

Unit 6: Neoclassicism

This final unit culminates with the emergence of Neoclassicism. Something of an extension of (and logical next stage of) the Age of Enlightenment, Neoclassicism coincides with several political developments and conflicts—most notably, the American and French revolutions. Looking to classical antiquity as an ideal of artistic, political, and moral virtue, artists (among others) developed a new (“neo”) classical tradition that suited the political climate of the time. Subject matter, style, medium, and genre were all borrowed from Classical antiquity but were overlaid with contemporary subjects and tastes.

Unit 6 Time Advisory

This unit will take you approximately 25 hours to complete.

- Subunit 6.1: 1 hour
- Subunit 6.2: 5 hours
- Subunit 6.3: 4 hours
- Museum Visits: 5 hours
- Writing Assignment: 5 hours
- Final Exam: 5 hours

Unit 6 Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this unit, students will be able to:

- Explain the reasons for the emergence of a new style in Western Europe that coincides with a shift in cultural values and mores.
- Describe the ways in which Neoclassical art met the demands of its patrons and reflected the interests and beliefs of the time.
- Discuss the ways in which Neoclassical art diverged from and grew out of the art of the Enlightenment.
- Identify the major works of art and artists of Neoclassical art.