

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
DEPARTMENT OF ART

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Art (ART) 301.01  
Studies in Contemporary Canadian Art**

Fall 2014

Tuesdays, 12:30 – 3:15 pm, AB 658

**Instructor:** *Troy Patenaude*  
**Office Location:** *AB 648*  
**Office Phone:** *TBA*  
**E-Mail:** *trcpaten@ucalgary.ca*  
**Office Hours:** *Tuesday, 11am - Noon*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Study of recent Canadian art from a range of perspectives in art criticism.

**PREREQUISITES &/OR CO-REQUISITES**

None.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE**

The objective of this course is to introduce students to a broad understanding of the recent history of and developments in Canadian art, and to provide a working knowledge for the study of contemporary Canadian artists. Seminar classes will be held weekly, and will combine lectures by the instructor with gallery visits throughout Calgary, along with discussions of the lectures and exhibitions. Students will also be responsible to be familiar with the readings. Student presentations will also be featured near the end of term, with discussions led by the student. Independent research will be required, including gallery visits. Attendance and participation is strongly advised (based upon attention to discussions, gallery visits and readings), and will be considered during the assessment process. The format for this class will shift weekly, and can respond to specific requests made by students. Certain topics have been determined; others will arise out of class discussion. All readings will be provided by the instructor.

This course is not only for students to gain a broad overview of contemporary art in Canada, but perhaps, more importantly, to find an understanding of what it might be. What is contemporary Canadian art, how do you approach it, who are the artists and where are the institutions, and how do you study it? In this way, students will become equipped to study their contemporary milieu in order to contextualize their current and future practices as artists and/or art historians.

**TEXTBOOKS AND READINGS**

As assigned throughout the semester. No textbooks are required, readings will be provided by link or via D2L.

Visits to galleries in Calgary will be required; students will be responsible for their own transportation and any associated fees.

## ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION

### Research/Critique Assignments (3)

2 pages (approximately 500 words) 30% (10% each)

Due Dates: 7 October, 21 October, 4 November

Short reviews of exhibitions, works of art, events or published reviews that are

- (a) viewed in person by the student and
- (b) occurring during the dates of the semester.

### Research Paper

8 – 10 pages (approximately 2,000 – 2,500 words) 25%

Due Date: 2 December

### Class Presentation

20 minutes 25%

Scheduled 28 October through 25 November

**The class presentation and the research paper are evaluated separately, but are related projects and share the same subject matter. Students must submit their topic for the presentation/paper in class on Tuesday 14 October for approval.**

**Topics for the presentation/paper are of the students' choosing, from 2 areas:**

**A. Profile of a Contemporary Canadian Artist.** It is not expected that this should be a biographic paper, or even strictly critical, though both of these aspects could be included. Rather, the paper should investigate the fullness of the artist's work, including a discussion of the work itself, an understanding of the artist's local or regional context, any relevant historical precedents or influences on the artist by other artists, relevant social or cultural factors, and an understanding of the essential ideas or concerns present in the artist's work. *Where does he or she fit into contemporary art in Canada? A "grocery list" of an artist's career or work is **not** a research paper ... why are you intrigued? Why should anyone else be?*

**B. Illustrate a concept, theme, or trend present in contemporary Canadian art,** by discussing the concept first (what is the idea? what makes it interesting? is this theme just cropping up in contemporary art, or are there precedents? how is this related to other discipline areas or social concerns?), then illustrating with the work of a minimum of three contemporary Canadian artists.

The class presentation is the public reading of the research leading to the paper and should include a clear understanding of your subject matter, a demonstration of your thesis, and a strong indication of the research undertaken. Following the presentation, the student will be expected to lead a brief discussion on his or her presentation. The presentation and discussion are intended to provide feedback, to confirm or correct the direction of the research paper for the student. The class presentations will take place over a period of four weeks, with four students presenting per class.

Presentations and discussions should be approximately 30 minutes in length.

Research papers are due Tuesday 2 December.

### Class Participation and Engagement

Evaluated throughout semester 20%

As this course is a senior level seminar prioritizing discussion, critique and engagement with the subject matter, the weighting of this participation is considerable. Raising interesting questions is equal in value to suggesting answers.

Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

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.

**Please indicate whether or not a passing grade on any particular component of a course is essential if the student is to pass the course as a whole - NO**

**Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam - NO**

**LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY**

No late assignments will receive a grade. Students must complete all assignments in order to pass the course, even if late. In the event of extraordinary circumstances, students must consult the instructor a minimum of 2 days prior to due dates.

**APPROVED OPTIONAL &/OR MANDATORY SUPPLEMENTARY FEES**

Gallery visits will be part of class activity; students will be responsible for their own transportation and any associated fees.

**COURSE ACTIVITIES**

To be announced.

**GRADING METHOD/GRADING SCALE**

Percentage	Grade	G.P.A.	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.

## **INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE INFORMATION**

Use of electronic devices are not allowed during class, with the exception of providing links or visuals pertinent to the discussion.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

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

## **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 go to [http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred\\_final](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred_final)

## **F.O.I.P.**

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

## **WRITING/PLAGIARISM**

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.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or Writing Support Services (at the Student Success Centre) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support> or <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

## **STUDENT MISCONDUCT**

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

## **STUDENT UNION AND STUDENT OMBUDSMAN**

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

## LOCKERS

The Art Building lockers are administered by the Students' Union in 251 MacEwan Student Centre. There are various shapes and sizes of lockers for rent. Please write down the barcode numbers (top left of each locker) for the locker shape that you require and bring this list with you to the SU office between 8:30a.m. and 4:30p.m., Monday-Friday. **Lockers must be vacated by the end of term.**

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

## MODELS

N.A.

## 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.

**All unclaimed work will be disposed of two weeks after the end 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/research/cfreb>

## 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>

## FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Stop by SS110, call us at 220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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