Avant-Garde New York, from the Armory Show to Andy Warhol (Spring 2016)
MW 11:00-12:15, room 300, Silver Center
Professor Kenneth E. Silver (office hours: Monday 3:30-5:30)
Section leaders: Blanca Serrano & Viviana Bucarelli

Syllabus and Assignments

D = pages to read in Erika Doss, Twentieth-Century American Art (2002)

1/25 What lies ahead: a course preview

1/27 Theory and practice of the avant-garde: European art 1790-1914

2/1 The 10th Street Building and expatriate artists: artistic New York before the rise of an American avant-garde

D: pp. 9-51.

2/3 New realism for a new century: the Ashcan School, the Eight, and George Bellows


2/8 Lexington at 25th Street: avant-garde art at the Armory Show, 1913


D: pp. 53-72

**first paper assigned (see NYU Classes)

2/10 291 5th Ave: Alfred Stieglitz, from art photographer to entrepreneur of the avant-garde

2/15 (no class: President’s Day)

2/17 West 67th Street: The Arensbergs, Dada, and Duchamp, c.1917

2/22  Skyline: skyscrapers, the harbor, and East 46th Street


**first paper due: in class**

2/24  The new institutions of the NY avant-garde, I: Dreier, Gallatin and Whitney blaze the trail


**D:** pp. 75-91

2/29  The new institutions of the NY avant-garde, II: The Rockefellers and the Museum of Modern Art

**second paper assigned (see NYU Classes)**

3/2  The new institutions of the New York avant-garde, II (continued): MoMA, The Rockefellers, and Rockefeller Center


3/7  Murals, Diego Rivera, and the WPA in New York [lecture by Blanca Serrano]

**D:** pp. 97-108

3/9  Union Square: art and the working class

**synopsis due:** Ellen Wiley Todd, “The Neighborhood,” in The ’New Woman’ Revised: Painting and Gender Politics on Fourteenth Street (1993), pp. 84-135, and notes, pp. 338-344.

3/14  (no class: spring recess)
3/16  (no class: spring recess)
3/21  (mid-term quiz)

3/23  Edward Hopper: Dreaming New York [lecture by Viviana Bucarelli]
    D: pp. 108-117
    **second paper due: in class

3/28  American avant-garde primitivism: Kuniyoshi, Sheeler, Nadelman, Stettheimer, and Hirshfield

3/30  The Harlem Renaissance: modernism, civil rights, and Jacob Lawrence
    D: pp. 91-95


4/11  Salvador Dali: Surrealism and Kitsch at the New York World's Fair
    **third paper assigned (see NYU Classes)

4/13  From Greenwich Village to the world: the birth of Abstract Expressionism
    D: pp. 119-137

4/18  MacDougal Alley: Jackson Pollock's Wild West (Village) show


**D:** pp. 139-159

4/25 278 Pearl Street: Johns and Rauschenberg

5/27 Washington Square, one last time: Judson, the Moses plan, and Oldenburg


5/2 New York’s own *flâneurs*: the Street Photographers


5/4 231 East 47th Street: Andy Warhol’s Pop Art “Factory”

**third paper due: in class**

**D:** pp. 181-193.

5/9 (final quiz)