**SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS AND MUSIC**

**WINTER 2025**

**ARTH 4320**

**TOPICS IN ART AND VISUAL CULTURE II**

**Instructor: Amanda Boetzkes**

**Time: Wednesdays, 10:00-3:50pm**

**Location: ALEX 286**

**Email: aboetzke@uoguelph.ca**

**Office hour: By appointment**

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This seminar course is designed to explore one or more issues in Art and Visual Culture (Western Art) depending on the expertise of the instructor. Students should consult the department for specific offerings.

*Prerequisite(s):* A minimum of 14.00 credits including 2.50 credits in Art History

*Restriction(s):* \*ARTH 4060. Registration is limited to students registered in the Art History or Studio specializations with an average of 70% in all ARTH and SART course attempts.

This seminar is 1.0 credit.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

\*Students will gain experience thinking and discussing an advanced topic in a seminar situation

\*Students will learn to conduct scholarly research and produce effective forms of argumentation in the field of contemporary art and visual culture

\* Students will hone their skills in developing plausible methods of analysis in the field of art history and visual culture

**READINGS**

Readings are assigned on a weekly basis and posted on Courselink.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION**

Participation and Reading Summaries: 20%

Students are expected to attend every seminar, having completed all of the assigned readings. Be prepared to ask questions, answer questions and participate in class discussions. In addition, students are asked to prepare a two-page (double-spaced) summary of the readings for each seminar. Summaries will be handed in via a Dropbox folder on Courselink each week.

Seminar Presentation: 20%

Each student will present the readings for one of the seminars. The presentation should be a full 20 minutes and should outline the key arguments of the readings and reflect on them in relation to the themes of the class. The presentation involves a thorough summary of the arguments, a critical reflection on them in relation to each other, and an analysis of an artwork of your choice. A handout detailing this assignment will be provided.

Research Paper Presentations: 30% (10% Proposal and 20% Presentation)

Students will write a research paper that relates to the topic of the course. Research is a sustained endeavor that will be carried out over the course of the entire semester. The paper will be 10-12 pages. Each student will give a presentation based on the research paper. A handout detailing this assignment will be provided. Presentations will take place in the last two weeks of the seminar.

Students are asked to prepare a proposal for their research paper. The proposal should be one-two pages. It should state the research topic, the object of study, and provide a preliminary version of your argument in two or three paragraphs. It should also include an initial bibliography of six substantive sources. These will be due **February 26, 2025.**

Final Research Paper: 30%

After receiving feedback from the paper presentation, students will hand in the final research paper. The paper is due **April 9th, 2025.**