This ten week course examines the issues, artists, and theories surrounding the rise of Postmodernism in the visual arts from 1970 into the twenty-first century. We will explore the emergence of pluralism in the visual arts against a backdrop of the rise of the global economy as we explore the “crisis” of postmodern culture, which critiques ideas of history, progress, personal and cultural identities, and embraces irony and parody, pastiche, nostalgia, mass or “low” culture, and multiculturalism.

In a chronological fashion, and framed by a discussion of mid-century artistic predecessors Abstract Expressionism, Pop, and Minimal Art, the class looks at the wide-ranging visual art practices that emerged in 1970s Conceptual Art, Performance, Feminist Art and identity politics, art activism and the Culture Wars, Appropriation Art, Neo-expressionism, Street Art, the Young British Artists, the Museum, and Festivalism.

**Week 1: October 6**
Contexts and Setting the Stage: What is Postmodernism
Abstract Expressionism

**Week 2: October 13**
Cold War, Neo-Dada, Pop Art

**Week 3: October 20**
Minimalism, Postminimalism, Earth Art

**Week 4: October 27**
Conceptual Art and Performance: Chance, Happenings, Arte Povera, Fluxus

**Week 5: November 3**
Video and Performance

**Week 6: November 10**
Feminist Art and Identity Politics

**Week 7: November 17**
Street Art, Neo-Expressionism, Appropriation

**Week 8: December 1**
Art Activism and Culture Wars

**Week 9: December 8**
Young British Artists (YBAs)

**Week 10: December 15**
Festivalism and the Museum