

VISU 3060, WI, 1581: Art Since 1945

VISU 6060, 2153: Art Since 1945

Undergraduate WI lecture course: 4.00 Credits; Graduate course: 3.00 Credits

Scheduled course meeting times: Tue/Thu 5-6:15 pm [Period 7]

Location: Goodwyn Hall 110GH

Fall 2016

Instructor: Dr. Naomi Slipp, Assistant Professor of Art History

Office: Goodwyn Hall, office 209 B

Office hours: Tue/ Thu 2:30-4:30 pm, Wed: 12:30-2pm, or by appointment

Contact: [REDACTED]

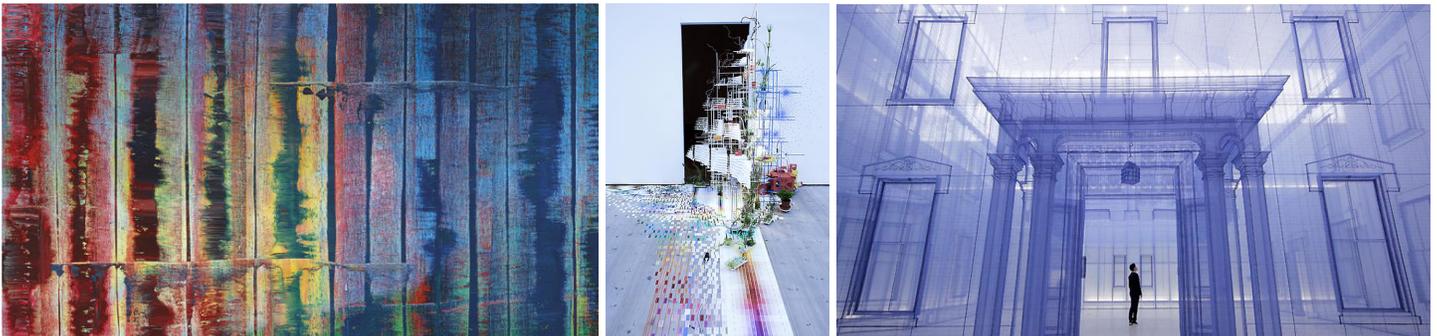
Department of Fine Arts: main office, Goodwyn Hall 104

WAC Intern: [REDACTED]

Email address: [REDACTED]

As your instructor, I am here to help you with course content and assignments. Please take advantage of office hours and schedule appointments as needed. In general, I will reply to emails within 24 hours. Assignments will always be graded and returned to students within two weeks of turn-in, unless notified otherwise.

* This syllabus is subject to change. I will always give at least one-week notice of any changes. *



Course Description

This writing intensive course explores major currents in European and American post-war art from 1945 to today, alongside contemporary culture, politics, and art criticism. We examine the ways artists have responded to an increasingly globalized world, where the production and reception of art has been affected by an expanding marketplace, proliferating exhibition venues, and global artistic practices. We discuss movements ranging from Abstract Expressionism, Pop art, and Minimalism, to Conceptual art, Earthworks, body art, performance and video works. Students explore how artists engage with identity politics, environment, and medium, evaluate the effect of the marketplace on artistic practice, and examine the ways artists negotiate the local and global, while participating in large-scale, global art exhibitions, like Biennales and international art fairs.

Prerequisites: ENGL 1010

Course Goals & Learning Objectives:

- To identify works of Contemporary art
- To situate those artworks historically and conceptually
- To express yourself verbally and converse thoughtfully about artworks and their histories
- To think critically about art historical discourse and methods in regards to contemporary theory
- To deploy art historical vocabulary and methods when analyzing artworks
- To gain skills in writing about visual materials, analyzing images, and researching artists
 - write clear, coherent prose
 - read with understanding and engagement
 - craft substantive academic arguments
 - plan, draft, and revise efficiently, learn from editorial criticism
- To understand main issues, themes, and questions regarding Contemporary art
- To connect those issues, themes, and questions to individual works of art, artists, and issues

AUM's Writing Across the Curriculum Program: Information on AUM's *Writing Across the Curriculum Program* can be found at www.aum.edu/writing. This writing-intensive course is in partial completion of AUM's 5-course WAC program requirement. Requirements: Because this is a writing-intensive course, students will be required to complete a minimum of 4 written products; students will have opportunities for prewriting, drafting, feedback (peer and/or individual), and revision during the drafting of at least one of these written products.

WAC Intern: All fall and spring content-area writing-intensive courses are assigned a WAC intern to support you with writing instruction, feedback, and improvement.

Assessment: All students will be rated on their writing skills at the end of the semester using the WAC rubric: <http://www.aum.edu/docs/default-source/Academics-Docs/wac-rubric-template.pdf?sfvrsn=0> During Spring term, students' writing skills (even years) and critical thinking skills (odd years) will be assessed in class with CAAP testing.

Graduate Students will be held to a higher standard of writing and critical thinking. They will be expected to participate fully in class discussions and set an example of academic rigor for their undergraduate peers.

Course Readings and Materials

Required textbook

Jonathan Fineberg, *Art Since 1940: Strategies of Being* (Third Edition, Prentice Hall, 2011).

Blackboard

This class will use Blackboard extensively. Any supplementary readings and assignments will be posted on Blackboard. Lectures will be added to the course blackboard site as PDFs after the course meeting. These should be used, along with the textbook, to study for the final examination. Grade Center on Blackboard will be used to maintain communication about your current course mark.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP UP WITH BLACKBOARD AND ASSIGNMENTS.

This syllabus should be your class go-to: follow it and the Blackboard announcements page to keep up to date

Blogging:

Wordpress blog: [REDACTED]

Login: [REDACTED]

Password: [REDACTED]

Course Assignments

You will be given a range of assignments in this course, including textbook reading, in-class exercises, four blog posts, two short papers, one in-class presentation, one research paper, and one exam. Students who prepare for class, participate actively, and take exercises seriously, tend to learn more and achieve a better course mark.

1. Article review (2 pages): DUE SEPTEMBER 8th

Students will read one short scholarly article closely and carefully. They will identify the author's thesis, object(s) of study, leading questions, types of evidence, and central claims. They will discuss how the author constructs their argument and whether it is convincing, or not.

2. Criticism paper (2 pages): DUE SEPTEMBER 22nd

Students will select one contemporary critic or theorist from a provided list of options. They will read one piece of criticism by said critic and evaluate the critic's concerns, central message, and interests.

3. Blog Posts: All blog posts should be uploaded by the deadline, should follow the prompts, and should be considerate and well-crafted. These short writing assignments are public, and reflect upon you and AUM. Be thoughtful. Every post should be signed at the end with the author's first name only (to protect privacy)

Blog Post 1 (350 words): DUE SEPTEMBER 29th

ARTISTS: Students will read the writing of one artist from a list provided & respond to the prompt.

Blog Post 2 (350 words): DUE OCTOBER 6th

EXHIBITIONS: Students will read one exhibition review from a list provided & respond to the prompt.

Blog Post 3 (350 words): DUE OCTOBER 20th

VIDEOS: Students will respond to one *Art 21 Video* (free online; link will be provided) of their choice.

Blog Post 4 (350 words): DUE NOVEMBER 10th

IN THE NEWS: Students will write one blog post in relation to contemporary art in the news.

4. Class Presentations: OCTOBER 25; OCTOBER 27; NOVEMBER 1

Students will select one contemporary artist from a list of options. They will give a 5-minute presentation adopting the persona of their artist. In the presentation, they will introduce and describe 1-2 key artworks, and outline their training, interests, and motivations. They must use a typed script (an outline or prose depending on your presentation style) and a PowerPoint of 3 slides. Both will be submitted to the instructor for evaluation.

5. Research paper (4 pages): DUE NOVEMBER 17th

Students will meld their critical paper (#2) and their contemporary artist presentation (#4) into one research paper. They will discuss how their critic would respond to their artist. They should then describe one artwork of the artist from the perspective of their critic.

6. Cumulative final examination: DECEMBER 1st, 5-7:30 pm

Material will be drawn from lecture & textbook

Part one: slide IDs: artist, title, and date; **Part two:** short essays

7. Participation Points: SEMESTER LONG ACCUMULATION

Throughout the course, students will be required to do in-class work, including short quizzes on readings, and in-class exercises. Students who miss class will not be able to make up these assignments.

Final Grade

10% Class Participation/In-Class Exercises

10% Article review (2 pages)

20% Blog Posts (4 posts)

10% Criticism paper (2 pages)

10% Class Presentation

20% Research paper (4 pages)

20% Final Examination

* In this class:

A indicates superb work, exceeds expectations

B indicates good work, meets expectations

C indicates average work, needs some improvement

D indicates poor work, needs much improvement

F indicates very poor work, unacceptable

Course Policies

Attendance & Participation

Attendance will be taken at each class. Attendance and participation (answer and ask questions, take part in discussions, complete in-class exercises and group work, etc.) comprise 10% of your grade therefore students should attend classes and actively engage with the material in and out of class. If you have a special obligation that requires you to miss several classes, notify the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Two unexcused absences are allowed before absences begin counting against your grade. **Barring exceptional circumstances, after two unexcused absences, 5-points will be deducted from the participation grade for each absence.**

AUM's Attendance policy clearly states:

- 1) Except where certification or program needs require greater strictness or where activities cannot feasibly be repeated (e.g. chemistry, biology labs) the University expects course instructors to allow makeup work for student absences caused by:
 - official university events with excuses provided in advance by the head of the University unit involved (e.g. for intercollegiate athletic matches, required academic events/academic travel)
 - student illness/medical emergency or medical emergency for member of student's immediate family
 - death of a member of student's immediate family
 - military orders (notification should occur prior to the absence)
 - jury duty or court subpoena (notification should occur prior to the absence)
 - religious holiday (notification should occur prior to the absence)
 - weather emergencies or perilous driving conditions (with notification if feasible)

The course instructor may request appropriate verification for any absence. Arrangements to make up work missed because of absence should be initiated by the student.

Tardiness

Frequent tardiness is disruptive to the instructor and class. Please be courteous and arrive early or on time to class. Examinations will always start on time and students will not be given the option to make-up the beginning of an examination if they arrive late to class.

Late & Missed Assignments or Examinations

All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course. You are expected to utilize time management and plan ahead. If you know you will miss a class when an assignment is due hand it in early. Except in extenuating circumstances or by prior arrangement, late assignments will incur a penalty of one-third of a letter grade per class. For example, if a B+ paper is handed in one class late the mark will automatically drop to a B.

Presentation and final examination dates are non-negotiable. If extenuating circumstances require a student to miss an examination, the instructor expects notification well in advance. Only those circumstances listed under the attendance section of this syllabus will be accepted as valid excuses for a missed examination. The instructor will require verification paperwork and will then work with the student(s) to schedule a make-up examination. Students who fail to attend an examination and do not communicate with the instructor about their absence will not be allowed to make-up said examination and will receive a “0” for that examination.

Academic Conduct Code

Academic dishonesty (including cheating and plagiarism) is a serious academic offense and will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the passing off of another’s words or ideas as your own. Turnitin, a plagiarism detection program, may be used on drafts of student papers at the discretion of the instructor. If a student plagiarizes or cheats in this course, they will receive a “0” on the assignment. They also may face AUM academic dishonesty procedures, at the discretion of the instructor. Read AUM’s policy on academic dishonesty here:

<http://www.aum.edu/docs/default-source/Student-Affairs/student-handbook-2014-2015.pdf?sfvrsn=0>

We will discuss how to properly cite sources for your writing assignments. However, if there is ever a question about whether to include a citation or reference someone’s ideas or a text or book, CITE!

Course Etiquette

- Be respectful of the opinions of other students during discussions
- Please maintain formal email etiquette during exchanges with the Professor
- Do not use cellular phones or recording devices during class. Inappropriate use of electronics in the classroom distracts you, your classmates, and the instructor. Repeated disruption due to tech will negatively affect your participation grade.

AUM Resources for Students

Disability Accommodations

Students who need accommodations are asked to arrange a meeting during office hours to discuss your accommodations. If you have a conflict with my office hours, an alternate time can be arranged. To set up this meeting, please contact me by e-mail. If you have not registered for accommodation services through the Center for Disability Services (CDS), but need accommodations, make an appointment with CDS, 147 Taylor Center, or call 334-244-3631 or e-mail CDS at [cgs@aum.edu](mailto:cds@aum.edu).

Free Academic Support

All students have the opportunity to receive free academic support at AUM. Visit the Learning Center (LC) in the WASC on second floor Library or the Instructional Support Lab (ISL) in 203 Goodwyn Hall. The LC/ISL offers writing consulting as well as tutoring in almost every class through graduate school. The LC may be reached at 244-3470 (call or walk-in for a session), and the ISL may be reached at 244-3265. ISL tutoring is first-come-first served. Current operating hours can be found at www.aum.edu/learningcenter.



*** All Readings Should be Read before the Day Listed ***

*** Come prepared to discuss the reading on the date assigned ***

Course Schedule

1. Tuesday, August 16

Lecture: **Course Introduction - *What is Contemporary?***

2. Thursday, August 18

Lecture: **The 1940s in New York, setting the stage**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 21-48

3. Tuesday, August 23

Lecture: **Dialogue with Europe, Gorky & DeKooning**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 49-88

*** Assigned: Article review ***

4. Thursday, August 25

Lecture: **Existentialism Comes to the Fore, Pollock & Rothko**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 89-124

5. Tuesday, August 30

Lecture: **New European Masters, Debuffet & Bacon**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 125-142

6. Thursday, September 1

Mandatory: LAST CALL, 5:30-8pm Montgomery Museum of Fine Art, *Photo-Realism* and *Lynn Saville: Dark City, Urban America at Night* - "Check-in" w/ Dr. Slipp @ event (can carpool from AUM)

SEPTEMBER 5 & 6 AUM HOLIDAY

7. Thursday, September 8

Lecture: **International Tendencies, Greenberg & Abstraction**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 143-164

*** Article review DUE ***

*** Assigned: Criticism paper ***

8. Tuesday, September 13

Lecture: **The Beat Generation: Johns & Rauschenberg**

Special Guest: Dr. Mark Benson, On John Cage

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 165-208

9. Thursday, September 15

Lecture: **Pop Art: Andy Warhol**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 229-280

10. Tuesday, September 20

Lecture: **Materials & Minimalism**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 281-322

11. Thursday, September 22

Lecture: **Politics of Postmodernism**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 323-362

*** Criticism paper DUE ***

12. Tuesday, September 27

Lecture: **The 1970s**

Reading (to be done for class): 397-434

13. Thursday, September 29

CLASS WILL NOT MEET * DUE: Blog Post One: Artist Statement *

14. Tuesday, October 4

Lecture: **The 1980s**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 435-464

15. Thursday, October 6

CLASS WILL NOT MEET * DUE: Blog Post Two: Exhibition Review *

16. Tuesday, October 11

Lecture: **1989: When does the Contemporary Begin?**

Reading (to be done for class):

“What is Modern and Contemporary Art? IMMA”
Alexander Alberro, “Periodising Contemporary Art”

*** Assigned: Class Presentations ***

17. Thursday, October 13

Lecture: **The 1990s**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 465-518

OCTOBER 14: Mid-Semester Grades Due – 30% of grade calculated

18. Tuesday, October 18

Lecture: **Compromised Boundaries**

Reading (to be done for class): Fineberg, 519-530

19. Thursday, October 20

CLASS WILL NOT MEET * DUE: Blog Post Three: Art 21 *

OCTOBER 21: Last Day to Drop

20. Tuesday, October 25

CLASS PRESENTATIONS: GROUP 1

21. Thursday, October 27

CLASS PRESENTATIONS: GROUP 2

22. Tuesday, November 1

CLASS PRESENTATIONS: GROUP 3

23. Thursday, November 3

Lecture: **IDENTITY: Quick-to-See Smith, Marshall, and Walker**

Reading (to be done for class):

“In the Tower: Kerry James Marshall”

“Kara Walker: My complement, my enemy, my oppressor, my love”

“Seeing America: Jaune Quick-to-See Smith’s Famous Names”

*** Research Paper Assigned ***

24: Tuesday, November 8

Lecture: **THE SENSES: Sze, Neto, and Eliasson**

Reading (to be done for class):

Rafael Tiffany, “Seeing Oneself Seeing ‘The weather project’: Notes on Olafur Eliasson’s Institutionalized Critique”

Arthur C. Danto, “Scientific and Artistic Models in the New Work of Sarah Sze”

The Five Sense Exhibition Brochure: Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art

25. Thursday, November 10

Lecture: **MATERIALS & EXHIBITIONS**

Special Guest: Dr. Jennifer Jankauskas, Curator, Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

*** DUE: Blog Post Four: Art In the News ***

26. Tuesday, November 15

Lecture: **TRANSFORMATION: Shonibare, Mehretu, and Anatsui**

Reading (to be done for class):

Okwui Enwezor, “Yinka Shoniabare: A Conversation”

El Anatsui, 2006

“Mehetru/Matrix 21, Manifestation”

27. Thursday, November 17

Lecture: **ECOLOGY: Dion, Pfaff, and von Rydingsvard**

Reading (to be done for class):

“Mark Dion: excerpts”

“Works + Conversations: an interview with Judy Pfaff”

“Ursula von Rydingsvard: Epic Scale”

*** Research papers DUE ***

NOVEMBER 21-25: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

28. Tuesday, November 29

Lecture: **GLOBALIZATION: Weiwei , Guo-Qiang, and Xu Bing**

Reading (to be done for class):

Ai Weiwei Royal Academy guide

“Cai Guo-Qiang, Traveler”

“Liminalities: Discussions on the Global and the Local”

FINAL EXAMINATION: December 1st, 5-7:30 pm



Final Grades due December 8th