

OLLI - Contemporary Art: Methods and Meanings

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Course description: Launching the Imagination through Contemporary Art through Visual Elements and Principles of Design

This course will explore the visual elements of art and how it is applied, in tandem with the Principles of Design, to shed light on contemporary art and how artists are linked through generations by embedding these formal principles and strategies in their work.

Week 1

1. Introduction & Overview
 - a. The Visual Elements
 - b. Principles of Design

2. Line - Contour and Outline, Direction and Movement, Implied Lines

Week 2

1. Shape and Mass, Implied Shapes
2. Light, Implied Light
3. Texture - Actual & Visual Texture
4. Pattern

Week 3

1. Color -
Theory, Properties, Light & Pigment, Color Harmonies, Optical Effects

Week 4

1. Space
 - a. Three-Dimensional Space
 - b. Implied Space
 - c. Types of Perspective: Linear, Foreshortening, Atmospheric, & Isometric

Week 5

1. Time and Motion – Interaction, Kinetic, & Technology

Week 6: The Principles of Design

1. Composition & Design
2. Unity & Variety
3. Balance – Symmetrical & Asymmetrical Balance

Week 7: Principles of Design continued

1. Emphasis & Subordination
2. Scale & Proportion - Hierarchical Scale, Golden Rectangle
3. Rhythm

Week Eight: All together with Principles of Design