

Art 1

Modern to Contemporary Art

Possible Research Paper Topics

Please choose a topic to write your research paper on that relates to western art theory and history after 1945. Several artists and topics are listed below but you are not restricted to this list. Your topic must be appropriate to our class and will need to be approved by the instructor.

Marina Abramovic – Performance artist	Jackson Pollock – modern painter
Vito Acconci – Performance artist	Robert Rauschenberg – Neo Dada
Francis Bacon – Figurative Expressionist	Gerhard Richter – Contemporary painter
Matthew Barney – Contemporary artist	James Rosenquist – Pop painter
Jean Michel Basquiat – Neo-Expressionist	Mark Rothko – Color Field painter
Lynda Benglis - Feminist Sculptor	David Salle – Neo-Expressionist
Louise Bourgeois – Contemporary sculptor	Carolee Schneemann – Feminist
Chris Burden – Performance artist	Richard Serra – Minimalist sculptor
Judy Chicago – Feminist	Andres Serrano – Contemporary photo
Christo and Jeanne-Claude – Site-specific	Cindy Sherman – Contemporary photo
Willem De Kooning – Figurative Expressionist	Kiki Smith – Contemporary sculptor
Robert Frank – Beat photographer	Robert Smithson – Earthwork artist
Helen Frankenthaler – Modern painter	James Turrell – Earthwork artist
Lucien Freud – Figurative painter	Kara Walker – Installation artist
Nan Goldin – Contemporary photographer	Andy Warhol – Pop artist
Felix Gonzales Torres – Installation artist	Action vs. abstraction
Gutai Art Association – Japanese Ab Ex	Anti Form
David Hammons – Contemporary artist	Appropriation
Eva Hesse – Minimalist sculptor	Art Brut and Bataille
Damien Hirst – Contemporary artist	The artist's body and performance art
Jenny Holzer – Installation artist	Body Politics
Jasper Johns – Neo Dada	Competing sensibilities after WWII
Donald Judd – Minimalist sculptor	Considering the sign (semiotics)
Mike Kelley – Contemporary sculptor	The Culture Wars
Edward & Nancy Kienholz – Installation artists	The death and return of painting
Yves Kline – Conceptual artist	Duchamp's Urinal and Pop Art
Jeff Koons – Contemporary artist	European art after WWII
Lee Krasner – Abstract Expressionist	Existential angst in post WWII American art
Barabara Kruger – Contemporary artist	The gap in between
Sherrie Levine – Contemporary artist	The global art market
Roy Lichtenstein – Pop painter	Greenberg vs. Rosenberg
Sally Mann – Contemporary photographer	Greenbergian formalism and American ideals
Barry McGee – Graffiti artist	Identity politics
Ana Mendieta – Performance artist	Illness as metaphor
Yasumasa Morimura – Contemporary artist	Influence of Feminism
Robert Motherwell – Abstract Expressionist	Male, homosexual and transgendered gaze
Ron Mueck – Contemporary sculptor	Modernism vs. Postmodernism
Murakami – Contemporary Japanese artist	Performing race and the authentic self
Elizabeth Murray – Neo-expressionist	The Pictures Generation
Shirin Neshat – Contemporary artist	Postmodern architecture
Barnett Newman – Color Field painter	Post-Post Modernism
Claes Oldenburg – Pop sculptor	Walter Benjamin and the aura
Yoko Ono – Conceptualist	