

## Art and Ecology

### Course Learning Outcomes:

- Learn about cotemporary artists and artworks
- Understand artist's purpose for creating artwork, messages involved, context in which it is viewed
- Gain appreciation for artists and their work

### Assignment Learning Outcomes:

- Understand "ecological literacy"
- Enhance critical thinking skills
- Make connections between themselves, their actions, and the earth

### Critical Thinking Skills:

- Discuss & debate Colosseum flora clean-up
- Nature area proposed painting assignment

### Relevancy to Students:

- Artwork lectures focus on Contemporary and Modern American art
- Nature Study area grows native plants and is a huge asset to MV

### Assignment:

#### Step 1: home-based reading

- Students will be assigned 2 to 3 short readings explaining ecological literacy.
- Read Exploring Art, Chapter 14: "Nature, Knowledge, and Technology"

#### Step 2: lecture

- Earthworks
- Colosseum [Flavian Amphitheatre] - include brief debate/discussion with class
- Ansel Adams & American landscape paintings (plein-air technique)

#### Step 3: fieldtrip

- Nature Study area
- Assignment: students chose a location they would paint if they could, either photograph with phone or make a sketch, then write a paragraph about the significance of the location and why they chose it

#### Step 4: group presentation

- Each group is given an artwork to learn about, then as a group, present the info to the rest of the class
  - Inigo Manglano-Ovalle, *Iceberg* <http://www.absolutearts.com/artsnews/2005/02/18/32765.html>
  - Mierle Laderman Ukeles, *The Social Mirror* <http://www.artnet.com/galleries/exhibitions.asp?gid=373&cid=114408>
  - Maya Lin, *Bodies of Water* <http://blog.art21.org/2013/07/12/maya-lin-examines-disappearing-bodies-of-water/>
  - Joseph Beuys, *7000 Oaks* <http://www.diaart.org/sites/page/51/1364>
  - Agnes Denes, *Wheatfield: A Confrontation* <http://greenmuseum.org/c/aen/Issues/denes.php>
  - Fritz Haeg, *Edible Estates* <http://www.walkerart.org/magazine/2012/gardening-halfway-between-hope-and-doom-fritz>

### Method of Assessment:

- Engagement with active learning techniques
- Discussion participation
- Evaluate written statements from Nature area assignment