



ARTH*4310 Topics in Art and Visual Culture I

Winter 2022

Section(s): C01

School of Fine Art and Music

Credit Weight: 1.00

Version 1.00 - November 24, 2021

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

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

Pre-Requisites: 10.00 credits including 1.00 credits in Art History at the 3000 level.

1.2 Course Description

A cultural object may be illegally trafficked because it was stolen, illegally exported to one country, illegally imported into another country where it is presently located, or by varying combinations of these activities. The purpose of our seminar is to investigate the production, distribution and consumption of fine art and stolen cultural property by prominent museums where such items may currently be held. Some of these museums have recently engaged in the return of cultural objects to their original communities as the result of legal action. Private law and civil law are two distinct branches of law but in our context share a common purpose: the restitution to the true owner(s) of cultural objects as a matter of justice and fairness. Recognition of the rights of owners, whether individuals or, in the case of archaeological artefacts, their modern country of origin, or place in which they were discovered, serves to further these purposes. The recognition of these rights encourages the flourishing of modern communities, groups and identities, encourages their intellectual and spiritual development and creates and enhances economic opportunities. It recognises human rights and the rights of these communities to their heritage. This course will be of interest to undergraduate and graduate students in Art History, Museum Studies and Cultural Heritage Administration as well as others in adjacent areas such as criminology and philosophy.

1.3 Timetable

Timetable is 1:30pm subject to confirmation. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

1.4 Final Exam

There is no final exam.

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor:	Dr. Susan Douglas (PhD)
Email:	sdouglas@uoguelph.ca
Telephone:	+1-519-824-4120 x53024
Office:	JHNN 111
Office Hours:	By request.

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Mackenzie, Simon, et al. Trafficking Culture. Available from: VitalSource Bookshelf, Taylor & Francis, 2019. (Textbook)

<https://bookshelf.vitalsource.com>

Additional required readings will be made available through the university library and online.

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Confidently address a variety of topics related to the trafficking cultural heritage and collecting culture, areas that are becoming ever more important in museum studies and academic research.
2. Demonstrate critical thinking by evaluating existing theories and arguments and apply them to the development of your own. Determining the credibility, reliability

and cogency of your information sources is a critical step in this process. Recognising and avoiding biases in manifest and /or latent content extends to being able to evaluate your own cognitive biases, unexamined assumptions, your values and your point of view.

3. Prepare for a career in art history, museums and/or the cultural heritage sector by reporting on how illicit cultural material impacts the art market and institutional collections.
4. Appreciate uncertainty, ambiguity and the limits of knowledge having gained understanding of how these limits may influence analyses, interpretations and worldview.

5 Teaching and Learning Activities

6 Assessments

6.1 Assessment Details

Course participation (30%)

Date: Weekly

Course participation (completion of all required readings and active participation in discussions)

Three short projects (30%)

Date: t.b.a.

(paper proposal, mapping project, network project)

Research paper (40%)

Date: t.b.a.

Research paper (poster, presentation, final paper)

7 Course Statements

7.1 Course Requirements

Before each lecture, all students are expected to have read and prepared substantive

summary notes on the assigned readings. Your participation in the class is critical both to your individual success in the course and to the success of the course as a whole. You should come to class prepared to work in small groups and engage in dialogue based upon the course material. Regular attendance and active participation in each class session are critical to the receipt of a satisfactory grade in the course. Effective class participation is not just attendance but includes attentiveness and listening, criticality, judgment, as well as reading comprehension. It includes your ability to respectfully examine, synthesize and reliably communicate your colleague's questions and arguments. You should strive to achieve balance in your contribution, since your participation will not be evaluated based purely upon the length or volume of the contribution but upon the consistent contribution of significant quality. The successful achievement of the educational goals of this class rest with each individual student. My role as instructor is to assist and guide a process by which students realize their maximum potential. A variety of short course projects have been incorporated into the course design to assist students in attaining this goal.

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, 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.
