

**SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC**  
**Winter Semester 2014**  
**ARTH 4310-01**  
**TOPICS IN ART AND VISUAL CULTURE I**  
**TOPIC: ART & CRIME**



**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Susan Douglas  
**TIME:** Tues. 8:30 – 11:20 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Alexander Hall, Rm. 286  
**OFFICE:** Johnston Hall, Rm. 111  
**PHONE:** Ext. 53024  
**EMAIL:** sdouglas@uoguelph.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday 2:00 – 3:00 pm or by appointment

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**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

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

***Prerequisite:*** A minimum of 14.00 credits including 2.50 credits in Art History.

***Restriction:*** ARTH\*4050

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course focuses on crimes against art. Art crime is not a new phenomenon. The pervasiveness of art crime will be explored as we investigate various art thefts, art scams, art fakes, and famous forgers.

Art theft, art fraud, art forgery, and the illicit traffic of fine art and other cultural heritage material are forms of art world activity that are known but frequently go unreported. Yet fakes and forgeries have fooled specialists in the Louvre, at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Victoria and Albert Museum and stolen art and antiquities from all over the world are material for collectors and art collections. In addition, there's a growing problem of counterfeit works sold as originals at in the art market. Students in this course have the opportunity not only to raise their awareness about the relationship between art and crime globally, but also to apply theory to specific case studies through a series of practical exercises.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

This course was devised with learning outcomes in mind. By the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Analyze significant events in the history of crimes against art

2. Recognize aspects of museum security and analyze the various methods by which art and antiquities are safeguarded from attacks
3. Evaluate the lives of individuals who have engaged in criminal activity in presentations
4. Describe and analyze the relationship between stolen, counterfeit art and contemporary events in writing

The learning objectives for this course include being able to integrate visual literacy, global understanding, and a sense of historical development with visual and material culture from a multidisciplinary and theoretical perspective. Reaching these objectives rests with the students in the class and their ability to demonstrate initiative and responsibility. The instructor will assist and “coach” throughout the process, but the main thrust of the exercise remains with the students. There is a significant amount of reading to take in throughout the semester. The assignments are devised to encourage critical and creative thinking. Students are expected to contribute to the focus of the course in terms of analysis, discussions, and summaries of the readings delivered orally or in writing.

**REQUIRED TEXT**

Course readings will be available on-line or through the course instructor.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION**

<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Discussions in seminar .....	20%	Weekly
2 Essays (each 2500 words) .....	20%	Weeks 4 and 8
2 Presentations (each 20 min.) .....	20%	Weeks 4 and 8
Final paper outline.....	5%	Week 10
Final paper (3500 words).....	35%	Week 12

A late penalty will be applied to late assignments. See details in Courselink.

**FORMAT AND READINGS:**

This course is devised as a lecture. As a result, the assigned readings have been chosen to introduce students to some of the leading artist, terms, and significant contributions to the development of contemporary art and culture. All students are expected to have read and prepared notes on the assigned chapters before the lectures.

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**OFFICE HOURS:**

Office hours are established to allow students to ask questions, initiate private discussions regarding the content of the course, or art history in general.

**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.

**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 in certain circumstances. Please turn your cell phone off during class.