History of Modern Art

ART 3302
HUM 3324

Susan J. Baker
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Worksheet #1

Jacques-Louis David and the Classical Tradition

List 8 stylistic characteristics often described as “classical”.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

David’s *Oath of the Horatii*, 1784

Who was David’s *patron* for this piece? What is ironic about his patronage?

What was David’s source for the *Horatii* story?

What is the story of the Horatii? Who were the Curatti?
List seven specific aspects of the *Oath of the Horatti* that may be considered “classical”? Explain each.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.
What role did David have during the French Revolution?

Is David’s art politically motivated? Cite evidence.

What is the difference between David’s art and political art of the past?

Is David’s depiction of women in his paintings typical of the period? How does it compare to the work of Gros or Ingres?
What role do women play in the following works of art by David?

Oath of the Horatii:

Brutus Receiving the Bodies of His Sons:

 Intervention of the Sabine Women:

Venus Disarming Mars:
Worksheet #2

Romanticism in Germany

Who were August Wiehlem and Friedrich Schlegel?

How did Schlegel define the romantic?

List 5 general characteristics of Romanticism and explain each.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.
In what specific ways are the following works of art typical of Romantic painting?

**Caspar David Friedrich**’s *Abbey in the Oak Forest*, 1809-10 (German)

**J.W.M. Turner**’s (English)

*Burnning of the Houses of Parliament*, 1835

*Slave Ship*, 1939-40
Frederic Church’s *Twilight in the Wilderness*, 1860 (American)

Romanticism in France

Who was Madame de Stael?

How does Romanticism in France differ from that found in Germany, England or the United States? Why?

Eugène Delacroix

Which specific aspects of Delacroix’s *Death of Sardanapalus*, 1827, art remain classical?
Which specific characteristics of Delacroix’s *Death of Sardanapalus* are important innovations that influence later artists, especially the Impressionists?

Is Delacroix’s *Liberty Leading the People* more classical in style or more romantic? Explain. What prompted Delacroix’s artistic decisions for this painting?
Worksheet #3

Realism

List 6 general characteristics of the Realist style:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Gustave Courbet

*Funeral at Ornans, 1849*

What is being depicted in this scene? How important would the event being depicted be to the average Frenchman?

Why were people shocked by the size of the painting when other French artists, such as David, had always depicted large canvases?

What about this painting caused critics to accuse Courbet of being a Socialist?
List at least six significant differences between Courbet’s *Funeral at Ornans* and David’s *Oath of the Horatii*.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

What was the *Exposition Universelle* of 1855? Did Courbet exhibit there? Explain the circumstances.

Did Courbet study the work of Old Masters? Explain.
What was Courbet’s view on using pictorial formulas?

Explain how mid 19th-century Realism differ from naturalizing tendencies of the past by comparing it to the following works:

Vigee-LeBrun’s *Self-Portrait*, 1784

Van Eyck’s *Eve* from the Ghent Altarpiece (Northern Renaissance, 15th century)

Cameron’s *Lord Tennyson*, photography, 1868
Edouard Manet

What was the *Salon des Refusés* of 1863?

Who was Victorine Meurent?

List at least 4 classical rules that are broken in Manet’s *Le Dejeuner sur l’herbe*, 1863?

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

Name two important precedents for Manet’s *Le Dejeuner sur l’herbe*.

Why does Manet refer to the paintings listed above?

Why does Manet call his other famous painting from 1863 “Olympia”?

List two famous paintings to which Manet’s *Olympia* is referring.
Worksheet #4

Impressionism

List 5 general characteristics of Impressionist painting and explain each

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

How does Impressionist subject matter differ from Realist subject matter?

List two early 19th-century figures important to Impressionist color theory. Explain how each was important.
How does Japanese-style space created differently from that found in the West?

What is the importance for photography to Impressionist movement?

Describe the specific Impressionist characteristics in the following works of art:

Monet’s *Impression, Sunrise*, 1872

Renoir’s *At the Moulin de la Galette*, 1876

Cassatt’s *Little Girl in a Blue Armchair*, 1878

How does Renoir’s subject contrast with Monet’s? Why?
What typical subjects are found in Cassatt’s work? Why?

How does Cassatt challenge the notion of audience in her work? Explain.

What specific classical pictorial devices does Degas explore? How?
Worksheet #5

Post-Impressionism

In general, which aspects of Impressionist technique do the Post-Impressionists continue to use?

What concerns did the Post-Impressionists have about Impressionism?

How did the artists listed below further develop Impressionist innovations?

Seurat:

Pointillism

Divisionism

What were Seurat’s theories regarding the emotional impact of line and color?
Cézanne
   Regarding optics:

Regarding classical landscape formulas:

Van Gogh
   What sort of ideas did Van Gogh discuss in his letters to Theo?

Gauguin
   Synthetism:
Worksheet #6

Expressionism: Fauvism, Die Brücke, Der Blaue Reiter

List three common characteristics of Expressionist art:

1.

2.

3.

Fauvism

Which artists are considered Fauve? Where did these artists paint?

What differentiates Fauve color from Post-Impressionist color?

Which Post-Impressionist most influenced Matisse when he painted Carmelina, 1903-04? How?

Which Post-Impressionist most influenced Matisse when he painted Luxe, Calme, et Volupte, 1904-05? How?
What changes are observed in Matisse’s application of color over time?

What art influenced Matisse when he painted *Blue Nude*, 1907?

How did Matisse respond to critics who claimed the nude was ugly?

Who was the Post-Impressionist who had the greatest influence on Derain’s work? Explain.

Who was the Post-Impressionist who had the greatest influence on Vlaminck’s work? Explain.
Die Brücke

Which artists are associated with *Die Brücke*? Where were these artists painting?

What does the term *Die Brücke* mean literally? What were the goals of the group?

Describe the content of much of early *Die Brücke* art.

Which Post-Impressionist was important for Kirchner’s *Street, Dresden*, 1911?

How is *Die Brücke* composition, color and technique different from Fauve art?

What medieval technique did the *Die Brücke* revive? Why?
What is unusual about the subject matter of Nolde’s work?

**Der Blaue Reiter**
Which artists are associated with *Der Blaue Reiter*? Where did they paint?

To what does the term *Der Blaue Reiter* refer? Who coined the term?

List seven artistic or non-artistic sources for Kandinsky’s work.

1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.  
6.  
7.  

Why did Kandinsky write *Concerning the Spiritual in Art*, 1912?

Describe and explain Kandinsky’s model of culture.
Worksheet #7

Cubism

List six artistic influences on Picasso’s early work.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Describe these influences in *Les demoiselles d’Avignon*, 1907
How would you characterize the early work of Braque?

Which Post-Impressionist artist had the greatest influence on Braque? Why?

Which painting is considered to be the first truly Cubist work? What is the date of this work?

List six general characteristics of Cubism and explain each.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.
What is meant by the term *passage*?

What is meant by the term “cubist grid”?

According to Braque, how are painting and written language alike?

To what does the term “synthetic” Cubism refer?
Worksheet # 8

Modern Sculpture

List 6 major artistic concerns of modern sculptors. List an example for each.

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

Orphism

Which artist is associated with Orphism?

How does Orphism differ from Cubism?
**Futurism**
Which artists are associated with Futurism? In what country were they working?

How does Futurism differ from Cubism?

**Neoplasticism**
Which artist is associated with Neoplasticism? Where is he from?

What does the term Neoplasticism suggest?

**Suprematism and Constructivism**
Which artist is associated with Suprematism? Where is he working?

What is the difference between Suprematism and Constructivism?

How do Neoplasticism, Suprematism and Constructivism compare to Cubism?
Worksheet # 9

Metaphysical School

Which artist is associated with the Metaphysical School? Where is he painting?

List 4 characteristics of Metaphysical painting.

1.

2.

3.

4.

Dada

Where did the work “dada” come from?

Which artists are associated with Zurich and/or German Dada?
List 7 characteristics of Zurich and/or German Dada.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

Which artist is associated with New York Dada?

List 2 aspects of Zurich and/or German Dada that are also evident in New York Dada.

1.

2.

How is New York Dada significantly different from Dada movements in Europe?
What is a ready-made? What is an assisted ready-made?

Did Duchamp consider his ready-mades to be art? Why or why not?

Who was André Breton?

What is a key difference between Surrealism and Dada?
List 7 characteristics of Surrealism.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

What is the difference between figurative Surrealism and non-figurative Surrealism?

Which artists are associated with non-figurative Surrealism?

Which artists are associated with figurative Surrealism?
Abstract Expressionism

In what specific ways were the following important precedents for Abstract Expressionism:

Kandinsky:

Dada:

Surrealism:

Characteristics:
1. Large-scale canvases.
2. All-over compositions (no central focus).
   How do artists typically create focus in a composition?

3. Dripped paint on unprimed canvas.
   Why did Pollock put his canvases on the floor to paint on them?

4. Process as important as finished product.
   What is the visual evidence in DeKooning’s work that indicates that the process of painting was as important as the finished piece to him?

5. Jung (student of Freud)
   Which of Jung’s concepts interested the Abstract Expressionists?

6. Existentialism
   How did critics use the language of Existentialism to explain Abstract Expressionist work?