

**Themes of Contemporary Art**  
**Chapter One The Art World Expands**

[2 points]

*What is formalism and what were its goals?*

*Who originally wrote about this theory?*

*What cities in the world contain the most current contemporary galleries and art museums?*

Painting Didn't Die

- Neo-Expressionism

David Hockney *The 23<sup>rd</sup> UN Painting* 1992

Gerhard Richter *Betty* 1988

Photography Became a Player

- increase in size
- manipulation and experimentation

Jeff Wall *The Ventriloquist at a Birthday Party in October 1947* 1990

Mike and Doug Starn *Triple Christ*

Sarah Dobai *The Campaign* 1994-95

Sculpture as an Art Form

- minimalism
- non-traditional materials and found objects

Wolfgang Laib *Pollen from Hazelnut* 1992

Robert Gober *Untitled* 1991

Tony Cragg *Eroded Landscape* 1992

Anish Kapoor *Cloud Gate* 2000

### No Medium Dominates

- one artist can work in any media/ genre

### New Media Attracts Artists

- video
- digital design for traditional art (AutoCAD)
- DVD

Nam June Paik 1989

Bruce Nauman *Live and Die* 1984

Orlan

Tony Oursler *Eye* 1997

### New Technology Produces New Paradigms

- staged photos

### Virtual Reality Blurs Boundaries

- cyberspace
- internet
- telephone
- TV
- virtual reality

### Visual Culture is Duplicated and Shared Worldwide

- 2000 Whitney Biennial shows internet art
- SFMOMA launches 010101 (<http://010101.sfmoma.org/>)
- expands material for Pop art

Damien Hirst *Hymn* 2000

*What events caused an upsurge in multiculturalism in contemporary art?*

*Give some examples of the characteristics of the resulting artwork.*

*What are the pros and cons of this globalization in art?*

Theories of Contemporary Art

- knowledge work vs. technical work (curator Bennett Simpson)
- blurring of the line between art and other categories of culture (high and low art, found objects)

*Define each of the following theories.*

**Postmodernism**

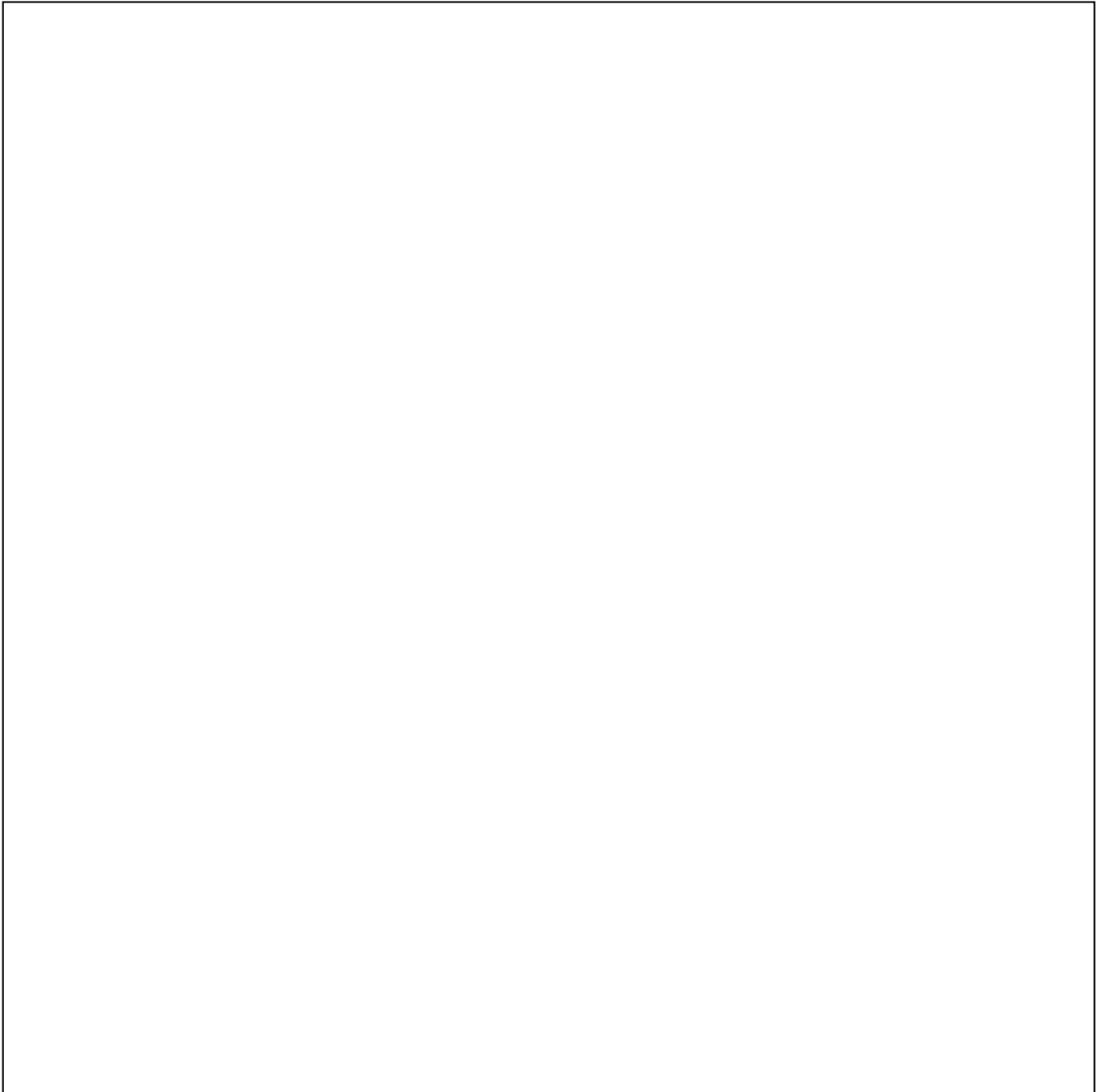
**Semiotics**

**Feminism**

**Post Colonialism**

*Choose one of the theories and brainstorm an artwork or project in your chosen field of study that would fit into its ideas and theories.*

summary of idea:

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to write a summary of their idea. The box occupies the lower two-thirds of the page.