COURSE DETAIL

PHENOMENOLOGY OF CONTEMPORARY ART. FUNDAMENTALS
Country Italy
Host Institution University of Bologna
Program(s) University of Bologna
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Art History
UCEAP Course Number 145
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title PHENOMENOLOGY OF CONTEMPORARY ART. FUNDAMENTALS
UCEAP Transcript Title PHENOM CONTEMP ART
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

By the end of the course the student: knows the categories and practices of contemporary art, both in terms of technical-linguistic and theoretical aspects; understands the role assumed by the visual arts in the transition between the 19th and 21st centuries, in their specific development and relation to the parallel trends of other artistic disciplines; is able to understand the contribution made by contemporary art to the development of visual culture with particular attention to technological, media, and social issues.

Course contents: contemporary art, i.e., the aspects that have developed and have been commonly accepted, in the transition between the 19th and the 21st century, as fundamental to defining artistic practices. In particular, the definition and meanings of contemporary art, the mediums and the characteristics of the work, the role of the artist, the dynamics of the art system—from the market to the different forms of circulation—and the evolution of a pluralistic and global perspective.

In the first unit, the main parameters of periodization of contemporaneity are exposed, the forms and contexts are identified, and the meanings usually attributed to contemporary art are discussed. The second unit is devoted to the work of art, i.e., the mediums commonly adopted by artists, issues related to the uniqueness of the work, and the rise of forms of expression that understand the work as an experience. The third unit considers the perception and social role of the artist, with a focus on the convergences between art and life, collective practices, and the evolution in the working methodologies of visual artists. The fourth unit considers the founding features of the art system, from the role of the public to the art market and the idea of the exhibition. Finally, the fifth unit examines the emergence of a pluralistic perspective in light of issues related to feminism, gender identity, postcolonialism, and globalization.

Language(s) of Instruction
Italian

Host Institution Course Number

96403

Host Institution Course Title
FENOMENOLOGIA DELL'ARTE CONTEMPORANEA. ISTITUZIONI (1) (A-L)

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.unibo.it/en/study/course-units-transferable-skills-moocs/course-uni...

Host Institution Campus
BOLOGNA

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
L in DRAMA, ART AND MUSIC STUDIES

Host Institution Department
Arts

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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