



AVC*6300 Special Topics in Art History and Visual Culture

Winter 2022

Section(s): C01

School of Fine Art and Music

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - November 15, 2021

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This seminar explores issues of historical and critical method by focusing them through the lens of a particular area of concern within the fields of art history, visual culture, and/or material culture.

1.2 Course Description

Looking critically at theories of care and vulnerability, in the work of scholars such as Joan Tronto, Alexander Wehilye, Hortense Spillers, Estelle Ferrarese, Jason Moore and Leanne Simpson, we will ask how our understandings of care shift in light of how artists –settler, diasporic, feminist, queer, Latinx and Indigenous– engage these themes in contemporary Canada.

In contemporary arts in Canada, diasporic artists like Jin Me Yoon, Lillian Allen, and Kyisha Williams, queer of colour artists Paul Wong and Richard Fung, as well as Indigenous artists like Kent Monkman and Rebecca Belmore have raised issues of vulnerability, and the labours of care that artists undertake with/in various communities, sites, publics and lands. Feminist philosopher Joan Tronto posits care as a “generic doing of ontological significance... [that] includes everything that we do to maintain, continue and repair ‘our world’ so that we can live in it as well as possible” (3). In this course we will explore the concepts of vulnerability and care as theoretical frameworks for thinking about the work of Canadian artists in light of diasporic, feminist, Indigenous, Latinx, Black, queer and Marxist theories and historical approaches.

1.3 Timetable

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

Thurs 2:30-5:20 pm

This course will be taught remotely.

1.4 Final Exam

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

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor:	Jessica Jacobson-Konefall
Email:	jjacobso@uoguelph.ca
Telephone:	NA
Office:	NA
Office Hours:	available on Zoom

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Texts

Wehelyie, Alexander. *Habeas Viscus: Racializing Assemblages, Biopolitics, and Black Feminist Theories of the Human*. Durham: Duke UP. 2014

Weekly readings will be assigned and placed either in course reserve or on Courselink

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. • Define and interrogate the concepts of care and vulnerability in critical social theory
- Consider and historicize the ways that Canadian discourses such as “vulnerable populations” and “taking into care” are critiqued in contemporary arts as resistance

- Discuss and explore the functions of care and vulnerability in contemporary Canadian art practices
- Consider care and vulnerability in the context of art archives and the role of Canadian art institutions
- Consider care and vulnerability in terms of forms of audience engagement
- Develop analytical presentations of theoretical works on care and vulnerability in relation to Canadian contemporary arts
- Develop written analyses of artworks that engage concepts of care and vulnerability with reference to social and historical contexts in Canada

5 Teaching and Learning Activities

6 Assessments

Participation20%

Reading Presentation20%

Paper presentation.....20%

Research paper40%

6.1 Marking Schemes & Distributions

Participation - 20%

Students are expected to come to every seminar, be in class on time, and have completed the assigned readings. Be prepared to answer questions and participate in class discussions. In addition, students are asked to prepare summaries (one for each reading) for every seminar. The summaries will be handed in. In addition, you should prepare a proposal with six key sources for your research paper.

Reading Presentations - 20%

Each student will present two of the readings. The presentation should be 20 minutes, and should outline the key arguments of the reading and reflect on them in relation to the themes of the class. In addition to presenting the reading, and raising questions for discussion, the presenter will introduce and discuss an aspect of the arts in Canada (work, practice, curation, institution) that relates to the reading, and then lead the discussion that follows for the rest of the seminar.

Paper Presentation - 20%

Students will write a research paper that relates to the topic of the course. Each student will give a 20-25 minute presentation based on that paper.

Research Paper - 40%

After receiving feedback from the presentation, students will hand in a final research paper of 20-25 pages in length.

7 University Statements

7.1 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.

7.2 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>

7.3 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>

7.4 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.

7.5 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>

7.6 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>

7.7 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.

7.8 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>

7.9 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.

7.10 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).

7.11 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.
