

ART_HISTORY 365-2: AMERICAN ART: 1865-1945: ART AND MONEY IN AMERICA II

PROFESSOR MELODY DEUSNER

MW 3:30-4:50 PM

KRESGE HALL,
RM. 2-415

THIS COURSE SERVES AS AN ADVANCED INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN ART AND VISUAL CULTURE PRODUCED BETWEEN THE CIVIL WAR AND WORLD WAR II, CONSIDERED THROUGH THE LENS OF COMMERCE, PATRONAGE, AND CAPITAL. QUESTIONS EXPLORED THROUGH READINGS, LECTURES, AND DISCUSSIONS INCLUDE: WHO WERE AMERICA'S ART PATRONS AND BUYERS, AND HOW DID THEIR INTERESTS SHAPE THE EVOLUTION OF AMERICAN ART? WHAT ROLES DID BUSINESS PEOPLE AND CORPORATIONS PLAY IN GUIDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE VISUAL ARTS (AND ART MUSEUMS) IN THE LATE NINETEENTH AND EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURIES? HOW DID ARTISTS RESPOND TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES SPONSORED BY THE STATE AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR DURING THIS PERIOD? HOW CAN STUDYING INTERSECTIONS BETWEEN ART AND MONEY IN AMERICA'S PAST HELP US NAVIGATE AND ENGAGE WITH THEM IN THE PRESENT AND FUTURE? VISUAL MATERIALS UNDER CONSIDERATION WILL INCLUDE PAINTING, SCULPTURE, ARCHITECTURE, FURNITURE, AND PHOTOGRAPHY, AS WELL AS ADVERTISEMENTS, STOCK CERTIFICATES, WAR POSTERS, AND A VARIETY OF OTHER CASE STUDIES DRAWN FROM BOTH THE FINE ARTS AND MASS CULTURE. ALTHOUGH WE WILL BE CONTINUING THE ECONOMIC HISTORY OF AMERICAN ART BEGUN IN PART I (FROM THE COLONIAL ERA TO THE CIVIL WAR), THERE ARE NO PREREQUISITES FOR THIS COURSE.

