



## ARTH\*3520 Idea: Art Since 1950

Fall 2019

Section(s): C01

School of Fine Art and Music

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - August 27, 2019

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### 1 Course Details

#### 1.1 Calendar Description

This course provides 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.

**Pre-Requisites:** 7.50 credits or 1.50 credits in Art History.

#### 1.2 Course Description

An artist hands over a set of instructions for wall drawings as a contribution to an exhibition. Another artist undergoes cosmetic surgery as part of a live art performance. In another work an artist directs bulldozers to move tons of earth in order to sculpt the landscape in a remote desert location. Why and how do we consider these actions to be art? What are the political dimensions of such practices? What are the social, economic and/or ecological implications? What are the meanings of such contemporary art?

This course investigates contemporary art produced in Western Europe and North America. In the last fifty years art has taken on new forms, political meanings, and theoretical ideas. For the purpose of understanding key developments this course presents material focused around themes such as identity in art or broad media categories such as performance art. Each class is organized around a central idea from which we will explore a range of practices. Using this format we will examine the major trends and practices of contemporary art and the critical debates that have informed and shaped their reception. Beginning with cultural

developments of the postwar period, the course will examine conceptual art, body and performance art, environmental art, feminist art, sexual and ethnic identity politics, activism in art, various aspects of postmodern art and recent trends in art practice and criticism. Individual artists will be located within their social and historical contexts while exploring broader themes such as identity, representation, the boundaries of the art object, and the role of the artist in society.

### 1.3 Timetable

Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:30-12:50 pm

### 1.4 Final Exam

Exam time and location is subject to change. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

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## 2 Instructional Support

### 2.1 Instructional Support Team

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Kristin Patterson (PhD)
<b>Email:</b>	kristinp@uoguelph.ca
<b>Telephone:</b>	+1-519-824-4120 x53139
<b>Office:</b>	276 Alexander Hall
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Mondays, 1:00 pm- 2:30 p.m., or by appointment

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## 3 Learning Resources

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## 4 Learning Outcomes

### 4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Students will gain exposure to a wide range of contemporary art practices
2. Students will gain an understanding of major themes, artists and issues in contemporary art
3. Introduction and discussion of contemporary art theory and criticism
4. Students will gain an appreciation of the intersections between art and the social, political and cultural events and changes of the last forty years
5. Identify and discuss multiple relationships between contemporary art and broader social

and cultural issues as ideology, gender, race, or ethnicity.

6. Students will continue to develop observation and critical assessment skills

7. Students will refine research and writing skills through course assignments

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## 5 Teaching and Learning Activities

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## 6 Assessments

### 6.1 Assessment Details

**Midterm (20%)**

**Date:** Wed, Oct 16

**Annotated Bibliography (10%)**

**Date:** Sun, Oct 27

**Final Research Paper (25%)**

**Due:** Sun, Nov 17

**Class Participation and Discussion (15%)**

**Final Examination (30%)**

### 6.2 Details

\*\*Details of all course assignments will be posted on [CourseLink>Content>Assignments](#).

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## 7 Course Statements

### 7.1 Note on Content

We will be viewing and discussing controversial material. Many contemporary artworks focus on politics of difference and raise issues around racial and gender identities, oppression and resistance. Some artworks may express viewpoints with which you do not agree. Some contemporary art is made expressly with the intent of provoking new ways of seeing or thinking about art or the world around us. I urge each student to express their views in a respectful manner in class and if for any reason you find the material difficult to deal with please come and see me.

### 7.2 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.

## 8 University Statements

### 8.1 Email Communication

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

### 8.2 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. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

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

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

### 8.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

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

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

## 8.4 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.

## 8.5 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 Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website  
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website  
<https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

## 8.6 Academic Integrity

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 encourages academic integrity. 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.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct  
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

## **8.7 Recording of Materials**

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

## **8.8 Resources**

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

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

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