

SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC
Fall Semester 2015
ARTH*3200



COLOUR: PRACTICE AND MEANINGS IN WESTERN ART

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Martina Meyer
TIME: Tuesday & Thursday,
LOCATION: MacKinnon Building, Room 114
OFFICE: TBA
PHONE: 519-824-4120
EMAIL: meyerm@uoguelph.ca
OFFICE HOUR: Monday and Wednesday 9-10am

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the role colour has played in the work of selected artists and periods (Offered in odd-numbered years.)

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

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

According to David Batchelor, author of *Chromophobia* (2000) colour, though bound up with the fate of culture has been systematically marginalized. Yet, ever since antiquity, sculptors have used coloured materials and tints to give a lifelike quality to three-dimensional portraits and statues. Nonetheless, the term "sculpture" tends to evoke images of white marble. This course will provide a comprehensive examination of a broad historical range of sculptors' use of polychrome to enliven figural works. We will investigate polychrome in Classical Greek through contemporary sculpture, along with individual discussions of specific extraordinary works, from Old Kingdom Egypt to the present day—including sculptures whose polychrome has only been recently discovered, analyzed, or reconstructed through advanced technical evaluation. By considering polychrome sculpture from different periods side-by-side we will be able to consider a full range of possibilities concerning the appearance, function and reception of ancient polychrome sculpture.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- students will become familiar with colour theory and the use of colour as a means of expression together with applicable terminology
- students will gain an understanding of colour as a fundamental biological response, while exploring the optics of colour
- students will recognize individual and cultural differences to both the emotive and the symbolic character of colour

- students will become familiar with the relationship between art and technology and how this is manifest in a chronological analysis of colour production and application

REQUIRED TEXT:

Philip Ball, *Bright Earth: Art and the Invention of Colour. Bright Earth: Art and the Invention of Color*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.
Reprinted 2008 by Random House.

David Batchelor, *Chromophobia*, Reaktion Books, 2000.
Online: <https://approachestopainting.files.wordpress.com/2013/01/163577202-chromophobia-david-batchelor.pdf>

** Additional Readings will be added to Coureslink.

Recommended Texts:

David Batchelor, *Colour*, 2008, MIT Press .

FORMAT

This course is devised as a *lecture/seminar* hybrid. As a result, students are expected to contribute to the focus of the course in terms of analysis, discussions, and weekly critical reviews and presentations. All students are to have read and prepared notes on the assigned articles and chapters for effective class participation.

EVALUATION:

Midterm (In class, Oct. 20th)	25%
Term Project - Presentation	25%
Writing assignment (Nov. 10th)	25%
Final exam (Take-home final exam distributed on the last day of lecture) Due date TBA	25%

Midterm & Final Assignment: Examinations are based on specific material covered in class and on the required readings. All examinations are in essay format. Types of examination may vary from Take Home Exams, Oral Presentations or In Class examination. Examinations missed without prior written excuse from the instructor or written excuse for medical or other emergencies cannot be made up. No electronic mail, fax, telephone, or voice mail is acceptable.

The midterm examination considers identification of the artwork, comparison between artworks, applicable terminology. The Final Examination is a take home

and requires an essay answer.

WRITING ASSIGNMENT: All written material presented for evaluation should follow these guidelines. Content: You must have an introduction, stating the purpose of your paper, a development, explaining thesis of your project and a conclusion, a summary of your findings. If sources are consulted, you must credit them in a footnote or endnote. Bibliographical references must be included to demonstrate the sources you have consulted. The written assignment will be graded on form as well as content so that spelling, punctuation, grammar, and syntax are to be considered with some care. Late papers will not be accepted. I do not accept papers via email. The length of the paper is 4-5 pages (1000-1250 words) and NO longer, double-spaced with illustrations and bibliography. Please keep a copy of your paper and hand in the original to me in class. A note on Internet sources: Only legitimate academic Internet journals are allowed as possible sources. Wikipedia, to name but one example, is not a legitimate research tool or academic source and should not form part of your research or bibliographical material. Secondary source material must be properly cited with quotation marks and footnotes. Failure to credit any source in your paper is plagiarism, which is a serious offence.

TERM PROJECT: Details depend upon enrollment.

Late papers and make-up tests: As the dates of exams and due dates of assignments are included in the syllabus, all students are expected to know about them and to be prepared accordingly. If a student does not show up for a test or is late with a paper s/he must provide evidence of a medical emergency or similarly unavoidable reason for doing so, or should expect their grade to be affected.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities (soon to be re-named Student Accessibility Services) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact CSD at [519-824-4120](tel:519-824-4120) ext. 56208 or email csd@uoguelph.ca or refer to the CSD website. The standard statements are available on the AVPA website (undergraduate courses) or from the Office of Graduate Studies (Graduate Courses).

Library and Learning Commons Services

[Data Resource Centre](#)

[IT Help](#)

Writing Services

[Learning Services](#)

[Library Accessibility Services](#)

[Research & Information Literacy](#)

[Supported Learning Groups Program](#)

<http://www.learningcommons.uoguelph.ca>

Electronic Recoding of Lectures:

Electronic recording of lectures is expressly forbidden without prior consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted, they are solely for the use of the authorized student, and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

SIS

Students must advise the instructor that they are working with the CSD office no later than the first 2 weeks of the term.

E-mail Communication

As per University regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the university and its students.

Drop Date

The last date to drop one-semester Winter 2015 courses, without academic penalty, is Friday October 31. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate

Calendar: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Copies of out-of-class assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Each student at the University of Guelph has rights, which carry commensurate responsibilities that involve, broadly, being a civil and respectful member of the University community. The Rights and Responsibilities are detailed in the Undergraduate

Calendar: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/2014-2015/c01/index.shtml>

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and enjoins all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>