

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE

**Art History [ARHI] 211 Lecture 01
Writing and Art History
Winter 2019**

Wednesdays & Fridays, 10:00 – 11:15; AB 658

Instructor: DR. KAARINA-NANCY BAUER
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Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:00 – 12:15

Course Description

An introduction to the techniques and strategies of writing about art and cultural objects within the discipline of art history. Students develop and strengthen their writing skills in relation to addressing, evaluating, and assessing art.

Prerequisites and/or Co-requisites

None

Objectives of the Course

By the end of this course, students are expected to be able to

- Use the different elements of a text [e.g., introduction, conclusions, arguments, structure, coherence, paragraphs, examples, terminology, etc.] in a critical and reflected manner.
- Differentiate between the various types of art historical texts, such as description, visual analysis, review, comparison, interpretation, abstract or problematisation, to name but a few.
- Distinguish different art historical methodologies.
- Research academic journal articles pertaining to the art historical methodologies studied in this course.
- Interpret a work of art in terms of a specific art historical methodology.
- Reflect on lecture presentations, class discussions, and personal engagement with issues.

Textbooks and Readings

Recommended textbook:

Sylvan Barnet: *A Short Guide to Writing About Art*, 11th edition.

You can use earlier editions, but please be aware that some parts might not be included, or might be presented in a different form in the older versions of the textbook.

Topics & additional readings to be discussed in class and group discussions will be posted, linked or referenced on D2L. Please consult D2L regularly to be informed about what to prepare. It is your responsibility to do the readings and come to class meetings prepared with questions and issues to be discussed, and/or experiences and opinions to be shared.

Evaluation & Assignments:

PARTICIPATION:

Worth **20%** of final grade.

Coming to class meetings [attendance will be taken].

Critical engagement with and respectful discussion of topics.

BEING PRESENT INTELLECTUALLY.

Preparing questions for discussions in class.

Exchanging personal opinions and/or experiences to generate discussions.

COURSE JOURNAL:

Worth **35%** of final grade.

Weekly submissions throughout the term that summarize what was discussed in class and the most important and valuable [= for you] aspects and ideas mentioned, including your personal thoughts and reflections on the topics, on the group work, and on the presentations.

Expected: one page of text for each meeting, i.e., two pages per week, double-spaced, 1" margins, font size 12.

More information will be provided in class.

Due in digital form [only pdf or word documents accepted] submitted via D2L drop-box, saved as "student's last name, first name, journal week 2, 3, 4, etc.", on the **following week's Monday at 12:00pm.**

GROUP PROJECT:

Worth **25%** of final grade.

ART HISTORICAL METHODOLOGIES

Group projects will begin on Wednesday, February 6, 2019.

Each group [minimum 2, maximum 4 members] will research a particular art historical methodology and discuss the main concerns of this approach in the group, and then build a resource document to be shared with the entire class about this methodology: what is it all about, historical position within the academic discipline of art history, main ideas, texts [primary sources] & figures, possibly also problems or short-comings of this approach, annotated bibliography, and a list of works which could be analyzed using this approach, as well as questions and issues for further discussion.

These findings and summaries will be explained visually in an oral presentation. The proposed questions will be discussed with the entire class or in small groups after the presentation.

These group projects will lead to a resource booklet of different art historical methodologies which can be used for all future writing within art history. Each group has complete ownership and responsibility to gather and to evaluate information critically and explain relevant methodological considerations.

More information will be provided in class.

part one:

ACADEMIC ARTICLE SEARCH, SUMMARY & REVIEW

Worth 10% of final grade

Due: Wednesday, February 27, 2019

Each student will research the group's methodology by selecting an interesting article about this art historical approach which is then summarized [=content of article] and reviewed [= what you like and dislike about the article] in two distinct parts.

Expected are 2-3 pages of text: double spaced, 1" margins, font size 12.

Submission of article in pdf format. If not submitted, grade will be lowered substantially. Possibility to download article should be a criteria when selecting an article for this assignment.

Submission of summary & review in digital form [only accepted as pdf file or word document] via D2L drop-box, saved as "student's last name, first name, article summary and review".

Feedback for orientation and improvement will be provided in a rubric. Your grade will be predicated by your choice of article, and by your summary & review texts with regard to the following aspects: presentation & form, content, aspects discussed, structure & clarity, logic & coherence, spelling & grammar, language choice, personal and/or critical voice, complexity of your text.

part two: PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS IN CLASS & DISCUSSION FACILITATION
Worth 15% of final grade
Presentations will start on Wednesday, March 6, 2019.

Each group member will take on responsibility for one or more of the following aspects: oral presentation, powerpoint presentation, document for entire class [=summary of findings, annotated bibliography], questions to be discussed after presentation, list of works/images which can be interpreted by the presented methodology.

Facilitating discussion for entire class-body or in small groups.
More information will be provided in class.

INTERPRETATION OF ONE WORK OF ART USING A PARTICULAR METHODOLOGY:

[different art historical methodology from group work]

Worth **20%** of final grade.

Due Friday, April 5, 2019.

Work of art to be interpreted and art historical methodology used need to be approved by the instructor. Please schedule a meeting with your instructor before you start your research for this assignment. Expected: 3-4 pages of text, double-spaced, 1" margins, font size 12.

Submitted in digital form [only accepted as pdf file or word document] to D2L drop-box, saved as "student's last name, first name, interpretation".

More information will be provided in class.

Writing

Writing is the main topic of this class as prominently stated in the course title. Writing in the domain of art history will be a prevalent factor in the evaluation of the student's work: in terms of analyzing texts and their pivotal elements, as well as writing about art: within the academic discipline of art history, the museum, and the art world/market.

Students are not required to attain a passing grade in each of the individual parts and assignments in order to have a final passing grade for the course, provided they achieve a cumulative grade of 50% or higher for the course.

NO Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam

Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of or any relevant documentation regarding each submitted assignment.

Please submit your assignments in digital form on D2L only as pdf file or word document.

If this is not possible you need to contact your instructor as soon as possible to arrange for an alternative submission. If a printed submission has been allowed, please hand in your assignments directly to your instructor. If this is not possible, you can use the drop-box outside of AB 608. Assignments that are put into the drop-box will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Late Assignment Policy

Late assignments will result in a lower grade for each day late, e.g., B+ grade assignment which was two days late will be reduced to B-.

EXTENSIONS may be granted in extenuating circumstances, illness, family emergency, extreme stress, or similar occurrences, but must be approved [in advance if possible] by the instructor, please notify your instructor as soon as possible. PLEASE TALK TO ME!

CONTACTING YOUR INSTRUCTOR:

E-mail [knbauer@ucalgary.ca] is generally the best way to reach the instructor outside of class or office hours to ask quick questions or to arrange meeting times. The instructor will try and respond to your message within 2 days, but please understand that this time might be longer on weekends and holidays.

Instruction does not occur via e-mail; summaries of class content will not be provided in e-mails.

Information accessible on D2L will not be repeated in e-mails.

Please make sure you add "ARHI 211" in the subject field, otherwise your message will go the junk/spam folder, will not be read and not be answered.

Course Activities

This course will have introductory presentations by the instructor for each topic, leading to questions and issues to be developed further in a discussion format. Group work and collaboration are substantial parts of this class; respectful and polite behavior is expected in order to provide an ethically responsible and safe environment for everybody.

We are trying to 'think, share and work out loud', by exchanging personal opinions and implementing critical thinking. This approach will develop your skills in communication. By talking, writing and reflecting on our ideas, we will train our listening skills as well.

Grading Method/Grading Scale:

Percentage	Grade	G.P.V.	Grade Definition
96-100	A+	4.0	Outstanding
90-95	A	4.0	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
85-89	A-	3.7	
80-84	B+	3.3	
75-79	B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-74	B-	2.7	
65-69	C+	2.3	
60-64	C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter.
55-59	C-	1.7	
53-54	D+	1.3	
50-52	D	1.0	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Studio Procedures

The creation of art can be a dirty process and a studio is only workable if everyone cooperates in

keeping it clean. Out of respect and consideration for your classmates and other users of the space, it is expected that everyone will participate in keeping the studio clean and tidy.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

The use of electronic devices during class is allowed for the purpose of taking notes related to the presentations, and actively encouraged for the in-class discussions and group work. Please turn your phone and messaging functions to silent or off.

Electronic recording of classes is forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student[s] and may not be shared, reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the written consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials [e.g., powerpoint-presentations or group work] to third-party websites, such as note-sharing sites, is prohibited.

Academic Accommodations

The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Academic Standing

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html>

Deferral of Exams/Term work

It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examination(s) for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with Enrolment Services if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.

For more information about deferring a final exam go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

For more information about deferral of term work go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>
http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15.pdf

F.O.I.P.

For more information go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

Writing/Plagiarism

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use

writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support Services can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

For more information go to

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

or

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. Visual art projects submitted for course credit must be produced by the student specifically for this class. Students must not submit projects if credit has or will be provided for it in another class. This includes re-worked assignments from previous or concurrent courses, unless permission is provided in writing by the instructor. Additionally, the student is asked to be mindful of using visual sources from the internet, ensuring that that material is not derived from any on-line or other available source, and that appropriate copyright permission is granted, when required.

Lockers

The Art Building lockers are administered through the Student's Union's used bookstore, Bound and Copied. Lockers are rented on a first come, first served basis. Due to the shortage of lockers, and the high demand, students cannot hold more than one locker at a time. All of the details on renting a locker and your responsibilities can be found on the Locker Rental Agreement at

https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/locker_rental_agreement_2010.pdf

Lockers for all sessions can be rented through my.ucalgary.ca. Once you're in the Student Centre, click on **Other Academic Services** and choose **Locker Reservation**.

Lockers must be vacated by the end of term.

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

Models

In this class students may be expected to draw from nude models. **A student electing not to do so must notify the instructors IN WRITING of his/her concerns.**

Portfolios and Assignments

The Department of Art will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading, or for work posted on bulletin boards in the art building.

Note - All unclaimed work will be disposed of.

Note - Studio spaces, bulletin boards and display areas need to be cleared 2 weeks after the last day of classes.

Ethics

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e., surveys, interviews or observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-5.html>

or

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/chreb>

Campus Mental Health Resources

[SU Wellness Centre](#) and the [Campus Mental Health Strategy](#)

Campus Security/Safewalk

Call 220-5333 anytime. Help phones are located throughout campus, parking lots and elevators; they connect directly to Campus Security - in case of emergency, press the red button.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

Emergency Evacuation

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Student Misconduct

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Student Ombudsman

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Student Union

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Stop by SS102, call us at 220-3580 or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca.

You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.