

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART LAUNCHES FREE ONLINE COURSE, IN THE STUDIO: POSTWAR ABSTRACT PAINTING, ON COURSERA

Eight-session Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) Explores Seven New York School Artists through MoMA's Collection

Original Content Features Studio Demonstrations and a Close Look at Abstract Paintings in MoMA's Galleries

NEW YORK, NY, March 22, 2017—The Museum of Modern Art launches the massive open online course **In the Studio: Postwar Abstract Painting**, available now on Coursera. This course offers an in-depth, hands-on look at the materials, techniques, and approaches of seven New York School artists: Willem de Kooning, Yayoi Kusama, Agnes Martin, Barnett Newman, Jackson Pollock, Ad Reinhardt, and Mark Rothko. **In the Studio: Postwar Abstract Painting** can be found at coursera.org/learn/painting.

Through studio demonstrations and gallery walkthroughs, participants will form a deeper understanding of what a studio practice means, learn how ideas develop from close looking, and gain a sensitivity to the physical qualities of paint. Readings and other resources will round out learners' understanding, providing broader cultural, intellectual, and historical context about the decades after World War II, when these artists were active.

The works of art explored in this course also serve as points of departure for participants to make their own abstract paintings. Students can participate in the studio exercises offered each week, in which instructor Corey D'Augustine will walk through the foundations of painting and demonstrate how the artists made their works. Others may choose simply to watch these demonstrations and complete the course through its written assessments.

Eight modules introduce the New York School and explore in depth the materials, techniques, and work of seven artists:

- Willem de Kooning
- Yayoi Kusama
- Agnes Martin
- Barnett Newman
- Jackson Pollock
- Ad Reinhardt
- Mark Rothko

Original course content includes dynamic conversations and a close look at MoMA's collection.

Course modules feature:

- Eleven “In the Studio” materials and techniques demonstration videos
- Sixteen “In the Galleries: A Closer Look” videos that look closely at paintings in MoMA’s collection
- Sixteen audio slideshows featuring artists, curators, conservators, collectors, and others speaking about works in MoMA’s collection
- Seven text-image slideshows that explore 60 works of art in depth

Instructor:

Corey D'Augustine is an art conservator, a technical art historian, and an artist.

MoMA’s Online Courses:

MoMA developed and offered its first online courses on its website, moma.org, beginning in 2010, growing to seven courses on various themes and subjects. In 2013, MoMA was the first art museum to partner with Coursera under their Teacher Professional Development program, which is targeted to K–12 teachers. MoMA produced three MOOCs for this audience (Art and Inquiry, Art and Activity, and Modern Art and Ideas) before being elevated to full-partner status. In 2016, MoMA’s first MOOC for a general audience, *Seeing Through Photography*, explored 180 years of photography through MoMA’s collection. To date, over 375,000 learners have enrolled in MoMA courses offered on moma.org and Coursera. Since 2011, Volkswagen Group of America has provided crucial support of MoMA’s groundbreaking digital learning initiatives and has helped the Museum reach a worldwide audience of learners. VW’s support has allowed MoMA to transition its courses from print to digital, and toward interactive, self-guided learning.

SPONSORSHIP:

Education at MoMA is made possible by a partnership with Volkswagen of America.

No. 9

Press Contact: pressoffice@moma.org

For downloadable high-resolution images, register at moma.org/press.