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Introduction to Postmodernism

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Your Place in History

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14th C

- Modern

1900

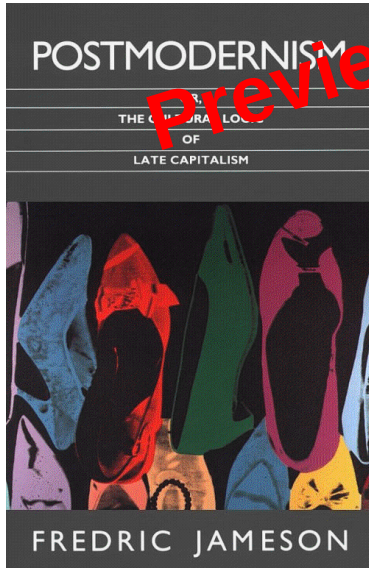
- Modernism

2000

- Postmodernism

You are here

What is Postmodernism?



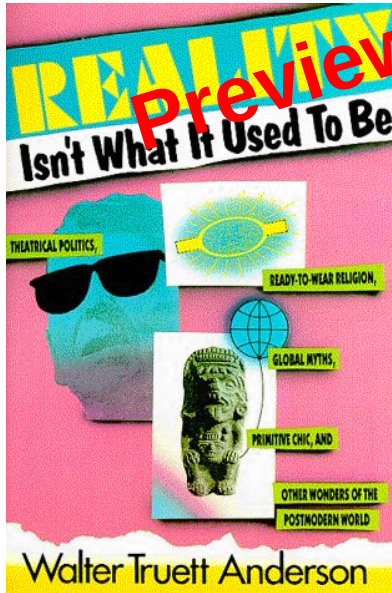
- Continuation of modernist view
- Does not mourn loss of history, self, religion, center
- A term applied to all human sciences — anthropology, psychology, architecture, history, etc.
- Reaction to modernism; systematic skepticism
- Anti-foundational

Ihab Hassan

- *Dismemberment of Orpheus* (1971)

- Explain the differences, both concrete and abstract, between modernism and postmodernism.

Postmodernism: Basic Concepts



- Life just is
- Rejection of all master narratives
- All “truths” are contingent cultural constructs
- Skepticism of progress; anti-technology bias
- Sense of fragmentation and decentered self
- Multiple conflicting identities
- Mass-mediated reality