



Yale-New Haven  
Teachers Institute®

Curriculum Units by Fellows of the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute  
1987 Volume IV: The Writing of History: History as Literature

---

## **The American Avant-Garde, 1904-1920**

Guide for Curriculum Unit 87.04.08  
by Sandra Willard

American Avant-Garde Artists from 1904-1920 includes the artists Arthur Dove, Georgia O'Keefe, Marsden Hartley, John Marin, Charles Sheeler and Charles Demuth. This unit provides some simple step-by-step lessons on how to create abstract paintings and a brief biography of each artist with reproductions of their early work and a quote from each that sums up their endeavors in art. The text includes some background material on America and American artists of this period. The text is concerned with the different attitude to Nature by the European Cubists and the American Abstractionists and how that attitude affected the look of the art work from the two continents.

(Recommended for Art classes, grades 7-12)

### **Key Words**

*Comparative European to American Abstract from Realistic to Abstract Art Instruction*

---

<https://teachersinstitute.yale.edu>

©2019 by the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute, Yale University

For terms of use visit <https://teachersinstitute.yale.edu/terms>