

Department of Geography
Spring Semester, 2010

Landscape and Creativity

Syllabus



01:450:492:02 (Index 68367)
cross-listed with 01:450:606:01 (Index 68900)
MW5 (3:20-4:40 PM), Tillett 105 (Livingston Campus)

Instructor: Roger Balm. Lucy Stone Hall B-238; email: balm@rci.rutgers.edu Office hours by appointment.

Course Overview

Landscape is second only to the human body as a theme and focus for creativity. What effect has this intense interest had on understanding the world around us? How has the relationship between art and the geographic sciences evolved over time? How do we recognize creative descriptions of landscape and how do we evaluate the cultural work that these descriptions perform? This course explores these questions with an emphasis on Western painting, drawing and photography. The course also includes viewing and critique of selected works in the collection of the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers.

Class Meeting Time and Location

Monday, Wednesday 5 (3:20-4:40) in Tillett 105, Livingston Campus (please note that location may change).

Readings

The course text is *Landscape and Western Art* by Malcolm Andrews (available from Amazon.com and other bookstores for about \$20). To supplement this text and provide grounding in geographic thought, additional required readings will be posted online (via Sakai) as pdf files (see reading list below).

Course Outline (as of 10/09)

1. Wed, Jan 20	Course orientation.	
2. Mon, Jan 25	Creativity: Person, Process or Object?	Briskman, 2009
3. Wed, Jan 27	Creativity: Person, Process or Object?	Briskman, 2009
4. Mon, Feb 01	Vision and Visuality	Andrews, Ch. 1; Jay
5. Wed, Feb 03	Vision and Visuality	Andrews, Ch. 1; Pickles 2004
6. Mon, Feb 08	Mapping and the Landscape Ideal	Andrews, Ch. 4
7. Wed, Feb. 10	Mapping and the Landscape Ideal	Andrews, Ch. 4; Cosgrove, 2001
8. Mon, Feb 15	Mapping and the Landscape Ideal	Andrews, Ch. 4
9. Wed, Feb 17	Site visit: Zimmerli Museum	-----
10. Mon, Feb 22	Framing the View	Andrews, Ch. 5
11. Wed, Feb 24	Framing the View	Andrews, Ch. 5
12. Mon, Mar 01	Framing the View	Andrews, Ch. 5
13. Wed, Mar 03	Landscape and Emotion	Andrews, Ch. 6
14. Mon, Mar 08	Landscape and Emotion	Andrews, Ch. 6; Doss, 1991
15. Wed, Mar 10	Landscape and Emotion	Andrews, Ch. 6
-----Spring Break, March 13-March 21-----		
16. Mon, Mar 22	Landscape as Territory	Andrews, Ch. 7
17. Wed, Mar 24	Landscape as Territory	Andrews, Ch. 7; Cosgrove 2008
18. Mon, Mar 29	Landscape as Territory	Andrews, Ch. 7; Snyder, 1994
19. Wed, Mar 31	Landscape as Territory	Andrews, Ch. 7; Kinsey, 1992
20. Mon, Apr 05	Landscape, Time and Process	Andrews, Ch. 8
21. Wed, Apr 07	Landscape, Time and Process	Andrews, Ch. 8; Novak
22. Mon, Apr 12	Landscape, Time and Process	Andrews, Ch. 9; Roberts; Fraser, 1988
23. Wed, Apr 14	Environment as Art	Andrews, Ch. 9

24. Mon, Apr 18	Environment as Art	Andrews, Ch. 9; Kimmelman, 2005
25. Wed, Apr 20	Environment as Art	Andrews, Ch. 9
26. Mon, Apr 25	Presentations	
27. Wed, Apr 27	Presentations	
28. Mon, May 02	Presentations	

Required Readings (subject to change)

Briskman, Larry. 2009. *Creative Product and Creative Process in Science and Art*. In The Idea of Creativity, edited by M. Krausz, D. Dutton and K. Bardsley. Boston: Brill, pp. 17-41.

Cosgrove, Denis. 2008. *Measures of America*. In Geography and Vision. Seeing, Imaging and Representing the World. New York, I.B. Taurus, pp. 87-103.

Cosgrove, Denis. 2001. *Virtual Globe*. In Apollo's Eye. A Cartographic Genealogy of the Earth in the Western Imagination. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, pp. 235-315.

Doss, Erica. 1991. *From Regionalism to Abstract Expressionism: Modern Art and Consensus Politics in Postwar America*. In Benton, Pollock, and The Politics of Modernism: From Regionalism to Abstract Expressionism. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp. 311-361.

Fraser, D. 1988. 'Fields of Radiance': *The Scientific and Industrial Scenes of Joseph Wright*. In The Iconography of Landscape, edited by Denis Cosgrove and Stephen Daniels. New York: Cambridge University Press, pp. 119-141.

Jay, Martin. 1988. *Scopic Regimes of Modernity*. In Vision and Visuality, edited by Hal Foster. New York: New Press, pp. 3-23.

Kimmelman, Michael. 2005. *Art's Last, Lonely Cowboy*. New York Times Magazine. 2/6/2005.

Kinsey, 1992. *The Hayden Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories*. In Thomas Moran and the Surveying of the American West. Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, pp. 43-67.

Novak, Barbara. 1995. *The Geological Timetable*. In American Landscape and Painting 1825-1875. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 47-77.

Pickles, John. 2004. *The cartographic gaze, global visions and modalities of visual culture*. In A History of spaces. Cartographic reason, mapping and the geocoded world. New York: Routledge, pp. 75-91.

Roberts, Jennifer. 2004. *Spiral Jetty / Golden Spike*. In Mirror Travels. Robert Smithson and History. New Haven: Yale University Press, pp. 110-157.

Snyder, Joel. 1994. *Territorial Photography*. In Landscape and Power, edited by W.J.T. Mitchell. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp. 175-201.

Evaluation and Grading

Evaluation is based on three components: thoughtful contribution to class discussions (20% of final grade), three reaction papers based on selected readings (10% each for 30% of final grade), and a term paper coupled with presentation (50% of final grade). Clear guidance will be given regarding the structure and expected scope of the reaction papers and term paper.

