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OLIVIER SOUSTELLE,  
M.A IN FINE AND  
DECORATIVE ARTS

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OLIVIER.SOUSTELLE@EVERGREEN.EDU

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## ART HISTORY: MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART (4 CREDITS)

Spring 2026 – Evening, online

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This class will meet on **Wednesdays** and will be all remote via **Zoom**.

First class: **Wednesday, April 1**

Class hours: **6:00 – 9:20pm**

We will survey the history of modern and contemporary art (from mid-19th century to today) exploring major art and design movements such as Impressionism, Art Nouveau and Surrealism, while we also develop our ability to look at, understand, and analyze art through the period and in different cultural contexts. We will think about how art reflects both universal human experiences and specific cultural and historical frameworks.

Successful students will leave the course with the ability to appreciate, talk about, and write about modern and contemporary art in a confident and well-informed manner. Practicing artists will be able to see their own work as part of an ongoing conversation about artistic ideas and modes of expressions.

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Classes will consist of lectures and visual analysis conversations. No book is needed as all reading material will be provided on the class Canvas site. Assignments will include class presentations, quizzes, and written essays.

Your instructor is a scholar of art history and has years of experience as a fine and decorative arts valuer for a leading international auction house and as a researcher for the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles.

