and knowledge of architecture, sculpture, painting, and other art forms within diverse historical and cultural contexts. It will also provide them with the opportunity to explore an area that is only cursorily explored through other curricula in more depth. They will learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to analyze what they see.

In this unit, students will explore Contemporary art and architecture. They will understand the history and contributions to the development of art and architecture that were and are being made by the artists at the end of the 20th century and now. Students will draw correlations between art/artistic traditions of the past and the work of contemporary artists. Through their exploration, students will be asked to project the possible directions art and architecture will move in the future

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## **Essential Questions/Enduring Understandings**

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What are some of the major influences on artists today and how are these influences reflected in their work?

What are the purposes of Art?

How can we know what will influence artists and the development of art in the future?

Aids, homelessness, global warming, issues of sexuality are some of the major influences on the art of our times.

The purposes of art in our times are defined by the artist and the viewer.

Artists create in a contextual framework that is not linear, but a vast web of influences – psychological, physical, metaphysical, spiritual, historical, political, social, et al.

Artists and designers experiment with forms, structures, materials, concepts, media, and

art-making approaches. Artists and designers balance experimentation and safety, freedom and responsibility, while developing and creating artworks. People create and interact with objects, places and design that define, shape, enhance, and empower their lives.

How do artists work? How do artists and designers determine whether a particular direction in their work is effective? How do artists and designers learn from trial and error? How do artists and designers care for and maintain materials, tools and equipment? Why is it important, for safety and health, to understand and follow correct procedures in handling materials, tools and equipment? What responsibilities come with the freedom to create? How do objects, places and design shape lives and communities? How do artists and designers determine goals for designing or redesigning objects, places or systems? How do artists and designers create works of art or design that effectively communicate?

Artists and other presenters consider various techniques, methods, venues, and criteria when analyzing, selecting and curating objects, artifacts and artworks for preservation and presentation.

How are artworks cared for and by whom? What criteria, methods and processes are used to select work for preservation or presentation? Why do people value objects, artifacts and artworks, and select them for presentation?

Through artmaking, people make meaning by investigating and developing awareness of perceptions, knowledge and experiences.

How does engaging in creating art enrich people's lives? How does making art attune people to their surroundings? How do people contribute to awareness and understanding of their lives and the lives of their communities through artmaking?

## **Students Will Know**

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- • Basic vocabulary Contemporary art and architecture. (Installation Art, assemblage, Outsider Art, Gorilla Art, Environmental Art, Earth Works, Digital and Video Art, Neo-realism, Neo-expressionism, Neo-classicism, High Tech Art, etc.)
- • Major art materials and mediums used by the culture and/or during the time period. (In particular the first use of oil paint.)
- • Major artists of the culture/time period.
- • The basic history of the time period being explored.
- • The characteristics unique to Contemporary art and architecture.
- • The geographical sites being explored.
- • The identification information of selected works of art from the culture/time period.

## **Evidence/Performance Tasks**

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- • Answer the essential questions.
- • Completion of homework and in class assignments derived from classroom activities (such as but not limited to: Readings, study guide activities and worksheets on Contemporary art and architecture. Written Assignment and Presentation: Present and discuss the work of Contemporary artist/art movement of your choosing. How does the work relate to art of the past? How is the work representative of our times? Why is this artwork significant? Use examples to support your essay/presentation.)
- • Ongoing notes, sketches, handouts, and reflections compiled in notebooks.
- • Participation in classroom activities such as: class discussion, Q and A sessions, cooperative group

projects, role-playing, critique sessions, etc.

- • Quiz: Contemporary Art and the Future of Art
- • Self and teacher assessment using teacher generated rubric.

## Learning Plan

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- • Homework debriefing and presentation “Art in the Future?” o Handouts related to topic of discussions. o Discussions and Activities
- • Homework debriefing and presentation “Feminist Art and the Gorilla Girls” o Handouts related to topic of discussions. o Discussions and Activities o Homework reading and study guide activity related to next class period topic.
- • Homework debriefing and presentation “Installations, Environmental Art, and Earth Works.” o Handouts related to topic of discussion. o Discussion o Homework reading and study guide activity related to next class period topic.
- • Homework debriefing and presentation “Performance, Video, and Digital Art ” o Handouts related to topic of discussions. o Discussions and Activity o Homework reading and study guide activity related to next class period topic
- • Homework reading and study guide activity related to next class period topic.
- • Presentations of Individual Research Papers o Video recording of presentations based on student preference o Discussions and Activities o Group, individual, and teacher evaluation of presentations and papers. o Homework reading and study guide activity related to next class period topic.
- • Preview the essential questions and connect to learning throughout the unit.
- • Unit Quiz
- • Written Assignment and Presentation: Present and discuss the work of Contemporary artist/art movement of your choosing. How does the work relate to art of the past? How is the work representative of our times? Why is this artwork significant? Use examples to support your essay/presentation. Use examples to support your essay.

## Materials

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Google Slide Deck, Google classroom, textbooks, handouts, Edpuzzles, quizlet, kahoot, videos, art reproductions, Flash Cards, Notebooks, Vocabulary Sheets, Khan Academy, Smarthistory

## Suggested Strategies for Modifications

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<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1whirPHhSur-WY5EGTzfLHayWczAu0O9Svu-0ggxyXFY/edit#gid=1426178898>

