

Sociology of Art

LEVEL	SEMESTER	ECTS	FORMAT	LANGUAGE
Bachelor - Master	Summer	3 ECTS	Lectures and seminars	English

Course description

This course explores the relationship between art and society from a sociological perspective. It introduces key concepts and theories in the sociology of art and examines how social, cultural, political and economic factors influence the production, distribution and reception of art. The course considers art as a form of social communication, identity formation and social change, while also examining the role of social class, power, institutions, markets and new media in the art world.

Main topics

- Introduction to the sociology of art and its key concepts
- Art and society: social norms, social change and communication
- Aesthetics and the social construction of artistic value
- Major sociological theories of art and culture
- Cultural capital and the social determinants of artistic taste
- Art, social class and cultural inequality
- Art, power, political ideology and resistance
- Art, culture and identity: national and ethnic perspectives
- Art as a market: commercialization, production and distribution
- Film, television, digital media and new forms of artistic expression
- Art and globalization: international cultural exchange and different cultural perspectives
- Art institutions: museums, galleries, theatres, curators and cultural organizations

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- understand key concepts and theories in the sociology of art
- explain the relationship between art and society
- analyse artworks, artists and artistic movements from a sociological perspective
- understand how social class and cultural capital influence artistic preferences and access to art
- analyse the social, political and economic dimensions of artistic production and reception
- understand the relationship between art, power, ideology and social change
- analyse the role of art in the construction of cultural, national and social identities
- examine the influence of markets and institutions on the production and distribution of art
- understand the impact of digital media and globalization on contemporary art
- apply basic sociological approaches to the analysis of artistic and cultural phenomena
- develop and present arguments about the social role and significance of art

Teaching methods

Lectures, seminars, discussions of selected texts, analysis of artworks and cultural phenomena, individual and group work, student presentations and independent reading.

Assessment

Active participation in seminars, written reflections on selected readings, and a final semester project or presentation.