

IN 117 ART IN CHICAGO

Welcome to Art in Chicago! Working with the instructor by phone, this independent study will allow you the opportunity to discover and learn about some of Chicago's art adventures that most people overlook. This Faculty Designed Independent Study will allow you to work on your own time, when you can. If you have family members who are interested, they can join you.

In this class you will be the Terra Collection of American Art, which is now at the Art Institute; the Museum of Contemporary Art; and a Chicago art gallery! You'll note your experiences in a course journal, and enjoy art that you've never seen or thought about before. Your first visit will be to the Terra Collection of American Art. Daniel Terra was a wealthy collector. A small museum in Evanston was founded for his collection. Later, for years, his collection was in a museum on Michigan Avenue. Now it is in the Art Institute of Chicago, and you can walk through it any day and see some fabulous American art works.

Your instructor, Joe, regularly teaches art history classes at the Art Institute, and it would be good to call Joe (his number is on this syllabus) and enjoy one of his classes. He can tell some things about how to look at you how to look at a painting and how to get more out of it. Joe can also show you exactly wherein the museum the Terra Collection is located. The Art Institute is located in downtown Chicago at Michigan Avenue and Adams, and is open seven days a week. Tuesdays are free. Other days it is pay what you wish, but you must pay something. Thursdays are the late day, when the museum is open until 7:45 p.m. Call Joe at (773) 728-0357 and visit one of his classes if you can. He can also give you tips on touring the Terra Collection. Take notes on your visit in your course journal.

Your next visit will be to the Museum of Contemporary Art. This is located just off the Michigan Avenue Magnificent Mile at 220 East Chicago Avenue. Their hours are as follows: Mondays, closed. Tuesday, 10 to 8. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 10 to 5. Admission is free on Tuesdays. Otherwise it is \$10 general; \$6 students with ID and seniors; free to members, children under 12, and members of the military. They also have a restaurant. The Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) is devoted to art since 1945. Some people find contemporary art to be baffling. Some of it is meant to be! Remember, it is okay for art to be funny. A good way to think about art, and modern art in particular, is by remembering this definition: Art is MAN added to NATURE. That definition is broad enough to take in some of the wild ideas that contemporary artists come up with. Call the MCA and arrange to take a tour, and take notes. Write down your ideas, and any questions you have about the art. We also have a book for the class "How to Look at Modern Art" by Philip Yenawine. Ask Joe about the book.

Finally you are invited to visit a Chicago art gallery. Chicago has several art districts. There are some very fancy art galleries on Michigan Avenue. Another art gallery district is at Superior and Wells. There is parking, and the district is right at the Chicago and Franklin stop on the Brown Line. There are also art galleries for younger artists in Wicker Park and Bucktown, in Old Town, in Pilsen, and on West Randolph near Halsted. Just pick up a copy of the Sun-Times or Tribune on Fridays. In the Friday arts and movies weekend section they will list all the art openings that night. You can get almost anywhere in Chicago cheaply by CTA. Call CTA information at 836-7000 from any area code, and push pound. Someone will come on the line. Tell them where you are, where you want to go, and when you want to get there, and they will tell you how to get there.

Drop by an opening. If you'd like, chat with the artist if he or she is there. Sometimes there is an "Artist's Statement" lying on a table. Often there are free snacks, pop, or tumblers of wine. The First Fridays of most months are big for art openings. Visit one (or more if you like). Write your experience in the course journal. Often you can also pick up a free copy of the magazine called Chicago Gallery News. Chat with Joe about writing up your calls journal, with your notes on the trips and on the book in such a way that you will successfully meet the competencies of the course.

Competencies: A-1-B, A-1-1. Talk with Joe about possible negotiated competencies. The course will follow university policies on plagiarism, and strive to uphold Vincentian ideals. Instructor: Joe Cunniff. Hone (773) 728-0357. Please call rather than e-mail. Phone the instructor and get started. Remember: Art, and Chicago, are an adventure!