PROSEMINAR I:
METHODS OF ART HISTORY AND VISUAL CULTURE

INSTRUCTOR: Dr Christina Smylitopoulos
TIME: Tuesdays, 11:30am-2:20pm
LOCATION: ALEX, Room 286
OFFICE: Johnston Hall, 120
PHONE: 519-824-4120, Ext. 53783
EMAIL: csmylito@uoguelph.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 2:30pm-3:30pm or by appointment

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
This proseminar explores the histories, theories, and methodologies of the fields of art history, visual culture, and material culture.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
The discipline of art history, traditionally understood as the study of objects and their stylistic development, has since the eighteenth century been imbricated and intertwined with histories of aesthetics, connoisseurship, and criticism as well as histories of thought, literature, and the built world. This seminar will explore the history of the study of art history from its emergence as a discipline to the most recent shift, which began in the 1970s and incorporates the interpretive methods of critical theory as well as the incorporation of methodologies from the study of visual and material cultures.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:
The aim of this seminar is to provide a critical history of art history and visual culture. As a result of participating in this seminar, students will have knowledge of the major debates that have shaped the discipline of art history and visual culture and will be able to situate their own methodologies and approaches within or without these historiographic contexts. Students will sharpen their presentation skills, written and verbal, and practice facilitating productive discussion. Students will learn to revise work following critique and through their writing, hone skills in argumentation.

REQUIRED TEXT:

METHOD OF EVALUATION (Outline):
Class Discussion Facilitation/Critical Reading: Date TBD 20%
Historiography Research Paper
   PART I - Paper Proposal: (Due: October 24) 10%
   Historiography Research Paper Presentation: (Scheduled for November 22 and November 29) 20%
       PART II – Final Paper (Due December 8) 35%
Class Participation/Collegiality 15%
### WEEKLY SEMINAR SCHEDULE

**Week 1: Introductory Lecture—“The Crisis in the Discipline” and the History of Art History**  
**Tuesday, September 12**

**Preparatory Readings:**

**Week 2: New Art History: Lives and Ideas**  
**Tuesday, September 19**

**Readings:**

**Week 3: Art Criticism**  
**Tuesday, September 26**

**Readings:**

**Week 4: History of Artists**  
**Tuesday, October 3**

**Readings:**

**Week 5: Study Break Day**  
**Tuesday, October 10**

**NO CLASS**

**Week 6: Taste**  
**Tuesday, October 17**

**Readings:**
Week 7: Genius and Judgement
Tuesday, October 24 (PAPER PROPOSALS DUE)

Readings:


Week 8: Art History
Tuesday, October 31
Readings:


NOVEMBER 3—FORTIETH DAY

Week 9: Tuesday, November 7
Graduate Writing, Presentation by Jodie Salter, PhD \ Writing Specialist, Writing Services

Week 10: Cultural History
Tuesday, November 14
Readings:

Week 11: Artistic Will and Discipline
Tuesday, November 21
Readings:


Week 12: Research Paper Presentations
Tuesday, November 28

Week 13: Research Paper Presentations
Tuesday, November 30

Week 14: FINAL CLASS – Q & A
FINAL PAPERS DUE DECEMBER 8th IN PROFESSOR’S OFFICE (JOHNSTON HALL 120) by 11am.

METHOD OF EVALUATION (Detailed):

Policy on Missed or Late Assignments: Missed or late assignments without legitimate cause (medical/compassionate) and supporting documentation will not be graded. Assignments are due in class or by prior arrangement. Emailed assignments will not be graded.

Class Discussion Facilitation/Critical Reading: Date TBD 20%
In a graduate seminar, students are expected to explore issues inspired by the weekly required readings, an activity that benefits considerably from the activities of a facilitator, who summarizes the major themes of the readings and provides
questions to stimulate discussion. Each student will lead the class in a seminar discussion. The presentation aspect of this exercise cannot go beyond 15 minutes (7.5 pages of text, double-spaced with 12 point Times New Roman font). I strongly urge students to script out and rehearse presentations. Following the presentation, students will offer the class 2-3 questions related to the issues taken up in the readings to encourage productive discussion. Please bring PowerPoint slides, saved to a memory stick, which reproduces the questions and works of art relevant to the readings. Please also bring a hard copy of the presentation, which will be given to the Professor at the start of the class. The hard copy of the assignment will not be graded, but will be returned with comments. Top marks will go to students who not only present an organized and accurate summary of the readings and provide stimulating discussion questions, but also situate the readings within the larger discourse as explored in class and beyond.

**Historiography Research Paper**

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<th>PART I – Research Paper Proposal: (DUE OCTOBER 24)</th>
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<td>After a discussion with the professor regarding the proposed topic, a one-page paper proposal is due in class which outlines the arguments, objects of analysis, and a brief plan.</td>
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<th>Historiography Research Paper Presentation: (Scheduled for November 28 and 30th)</th>
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<td>This assignment is an opportunity to share your research with the professor and your colleagues in order to gain feedback on ideas, structure, argumentation, and the relevance of sources before the final paper is submitted. Top marks will go to presentations that communicate a strong argument, logical format, appropriate use of evidence, and the effective use of A/V (ie. PowerPoint slides).</td>
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<td>PART II – Final Research Paper: (DUE DECEMBER 8)</td>
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<td>5,000 word paper (including footnotes) on the topic approved by the professor, which engages with one/some of the themes we have explored in class, due in class December 8. Chicago style footnotes, 12 point font, times new roman.</td>
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<td>Class participation, demonstrated through respectful verbal contributions within class discussion and appropriate classroom behaviour will also be evaluated. Thoughtful, measured responses that advance discussion are considered ideal. It is important to note that I consider emails from students and any communication on Courselink part of class participation.</td>
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**UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH GUIDELINES:**

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

**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.

**Drop Date**
Courses that are one semester long must be dropped by the end of the fortieth class day (Friday, 3 November 2017); two-semester courses must be dropped by the last day of the add period in the second semester. The regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses are available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

**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.
**Accessibility**

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required, however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance, and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For more information see the SAS web site.

**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.

**Academic Misconduct**

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of 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. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar.

**Recording of Materials**

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

**Resources**

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.