

**Philosophy of Art**  
**PHI 3800, Ref. #1621**  
**MWF 12-1, J328**

**Purpose:** To offer an overview of philosophical traditions (particularly Western) dealing with theories concerning the concept and function of art, the relationship of the artist to his or her work, and the ways and means of interpreting a work. There will be some creative artwork assigned as it relates to course objectives. Foci will be on the relationships to particular art movements and the role of the unconscious in creating and perceiving meaning in art. Emphases will be on visual arts, literature, music, and film.

**Readings:** Individual assignments, but mostly handouts from art theorists extending from Plato to contemporary thinkers.

**Requirements:** Attendance (10%), two exams (50%), two presentations (10%), and a journal (30%).

**Week One**-Introduction of course objectives and preliminary assignments.

**Week Two**-Plato (handout). Greek art and Dionysus and Apollo.

**Week Three**-Aristotle (handout). Greek drama.

**Week Four**-Hegel (handout). Beauty, symbols, and the Absolute.

**Week Five**-Nietzsche (handout). Art, Dionysus, and relativity. “Draw an impulse.”

**Week Six**-Danto (handout). Art and reality.

**Week Seven**- Marcuse (handout). Art and social revolution. **Journal due**.

**Week Eight**-Review, Presentations, and **Midterm exam**.

**Week Nine**-Gottner-Abendroth (handout). Feminism and art.

**Week Ten**-Apollo, Dionysus, and the history of Western painting. Slides.

**Week Eleven**-Music, Politics, and Revolution. “Pick a song.”

**Week Twelve**-Jung (handout). Psychology and literature. “Pick a story.”

**Week Thirteen**- Poems (handout). “Share a poem.”

**Week Fourteen**-Thanksgiving break.

**Week Fifteen**-Jung and Structuralism (handout). Archetypes and film. “Pick a film.”

**Week Sixteen**-Review, Presentations, **Exam**, **Journal due**.

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If you have special needs or a disability for which accommodations may be appropriate to assist you in this class, please contact the Office of Services to Students with Special Needs in Building C-1 on the Niceville Campus, or call 729-5372. The schedule, requirements, and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of unusual or extenuating circumstances; in such cases, students will be provided with written notice sufficient to plan for and accommodate the changes. If the college closes for inclement weather or other emergency, any exams, presentations or projects or papers due during the closure period will automatically be rescheduled for the first regular class meeting held once the college re-opens.

Additional course materials must be returned to professor at semester's end.