

URBAN INTERVENTIONS AND ART AS A LANGUAGE

THE CASE OF BARCELONA

Number of sessions: 30

Length of each session: 1,5 h

Total length of the module: 45 hours

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

This course focuses on the idea that Art and Urban Interventions can be understood as a language. Firstly, it is important to develop an understanding of the fundamental elements which help us look at and observe Painting and Sculpture. This foundation will then be used in order to further analyse the content and intentions of Spanish and International artist's work. The second part of this programme looks specifically at Public works of art as Urban Interventions with reference to the cityscape of Barcelona (world renowned for its development of urban spaces) as well as other cities within Spain. In order to maintain the course as close to real artistic practice, there will be scheduled visits to various museums and public spaces.

REQUIREMENTS

- Fluent in English
- Interest in Art and Architecture

CONTENTS

Painting as a language

- Understanding the fundamental elements of 2-dimensional art ie; perspective, colour, illumination, movement etc...
- References to The Spanish Master Painters ie; Velázquez, Goya, Picasso, Dalí Sculpture as a language
- Understanding the fundamental elements of 3-dimensional art ie; materials, methods, relief, sculpture in its setting etc...
- References to Spanish and International artists creating traditional and contemporary sculpture ie; Juan Muñoz, Joan Brossa, Eduardo Chillida, Rebecca Horn, Richard Serra etc.

Public Sculpture as Urban Intervention

- Analysis of International Contemporary Sculpture in Barcelona from 1980 to present.
- Looking at Architecture as Art.

- Architecture that creates new landmarks in a forever changing landscape. (Barcelona)

Graffiti as urban art

- Artistic responses to an urban setting and society

GRADING

Mid-term exam (20%):

A mid-term exam will consist of the information that has been explored to date. The exam will consist of multiple choice questions as well as questions related to visual identifications of the fundamental elements in painting and sculpture.

Papers (25%):

There are 2 compulsory research papers related to visits to exhibitions.

1. Our first guided visit is to the MNAC - Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya. A task will be given that is to be developed during the visit. Students will be given the opportunity to put into practice and show their development and understanding of the fundamental elements of art that have been discussed in class. (min. extension 3pgs - max. extension 5pgs).

2. Our second visit to an exhibition will be scheduled in Barcelona during the course. Students are to select one of the artworks that interest them, and analyse it following the "Analysis of Artwork" task sheet that will be given to them in class. (min. extension 3pgs - max. extension 5pgs).

Presentation in class (25%):

There are 2 compulsory presentations related to public spaces.

1. Students will give a presentation on a Public Sculpture in Barcelona explaining its reference to the city. They are also to research and explain the general ideas and concepts of the artist's work to date.

2. Students will give a presentation on a Public Sculpture in a city of their choice explaining its reference to the city. They are also to research and explain the general ideas and concepts of the artist's work to date.

Final Exam/Paper (30%):

A research paper is due in on the last day of the course. Students will be able to choose among a range of topics related to the material explored throughout the course.

Students will have a month to write the paper. (min extension 10 pgs - max. extension 14 pgs; excluding support images, index, bibliography, etc.).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

PIPES, Alan; Foundations of Art & Design, Laurence King Publishing Ltd, London 2003

MOURE, Gloria; Urban Configurations, Ediciones Poligrafia SA-Barcelona, 1994

MILES, Malcolm; Art, Space and the City: Public Art and Urban Futures, Routledge, UK.
1997