



ARTH*2220 The Visual Arts Today

Fall 2021

Section(s): C01

School of Fine Art and Music

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - June 30, 2021

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This course is an introduction to contemporary visual culture, its current controversies and its historical roots. The avant-garde movements of the modern period and the impact of new technologies and media will be examined within a rich historical context. Topics will include international exhibitions, selling art, art and popular culture, censorship, and the relation between words and images.

Pre-Requisites:

2.00 credits or (ARTH*1510 or ARTH*1520)

Restrictions:

ARTH*1220. This is a Priority Access Course. Enrolment may be restricted to particular programs or specializations. See department for more information.

1.2 Course Description

This course provides a survey of themes and concepts that are relevant to contemporary visual culture. We will draw upon examples from the realms of art production, advertising, cinema, graphic traditions, and scientific images in order to study how visual culture interacts with and informs social, cultural, political, and economic aspects of human society. Through the various course components we will consider such questions as: What is visual culture? How does the context in which an image is viewed shape the way it is interpreted by a viewer? Why are certain types of images privileged over others? What types of theories exist to explain how audiences interpret and understand visual culture? In what ways can images reinforce or challenge dominant ideologies in society?

1.3 Timetable

Class period: Monday & Wednesday 4:00 pm - 5:20 pm

This course will be delivered online

1.4 Final Exam

There is no formal Final Examination

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor:	Susan Douglas PhD
Email:	sdouglas@uoguelph.ca
Telephone:	+1-519-824-4120 x 53024
Office:	JHNNH 111
Office Hours:	Appointments will be online, by request

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Marita Sturken and Lisa Cartwright. Practices of Looking: An Introduction to Visual Culture. 3rd edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017. (Textbook)

This text may be purchased in paperback format from the Campus Coop Bookstore, the University Bookstore and online suppliers. Please ensure you obtain the correct edition. Because you will be working from home, it may be more convenient for you to purchase this resource in digital format. The Campus Coop Bookstore will help you with ordering: www.guelphcampus.coop.

3.2 Additional

Additional readings may be required throughout the semester.

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify and distinguish a variety of critical terms and theoretical approaches in thinking about visual practice
 2. Develop skills of visual analysis activated through visual literacy
 3. Discuss how images carry meaning in the contemporary visual landscape and in different arenas of daily life
 4. Develop appreciation of an area of research that is becoming increasingly important in academia, namely visual studies
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5 Teaching and Learning Activities

5.1 Lecture Information

This course has been revised so that students can proceed at their own pace through the resources provided. The course content is delivered through readings, visual material and weekly online discussion

6 Assessments

6.1 Assessment Details

Mini Analysis video or MP3 (20%)

Date: November 23rd

Specific instructions will be provided

Tests (70%)

A series of timed multiple-choice and short answer tests are intended to measure your overall understanding of the course material. These tests will also help you identify any knowledge gaps or talking points for consideration and possible discussion at set times. You should complete every one of these graded assignments. The best seven out of ten grades will count towards your final course grade.

Participation and Discussion (10%)

Date: Weekly

Specific instructions will be provided

6.2 Assignment Details

As above

7 Course Statements

7.1 Email Policy, Online Behaviour & Penalty for Late Assignments

Email Policy

Emails will be answered on weekdays during regular working hours.

Online Behaviour

Inappropriate online behaviour will not be tolerated. Examples of inappropriate online behaviour include:

- Posting inflammatory messages about your instructor or fellow students
- Using obscene or offensive language online
- Copying or presenting someone else's work as your own
- Adapting information from the Internet without using proper citations or references
- Buying or selling term papers or assignments
- Posting or selling course materials to course notes websites
- Having someone else complete your quiz or completing a quiz for/with another student
- Stating false claims about lost quiz answers or other assignment submissions
- Threatening or harassing a student or instructor online
- Discriminating against fellow students, instructors and/or TAs
- Using the course website to promote profit-driven products or services
- Attempting to compromise the security or functionality of the learning management system
- Sharing your user name and password
- Recording lectures without the permission of the instructor

Penalty for Late Assignments

The penalty for all late assignments is -5% per assignment for each 24 hour period following the deadline given to a maximum of five (5) days after which the graded component will no longer be accepted. You are expected to contact the course instructor by email in advance of the deadline should you require special consideration.

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>

8.9 Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

8.10 Illness

The University will not normally require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for fall 2020 or winter 2021 semester courses. However, requests for Academic Consideration may still require medical documentation as appropriate.
