

SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC
Fall Semester 2015
ARTH*3520-01
IDEA: ART SINCE 1950



INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Kristin Patterson
TIME: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00-5:20 pm.
LOCATION: MacKinnon Building, Rm. 114
OFFICE: Johnston Hall, Rm. 113A
PHONE: Ext. 58476
EMAIL: kristinp@uoguelph.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays/Thursdays, 3:30 – 4:00 p.m., or by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

An analysis of the visual arts of painting, sculpture, photographic media and non-traditional media World War II to the present. Selected artists of North America and Western Europe will be considered, as well as the institutions of the art world.

Prerequisite(s): 10.00 credits including 2.00 credits in Art History

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine the interrelation of art, culture in a globalized world. As a primary focus the course will examine the development of conceptual art and the significance of conceptual art since the middle of the twentieth century. The scope of this course is international, because conceptualism has had much to offer artists worldwide and it extends into the fields of painting, sculpture, photography, installation art, video, and mixed media art particularly from the second third of the twentieth century to the present.

The program of study begins with a broad survey of the key issues and approaches of modern art that have affected the idea of the 'aesthetic' since European modernity, and moves on to examine the history of anti-material and Conceptual Art before examining its their effects on more recent practices of art. Themes covered in the lectures will include how to interpret contemporary art, the various forms of cultural globalization, the role of museums, exhibitions and markets on art, postmodernism, and visual culture as approach to thinking about modern art.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course the students will have gained:

- knowledge of artists, exhibitions, and artworks since the mid-1950s;
- critical understanding of an increasing interrelationship between conceptual art and painting, sculpture, installation art, video and film;
- awareness of the influence of the art market on taste, style and major themes developed by artists around the world.
- appreciation of the discourse of postmodernism and its influence on art, visual culture, science, and the humanities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, students will have developed an understanding of the recent history of artistic practice. In addition, through the readings, discussion, and graded assignments the students will develop critical thinking and writing skills. These skills will be developed through the discussion of a variety of artworks contextualized by history, philosophy, and visual culture. The instructor will assist and “coach” throughout the process, but the main thrust of the exercise remains with the students. There are significant amounts of reading and audiovisual materials to take in this course. These materials must be examined in advance of the lectures. Students should come to class prepared to interact with the group. Reaching the course objectives rests with each individual student and her or his ability to demonstrate initiative and responsibility.

REQUIRED TEXT:

The readings for this course are selected from a variety of source material including artist’s writings, academic journal articles and web-hosted material. A detailed schedule of readings will be provided. All students are expected to have read and prepared notes on the assigned readings before classes.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Midterm, Thursday, October 15th	20%
Annotated Bibliography, due October 31st	10%
Final Research Paper, due November 22nd	20%
Final Exam, December 15th	40%
Class participation and discussion	10%

EMAIL POLICY:

I will respond to emails within 48 hours except Saturdays and Sundays and reserve the right to ignore your email if I consider the issue redundant. Please inquire only about the issues that require immediate attention and before you email your professor take a look at the syllabus, the materials posted on Courselink and search on-line to try to find the answers on your own. A

VIDEO/AUDIO RECORDING POLICY:

Any form of in-class video or audio recording or electronic capturing using cell phones, i-phones, recording to laptop or tape players is strictly prohibited without the instructor's consent and permission. The use of laptops and other similar writing devices in the seminar room and for presentations is allowed. Turn off your cell phone during class.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS POLICY:

The penalty for all late assignments, including the final paper, is 5% of the final grade per assignment for each 24 hour period following the deadline to a maximum of five (5) days after which the paper/assignment will no longer be accepted. Students are expected to contact the instructor immediately if she or he requires special consideration for medical or other compassionate reasons.

IN-CLASS COMPUTERS POLICY:

You may be requested to turn off your computer during lectures and I reserve the right to ask you to turn your computer off for the semester if I consider it is a distraction.