

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE

**Art (ART) 301.01
Studies in Contemporary Canadian Art
Winter 2019**

Thursdays 2:00 – 4:45pm; AB 658

Instructor: *Ciara McKeown*
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Office Hours: *Thursday 1230 – 130pm*

Course Description

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

Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites

N.A.

Objectives of the Course

Students who successfully complete this course will:

- Engage critically with the topics and materials shared in class;
- Understand a deeper meaning of context, notions of place and of working responsively within public art practice;
- Situate contemporary Canadian public art practice within an international context and within contemporary art;
- Initiate assessments of artworks and artistic practices using experiential and theoretical knowledge, and articulate these assessments in both written and verbal discussions;
- Develop fluency and literacy about contemporary public art practice.

Students will have demonstrated adherence to following course expectations:

- You are expected to help and be involved in creating a classroom atmosphere of safety, mutual participation, respect, criticality, discovery and diligent work;
- You are expected to critically challenge your assumptions and presumptions about art;
- You are expected to work independently and with other students to articulate your learning about the course topic. You will be given the opportunity to do both in this class.

Textbooks and Readings

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

Course Structure

This course is structured around discussion, with the intention that we will participate in conversations that build our knowledge and understanding of the subjects. This organisation means that all students should be prepared to complete the assigned readings and homework for each class and to comment on these readings critically during class. Attendance will be taken every class. Your class attendance is taken into consideration when calculating your participation mark.

Assignments and Evaluation

Critical Analysis on an Artist's Practice

Students will be asked to research a living contemporary Canadian artist working in a public context/public art practice, and respond to their process and artwork. This response is a critical analysis that includes a thorough identification of the artist and specific artwork(s) being addressed; analyzes the artist's working method/approach; determines if the artist works through a theoretical lens (i.e., feminist, queer, decolonial, etc.), and if so, how this theory informs the work; connects their practice to art historical precedents or movements; and develops a critical context for the work within Canadian contemporary art and the international public art context.

Printed papers only. 1,500-2,000 words max. Minimum of 3 academic sources. Include images of the artworks. MLA Works Cited and Figures list required. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

Group Work: Seminar Readings and Presentations

In groups of 5, students will undertake an in-depth analysis of an assigned reading, and pair that reading with one of their choosing that either supports the argument of the assigned reading or contradicts it and presents an alternate perspective and argument. Paired readings by Canadian writers, theorists, and artists are encouraged but not required in this selection. Students will then present on the two readings to the class: explain their rationale for the selected paired readings; share a synopsis of the articles; outline the key arguments in each article; isolate alignments or contradictions between the arguments in the articles.

Critical Reflections: Public Artwork in Context, Calgary

Students will be asked to choose an example of a Calgary public artwork and write a short critical reflection about the work that will be presented in class. This work will be an existing work or previous work completed in the last 5 years. It will be a performative, temporary, permanent, or process-based work but it must have taken place within a public context. If students choose a permanent public artwork, they must visit the work in person. Photographs required.

Students must choose a different work than the one used for their Critical Analysis.

10-minute presentations will be done in pairs. Printed papers are to be handed in at the beginning of class before presentations. 500 words. Include images of the artwork. MLA Works Cited and Figures list required. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

In-Class Assignments and Homework

Students can be assigned other in-class assignments and homework at the Instructor's discretion (more information will be provided in class).

Critical Analysis: Artists' practice **30%**

Due Date: March 21st

Group Seminar: **25%**

Due Date: sign up for dates in class. Each week from February 28 – April 4th

Written Critical Reflection and Presentation **25%**

Due Date: February 14th

Class participation 20%

Your participation in class is based on evidence that you have been intellectually engaged with the reading and visual material, demonstrated by the quality of your participation and critical contribution to class discussions. Attendance will be taken each class and will be included in the calculation of your final class participation grade.

Students are required to complete all assignments to pass the course. Any missed submissions will result in the student failing the course.

It is not necessary for students to receive a passing grade on any particular component of the course in order to pass the course as a whole.

Writing

The format, organization, and style of writing will be assessed as part of all written assignments.

Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam – NO

There is no registrar-scheduled final exam as part of this course.

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

Please hand in your assignments directly to your instructor. Assignments that are put into the drop box will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Unless otherwise stated, all assignments must be submitted in hard-copy directly to the instructor, 12 pt font, single-sided, double-spaced, stapled at top left-hand corner. All hard-copy written assignments handed in should have students name, the date of the assignment, title and/or topic of assignment and of the subject matter of the written assignment.

Late Assignment Policy

Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due at the start of class on the date indicated and assignments late without a valid documented reason and prior consultation with the instructor are penalized one letter grade (from, for example, A to A- to B+) or 5% for every day late excluding weekends and holidays, for a maximum of 2 weeks.

Additional Information

For field trips/site visits, students will be expected to pay fare for transportation as well as any admission costs.

Course Activities

A field trip is being planned to visit the City of Calgary's art collection storage facilities, which will include a tour with staff. Date is T.B.D. Other field trips may be added over course period. Schedule is subject to change.

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 class mates 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

Students are welcome to use computers in class for learning requirements only. Phones and other electronic devices must be turned off during class time. No photography, audio or video recording allowed. Unless otherwise noted, these rules apply during field trips as well as in the classroom.

Email Protocol: The Instructor will not teach over email, so substantive content should be addressed in person at a meeting or during class time. Students are welcome to contact their Instructor via email to make an appointment to discuss class content. The Instructor checks email on Wednesdays and Thursdays and will make every effort to respond to the student's request as soon as possible. Please book appointments well in advance.

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