



UNIWERSYTET
IM. ADAMA MICKIEWICZA
W POZNANIU

Visual arts in contemporary cultures

Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

Study programme Kulturoznawstwo (English programme) Speciality - Organizational unit Faculty of Anthropology and Cultural Studies Study level Second-cycle programme Study form Full-time Education profile General academic		Didactic cycle 2024/25 Subject code 20KENS.22K.04434.24 Lecture languages English Course type Obligatory Block Major subjects
Subject coordinator	Marianna Michałowska	
Lecturer	Marianna Michałowska	
Period Semester 2	Activities and hours • Classes: 30, Graded credit	Number of ECTS points 4

Goals

Code	Goal
C1	Familiarizing students with knowledge in the field of contemporary art and current interdisciplinary discourses focused on such issues as representation of a human body, gender, ethnicity and memory.
C2	Presentation of the method of "close reading" of particular artworks that lets to reveal social and cultural meanings of art. The theoretical concepts are accompanied with projections of examples of artistic practice.
C3	Presentation of main features of contemporary audiovisual arts: photography, film video and installations in terms of interdisciplinary cultural theories.

Subject learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Learning outcomes	Examination methods
Knowledge - Student:			
W1	A student knows theoretical concepts regarding to the field of visual culture.	KEN_K2_W01, KEN_K2_W02, KEN_K2_W08	Multimedia presentation
W2	A student knows significant artists representing different approaches towards contemporary art.	KEN_K2_W02, KEN_K2_W08, KEN_K2_W09, KEN_K2_W11	Multimedia presentation
W3	A student understands a relationship between art practice and social and cultural sphere.	KEN_K2_W02, KEN_K2_W08	Multimedia presentation
W4	A student knows the most important art collections, museums and festivals.	KEN_K2_W07	Multimedia presentation
Skills - Student:			
U1	A student is able to read critical and theoretical texts on arts and can apply an adequate methodology to analyzed problems	KEN_K2_U02, KEN_K2_U08	Multimedia presentation
U2	A student is able to write an essays on art.	KEN_K2_U06, KEN_K2_U08, KEN_K2_U09	Multimedia presentation
U3	A student is able to use the contemporary techniques of preparing a presentation and uses visual tools to prepare a documentation of an art event.	KEN_K2_U07, KEN_K2_U09	Multimedia presentation
Social competences - Student:			
K1	A student initiates and moderates discussions on contemporary art taking into account the cultural specificity of the group and the ethical consequences of the conversation.	KEN_K2_K04, KEN_K2_K07, KEN_K2_K09	Multimedia presentation

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject learning outcomes	Activities
1.	Visual arts and visual culture in the humanistic discourse.	W1, W2	Classes
2.	Zofia Kulik - Image in a discourse of power and the subject Shirin Neshat vs. Jenny Holzer - feminisms and cultures Richard Prince - masculinity against popular culture	W2, W3, U1, K1	Classes
3.	Bodies and bacterias. Post-humanistic turn in visual art Eija-Liisa Ahtila - art as an everyday experience Thomas Struth - science in art Angelika Markul and Kelly Jazvac - art in the anthropocene	W1, W2, W3, U1, K1	Classes
4.	Christian Boltanski - A work of memory at the threshold of individual and collective experience Krzysztof Wodiczko - subconscious of a public space Hubertus Siegert - a city as a palimpsest	W1, W2, W3, W4, U1, K1	Classes

No.	Course content	Subject learning outcomes	Activities
5.	Banksy and Peter Fuss – art on the street Bill Viola – new media metaphysics Conclusion – what do pictures want?	W1, W2, W3, W4, U1, K1	Classes
6.	The art of talking - students' presentations	U1, U2, U3, K1	Classes

Additional information

Activities	Teaching and learning methods and activities
Classes	Lecture with a multimedia presentation of selected issues, Case study

Activities	Credit conditions
Classes	<p>A student should prepare a short (10-15 minutes) oral presentation devoted to the interpretation of 2-3 art works by the selected contemporary artist in the chosen field of art (painting, film, dance, performance, etc.) in the context of cultural theories.</p> <p>Very good (bdb; 5,0): the student achieved the intended learning outcomes in accordance with the A grade standards</p> <p>Good plus (+db; 4,5): the student achieved the intended learning outcomes in accordance with the B grade standards</p> <p>Good (db; 4,0): the student achieved the intended learning outcomes in accordance with the C grade standards</p> <p>Satisfactory plus (+dst; 3,5): the student achieved the intended learning outcomes in accordance with the D grade standards</p> <p>Satisfactory (dst; 3,0): the student achieved the intended learning outcomes in accordance with the E grade standards</p> <p>Unsatisfactory (ndst; 2,0): F Grade – the have not achieved the intended learning outcomes</p>

Literature

Obligatory

1. William J.T. Mitchell, What Do Pictures Want? The Lives and Loves of Images, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London 2005
2. Photography: A Critical Introduction, ed. Liz Wells, Routledge 2004.
3. Representation: cultural representation and signifying practices, ed. S.Hall, Sage Publications 1997.

Optional

1. Marianne Hirsch, Family Frames, Harvard Univ. Press 2002.
2. Andreas Huyssen, Present Pasts. Urban Palimpsests and the Politics of Memory, Stanford University Press, Stanford California, 2003
3. T. J. Demos, Contemporary Art and the Politics of Ecology. An Introduction, In: Contemporary Art and Politics of Ecology, ed. TJ Demos, Third Text. 2013, Issue 1, No 120: 1-9
4. Þóra Pétursdóttir, Climate change? Archaeology and Anthropocene. Archaeological Dialogues 2017, 2(24). 175-205. doi.org/10.1017/S1380203817000216.
5. James E. Young, At Memory's Edge. After-Images of the Holocaust in Contemporary Art and Architecture, Yale University Press, 2000
6. Gillian Whiteley, Situating Junk: art, garbage and trash ontologies. In: Design, Waste & Dignity, ed. MC Loschiavo dos Santos, São Paulo: Editora Olhares; 2014: 131-144.

Calculation of ECTS points

Activities	Activity hours*
Classes	30
Reading the indicated literature	30
Preparation for classes	15
Preparation of a multimedia presentation	40
Student workload	Hours 115
Number of ECTS points	ECTS 4

* academic hour = 45 minutes

Efekty uczenia się dla kierunku

Kod	Treść
KEN_K2_K04	The graduate is ready to perceive contradictions, propose solutions and formulate opinions on views, concepts, positions and cultural policies that are becoming popular
KEN_K2_K07	The graduate is ready to actively contribute to the development of new forms of cultural communication (including media communication), necessary for the implementation of creative cultural projects
KEN_K2_K09	The graduate is ready to consciously and actively participate in artistic life, contributing to maintaining elements of artistic tradition and proposing alternatives to the existing artistic order, and also remain prepared to work in organisations and institutions related to art.
KEN_K2_U02	The graduate can determine the meanings, social impact and location of cultural products in the historical-cultural process, using appropriate methods of analysis and interpretation
KEN_K2_U06	The graduate can write and edit specialised informative, promotional and critical texts in Polish and a foreign modern language (at a B2+ level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) using the current state of knowledge and contemporary sources and resources of information
KEN_K2_U07	The graduate can creatively use new audiovisual and multimedia technologies in innovative cultural projects
KEN_K2_U08	The graduate can use the acquired knowledge, especially in the field of aesthetics, to make independent and specialised interpretation of contemporary artistic creations and explain the phenomena and processes typical of contemporary artistic culture, presenting the results of their investigations in an oral and written form in Polish and in a foreign modern language at B2+ level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages
KEN_K2_U09	The graduate can perform in-depth analyses of the works of other authors, synthesise different ideas and views, select methods and construct research tools, elaborate and present results, which allow one to solve untypical problems in the field of knowledge about media
KEN_K2_W01	The graduate knows and understands theoretical cultural concepts at an advanced level and uses them in the interdisciplinary perspective
KEN_K2_W02	The graduate knows and understands terminology and concepts concerning relations and processes occurring in culture, which the graduate is able to apply to describe cultural practices
KEN_K2_W07	The graduate knows and understands specialised methods of cultural work in cultural institutions and organisations, and methods of cultural animation and activation on a local and international scale
KEN_K2_W08	The graduate knows and understands development characteristics of various fields of European artistic culture, with particular emphasis on contemporary art forms and on the social discourses, practices and fields of science accompanying it, specialised in the study of artistic culture, including knowledge of historical and contemporary aesthetic concepts
KEN_K2_W09	The graduate knows and understands the issue of media (including terminology, theories and methodology) at an advanced level, which the graduate is able to use creatively and update on their own
KEN_K2_W11	The graduate knows and understands the functioning of particular ways of participation in numerous areas of culture and social life, located in a specific time and place, allowing the graduate to shape their knowledge and behaviours in their closer and further socio-cultural environment