

# 12 Cubes and Art Nouveau

Monday, February 10, 2025 12:22 PM

## Today

Admin  
Finish cubes  
Art Nouveau

## Table tents

Clickers  
Get ready for pods: slack, zoom

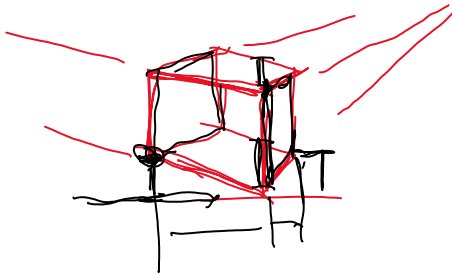
Kalin Myers	90s Street Style Movement
Brian Ahn	Carol Pierce

Weds: Class ON  
ZOOM

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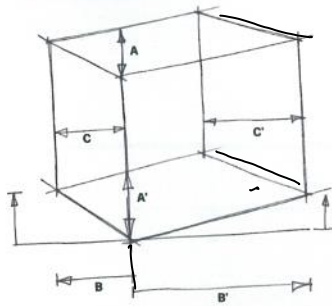
## Sketching: Cube errors and exercises

Sketch a cube using 2 point perspective, like we did last week.



**To verify whether** the cube you have drawn is in correct perspective or not, several quick checks can be made:

- Compare the shortening of the top surface with that of the ground surface; the top surface should be 'flatter', as it is closer to the horizon (see A, A').
- Check the two angles of the ground line with the horizontal line; they should differ, as should the width of the two vertical sides (see B, B').
- The most foreshortened vertical side (here on the left) should be much smaller than its opposite side (see C, C').
- Only in the case of a cube, the corner on the most foreshortened side should be 'higher' than that of the less foreshortened side.

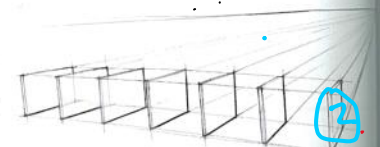
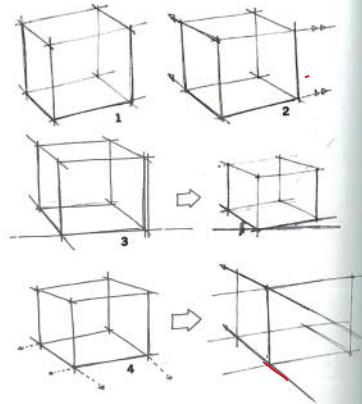


**When the block** you have drawn is incorrect, it is important to find out why, and try to avoid making the same mistake again. Here are some common beginners' mistakes. Starting at the top left, there is a block shape (1) using parallel lines instead of perspective convergence, an axonometric image. Next to it is a shape (2) where the amount of convergence is estimated incorrectly. The vanishing point on the left is closer, so lines in that direction should converge more than those in the right direction, not the other way around. Block (3) shows a one-side frontal view, so it should actually be a central perspective, and not show the left side. It can easily be avoided using a horizontal guide line as you see next to it. The last block (4) shows an incorrect perspective of the ground surface. It may help to extend and use the lines already there as a guide when you draw the ground surface.



As horizontal surfaces of a column get closer to your horizon, the more foreshortened they become.

As vertical surfaces get closer to the vanishing point, the more foreshortened they become.



**Learning to draw a cube** at different angles will give enough experience to create a correct-looking perspective drawing. Keep this rule in mind: never exceed the measurement of the closest vertical. The width of the book's pages appears much smaller and foreshortened as the pages turn.

**In this picture** you see perspective distortion due to the fact that the third vanishing point is above the horizon, but also used incorrectly for every vertical below the horizon (see 3-point perspective rule). It is, however, subordinate to the spatial effect due to the effective use of perspective colouring and contrast.



③

Rotating Cube  
④

Homework exercises. Do these in your sketchbook for practice. Not graded, but you'll be asked to compare your work with neighbors in class.

Prerequisite practice: you need to be able to draw straight lines at any angle. You can use a straight edge, but try to gain muscle memory and work towards free hand drawing

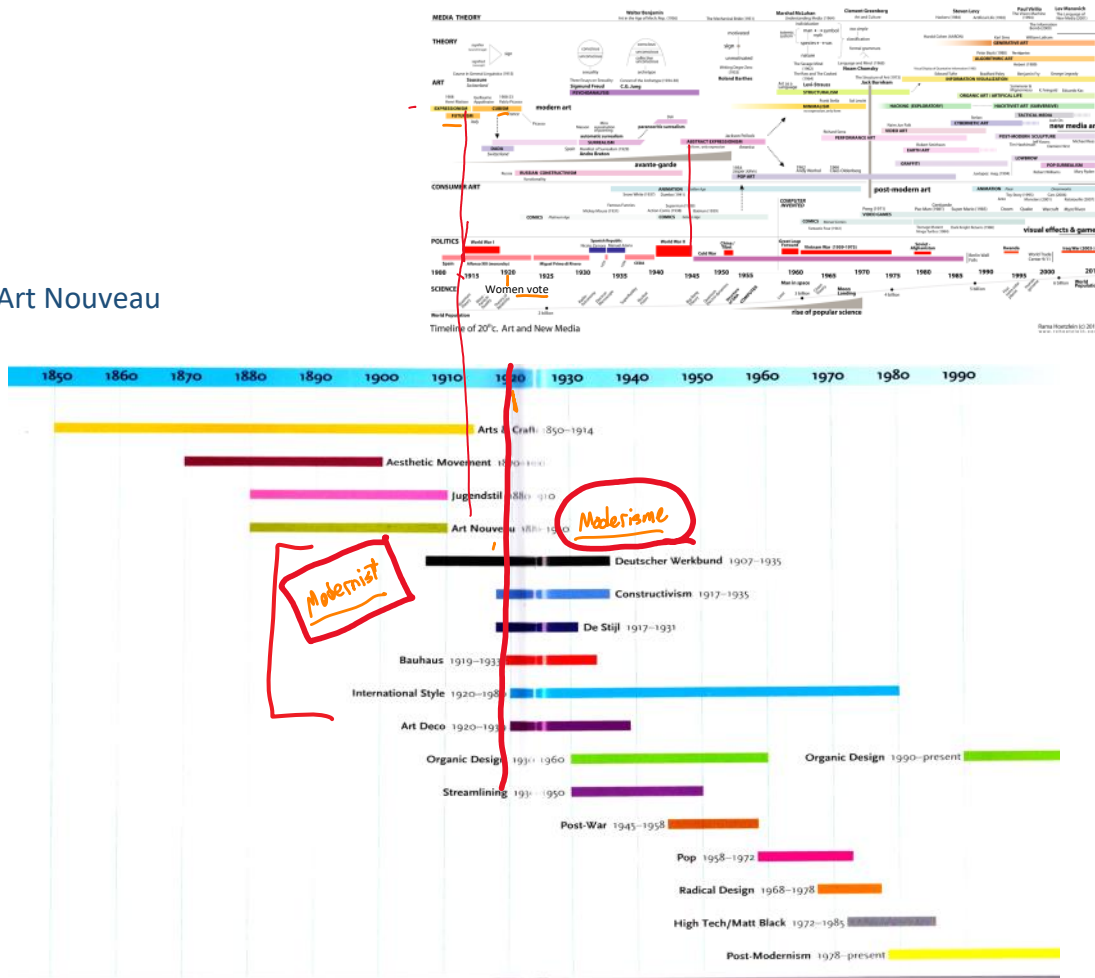
Exercise 1: Draw a stack of horizontal and

Exercise 2: vertical surfaces. In both, note the foreshortening, how a surface narrows as the surface rotates and moves away from the frontal, or central perspective.

Exercise 3: draw a book standing up on a surface, with pages spread out all around

Exercise 4: Draw a rotating cube in flip book format, maybe at the corner of your notebook. Make this into a GIF to post. Have something come out of the cube at the end for fun.

## Art Nouveau



**Art Nouveau** is usually known as **Jugendstil** (pronounced [\[ˈjuːɡəntʃtiːl\]](#)) in Germany, as **Modern** (Модерн) in Russia, as **Modernisme** in [Catalonia \(Spain\)](#), as **Secession** in [Austria-Hungary](#) and as **Stile Liberty** in Italy.

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art\\_Nouveau](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_Nouveau)

Inspired by Arts and Crafts movement, also Aesthetic Movement.

Art Nouveau is considered a **"total" art style**, embracing architecture, [graphic art](#), interior design, and most of the [decorative arts](#) including [jewelry](#), [furniture](#), textiles, household silver and other utensils and [lighting](#), as well as the [fine arts](#). According to the philosophy of the style, **art should be a way of life**. For many well-off Europeans, it was possible to live in an art nouveau-inspired house with [art nouveau furniture](#), silverware, fabrics, ceramics including tableware, jewelry, cigarette cases, etc. Artists desired to combine the fine arts and applied arts, even for utilitarian objects.<sup>[3]</sup>

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art\\_Nouveau](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_Nouveau)

From google search

*Alphonse Mucha*



Whiplash Curve



Maxfield Parrish





Most people have heard of Art Nouveau, but few remember two of the most influential figures in its conception. (No, not Gustav Klimt.) They were a pair of sisters named Margaret and Frances MacDonald, who, along with their Glasgow School of Art classmates Charles Rennie Mackintosh and Herbert MacNair, comprised the Glasgow Four. Art Nouveau wouldn't be what it is without them.

From <<https://daily.istor.org/the-scottish-sisters-who-pioneered-art-nouveau/>>

Do you know examples of Art Nouveau?

Tarot cards  
Dusan Jurkovic  
Antoni Gaudi in Barcelona  
Gustov Klimpt  
Paris Metro stations  
Old Main: Spiral staircase  
Stained glass transom and ceiling in Boulderado

From Olivia Watkins class notes

#### Art Nouveau:

About creating A modern style for a new modern time. It influenced everything from architecture to textiles. Started in france

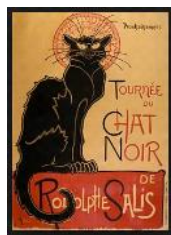
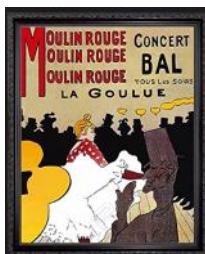
- Considered to be the 1st phase of the modern art movement
- Peacock chair 1881 by mackmurdo- shows the organic serpentine like line that was common to this style
- Jules Cheret Les Girad 1879 he still signs his piece as though his illustrations were fine art. It showed that graphic design is an art form
- Henri de Toulouse Lautrec - La Goulue au Moulin Rouge 1891 groundbreaking simplification of forms in a poster note the lamps and silloute of the background characters
- Le Chat Noir caberet house
- Alphonse Mucha made the Gismonda poster 1894 was a slove ~~and Paris~~ from Moldova who made a poster for an actress that he didn't even finish but it is still the most important poster of the period. He made it life size which was totally different he was inspired by Byzantine mosaics
- Earthy culture lots and lots of detail swirly lines and sensuality and use of the female form

from Moldova



<https://www.moma.org/collection/works/5142>

<http://www.worldmarket.com/product/black+wicker+peacock+chair.do>



Toulouse  
Lautrec  
Artist  
←



Moulin Rouge! 2001 film set in 1900 Paris

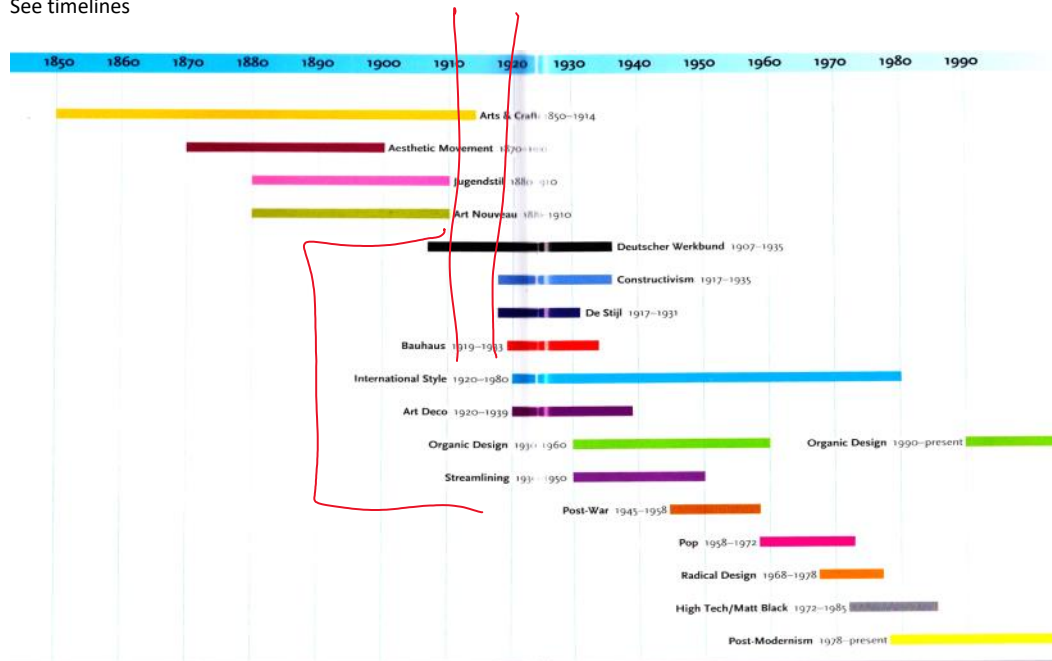
Everything changed around 1920. Modernist era began. Abstract shapes, unadorned surfaces, function rules

## 1914-1918 WORLD WAR I

Economies changed

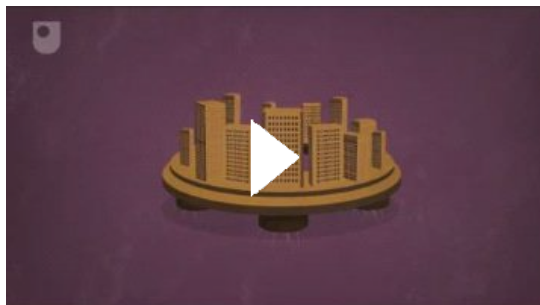
Art changed

See timelines



## Modernism

Design in a Nutshell, from the British Open University: [Modernism: Design in a Nutshell \(4/6\)](#)



In 1896, Louis Sullivan wrote:

It is the pervading law of all things organic and inorganic, of all things physical and metaphysical, of all things human, and all things super-human, of all true manifestations of the head, of the heart, of the soul, that the life is recognizable in its expression, that form ever follows function. *This is the law.* (italics in original)<sup>[8]</sup>

"Form follows function" would become one of the prevailing tenets of modern architects.

**Louis Henry Sullivan** (September 3, 1856 – April 14, 1924)<sup>[1]</sup> was an American architect, and has been called a "father of skyscrapers"<sup>[2]</sup> and "father of modernism."

From <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis\\_Sullivan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_Sullivan)>

1896, yes, but ideas and implementation really took off after WWI, circa 1920