



ARTH*2480 Introduction to Art Theory and Criticism

Fall 2023

Section(s): C01

School of Fine Art and Music

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - June 26, 2023

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This course provides an overview of some of the most significant methodological approaches and critical practices used by art historians to write about visual culture. Traditional methods of art historical analysis include connoisseurship, iconography, and formalism. With these we will be exploring newer interpretative models and multidisciplinary approaches such as structuralism, semiotics, post-structuralism, and psychoanalytic theory as well as political theories such as feminism and socio-cultural theory.

Pre-Requisites:

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

Restrictions:

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 an overview of some of the most significant theories of art and its history. It covers methodological approaches and critical practices used to write about art and visual culture. The course will provide a foundation in traditional methods of art historical analysis but will focus on interpretative models and multidisciplinary approaches of the 20th and 21st centuries such as semiotics, post-structuralism, and psychoanalytic theory as well as socio-political theories such as feminism, critical race studies, queer theory and visual culture.

1.3 Timetable

Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00am-11:30am in MCK 117

Timetable is subject to change. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

1.4 Final Exam

Take-home final is due Friday, Dec. 4, 2023

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

2 Instructional Support**2.1 Instructional Support Team**

Instructor:	Amanda Boetzkes
Email:	amanda.boetzkes@uoguelph.ca
Office:	JHNNH 125

3 Learning Resources

4 Learning Outcomes**4.1 Course Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Introduce the history of Western art criticism and its methodologies
2. Define the central tasks and goals of diverse methodological approaches and critical practices used by art historians to talk about visual culture
3. Understand works of art as manifestations of human belief, thought, and experience
4. Recognize the various roles of art in our society
5. Demonstrate an increased knowledge of the events and ideas that have come to shape the history of art and its contemporary counterparts
6. Encourage studio majors to practice their art with a deeper understanding of its

relationship to the history of art and its current placement and relationship to contemporary art

7. Introduce the relevant terminology and theoretical approaches in order that students may confidently express their ideas with proficiency in the languages of artistic expression
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5 Teaching and Learning Activities

6 Assessments

6.1 Assessment Details

Participation (10%)

Students are expected to complete all the assigned readings and are responsible for learning the content in all lectures. Be prepared to participate in class discussions and activities whether synchronously or asynchronously. A weekly discussion group will be created on courselink for students to register their reflections, questions and commentary.

Midterm (30%)

Date: Mon, Oct 23

Students will write a take-home midterm due **Monday, October 23rd**. The midterm will be designed to be completed in one 80-minute sitting.

Short Research Paper (30%)

Date: Mon, Nov 20

Students will write a 5-7 page research assignment that engages the methods and theories covered in the course material.

Take Home Exam (30%)

Date: Mon, Dec 11

Students will write a final take-home exam. It will be handed out on December 4th and due December 11th.

7 Course Statements

7.1 Electronic Recording 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.

7.2 CSD

If you require assistance or reasonable accommodations to complete assigned course work (such as modifications in testing, readers, special equipment, etc.) students must advise the instructor that.

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 make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

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, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. 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

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g.. final exam or major assignment).

8.11 Covid-19 Safety Protocols

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>
- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.
