

**Syllabus**  
**New York School**  
**Fran Smith**

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The New York School is an alternative label for the Abstract Expressionist movement. It derives from the group of artists who came together in during the 1940's and 1950's, and who developed a uniquely American avant-garde. The label reflects the view that after the Second World War, New York took over from Paris as the world center for innovation in modern art. In this artist-centered course, we will look at the leading artists of the New York School, their works, and their interrelationships leading to the innovative developments that became the first American visual art movement to gain international acclaim.

Week 1:                   Introduction: Influences and Beginnings

Piet Mondrian  
Max Ernst  
Hans Hofmann  
Arshile Gorky

Week 2:                   Action Painting

Robert Motherwell\*  
William Bazotes  
Jack Tworkov  
Lee Krasner

Week 3:                   Action Painting

Willem de Kooning  
Franz Kline

Week 4:                   Action Painting

Jackson Pollock

Week 5:                   Color Field Painting

Clyfford Still  
Barnett Newman

- Week 6:           Color Field Painting  
                      Mark Rothko  
                      Ad Reinhardt
- Week 7:           Second Generation: “Gestural Realists”  
                      Larry Rivers  
                      Grace Hartigan  
                      Fairfield Porter  
                      Elaine de Kooning
- Week 8:           Second Generation: “Hard-Edge”  
                      Ellsworth Kelly  
                      Frank Stella  
                      Kenneth Noland
- Week 9:           Second Generation: “Soak-Stain”  
                      Helen Frankenthaler  
                      Morris Louis
- Week 10:          New Directions: Neo-Dada and Minimalism  
                      Jasper Johns  
                      Robert Rauschenberg  
                      Agnes Martin  
                      Sol LeWitt

\*Each week’s featured artists are subject to change