

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE

Art (ART) 311 Lecture 01
Topics in Art
“Survey of New Media”
Summer 2020

Mondays 12:00PM - 2:50PM via Zoom

Activities scheduled for Wednesdays will be delivered asynchronously via D2L

Instructor: Craig Fahner
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Office Hours: Mondays 3-4pm or by request

Course Description

Topics related to contemporary studio and curatorial practices such as spirituality, exhibitions, digital storytelling, new media, or public art.

**An examination of trends in art practice throughout the 20th and 21st centuries in relation to developments in media technologies.*

Objectives of the Course

Students in this course will examine significant movements in contemporary art from 1950 onward. Shifts towards postmodernism, performance, video, interactive media and social practice will be assessed in the context of emergent political and technological ideologies. Screenings, readings and lectures will cover major artists, movements and theories, giving form to the often-nebulous terms "contemporary art" and "new media."

Forming a foundational understanding of major movements in art and media in the late 20th century, students will be equipped with the theoretical and historical language to discuss issues in contemporary art leading up to the present. Students will respond to these issues through collaborative, analytical responses. Through this exploration, students will contextualize their individual practices in the theoretical and historical arc of contemporary art.

Online Course Delivery Information

This course will be held using a hybrid synchronous / asynchronous delivery method. **The class will meet in real-time via Zoom on Mondays** during the scheduled time (noon to 2:50PM MST). Zoom links will be posted on D2L before each meeting. During this time, students will be available to ask questions and discuss course material. Group exercises will take place in Zoom breakout rooms. Additionally, student presentations and other required activities will typically take place during this regularly scheduled time period on Mondays.

The course material ordinarily delivered on Wednesdays will be delivered via video lectures, which students may view at their own convenience. Video lectures will be posted at noon on Wednesdays and will be available until the Monday of the following week. Students are required to keep up with these video lectures. Videos will *not* be reposted after the links expire. Presentation slides featured in the videos, however, will be posted to D2L. Videos will be distributed via Office 365 Stream links. Students must ensure they have access to Office 365 by following these instructions: <https://it.ucalgary.ca/mfa/gettingstarted>.

Additional information about information technology resources is included below.

Textbooks and Readings

All readings will be available via hyperlinks on D2L.

Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction" (1936)

Roland Barthes, "The Death of the Author" (1967)

Marshall McLuhan, "Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man" (1964)

Maggie Nelson, "Art of Cruelty" (2011)

John Berger, "Ways of Seeing" (1972)

Jean Baudrillard, "Simulacra and Simulation" (1981)

David Rokeby, "Transforming Mirrors" (1996)

Assignments and Evaluation

Unit Quizzes: Multiple choice, short answer and image identification quizzes are held at the end of each major topic, reviewing artists and artworks discussed in relation to the specific genre of art covered in the unit. Images will be selected from lecture slides that have a *white* background, with the artist's name, artwork title and date displayed at the bottom of the slide. Quizzes will be completed via D2L during scheduled class time. Students will not have access to D2L course material during quizzes.

Experience analysis: Students will work individually or in small groups (maximum 3 people) to create presentations, in which the experiential aspects of an independently selected artwork, performance or other cultural artefact are examined in relation to course concepts. A list of eligible topics will be provided to students, along with a template for the presentation. Students receiving a grade of A+ will be asked to present their analysis via Zoom for an extra 5% bonus mark applied to the final grade.

In-class group exercise contributions: In Zoom breakout rooms, groups of students will respond to in-class prompts, documenting their discussions with slides that will be submitted electronically. Additionally, students will respond to interactive prompts that appear alongside posted lecture videos.

Unit quizzes	40%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz 1: July 13 (33% of category total)• Quiz 2: July 29 (50% of category total)• Quiz 3: August 12 (17% of category total)	
Experience analysis (due via D2L at July 22 at midnight)	35%
In-class exercise contributions	25%
(ongoing throughout semester; these will be graded equally)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual remote lecture questions (40% of category total)• Zoom group exercises (60% of category total)	

Writing

Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of student work.

Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam – NO

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

Late Assignment Policy

Late work is not accepted. Valid, **documented** medical situations should be brought to the instructor's

attention at the earliest possible moment in order to clarify whether late work will qualify for credit. Any circumstances that will prevent students from handing in work or writing quizzes on time must be brought to the attention of the instructor and approved **before** posted deadlines. Credit will not be given for late work, and students will not be permitted to write quizzes after the date they have been held.

Attendance in Zoom lectures is expected and required. Students are responsible for making their own accommodations for missed classes. Students will have access to materials posted online. However, the instructor cannot provide summaries of lectures or lessons for individual students.

Zoom lectures will begin promptly at noon. Students must be signed into Zoom using their ucalgary account using the following URL: <https://ucalgary.zoom.us>

Course Activities

- Unit 1: **Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction** **June 29th - July 13th**
 Required Readings:
 Walter Benjamin, *The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction*
- Unit 2: **Sound, Video and Performance** **July 13th - July 29th**
 Required Readings:
 Roland Barthes, *Death of the Author*
 Marshall McLuhan, *Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man* (posted excerpts)
 Jean Baudrillard, *Simulacra and Simulation* (posted excerpts)
 Maggie Nelson, *Art of Cruelty* (posted excerpts)
- Unit 3: **Interactive and robotic art** **July 29th – August 12th**
 Required Readings:
 David Rokeby, *Transforming Mirrors*

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
70-74	B-	2.7	
65-69	C+	2.3	
60-64	C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject
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

All course material and activities will be delivered online. Students will require access to an internet connection and a computer capable of running Zoom. While a webcam is not required, it is recommended for Zoom-based group discussions.

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.

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>

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>

Instructor Intellectual Property and Copyright Legislation

Course materials created by the instructor (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. **These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor.** The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the same course section and term may be allowed under fair dealing. Check with the instructor if you have any questions about sharing materials with classmates.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.).

Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

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. 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.

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