

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

COURSE OUTLINE

Art (ART) 311 Lecture 03

Topics in Art

“Art and Electronic Media”

Fall 2015

W 2:00 - 4:45 PM; EDC 280

Instructor: *Craig Fahner*
Office Location: *AB 648*
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Office Hours: *W 12:30 - 1:00 PM*

Course Description

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 analytical responses. Through this exploration students will contextualize their individual practices in the theoretical and historical arc of contemporary art.

Readings

Links to all readings will be available on D2L.

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

Roland Barthes, "The Death of the Author"

Marshall McLuhan, "Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man"

Luigi Russolo, "The Art of Noises"

John Berger, "Ways of Seeing"

Jean Baudrillard, "Simulacra and Simulation"

David Rokeby, "Transforming Mirrors"

Assignments and Evaluation

Unit Quizzes: Multiple choice 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.

Journal entries: After each major topic covered (on a bi-weekly basis) students will be required to

submit an approximately half page response relating assigned readings to the material presented during lectures. These journal entries should consist of personal reflections on class discussions.

Final: A final assignment covering major overarching issues in all the genres of art discussed in class. Students will have the choice of submitting a 1-2 page research paper, or producing a 1-2 minute audio or video based art project.

Unit quizzes	55%
Quiz 1: October 14 th	
Quiz 2: November 4 th	
Quiz 3: December 2 nd	
Journal entries	30%
Final (due on Dec. 9)	15%

All assignments are to be submitted electronically via D2L.

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.

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 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.

Course Activities

Part of the requirements for this class will include a visit to one or more exhibitions of new media work at galleries in Calgary (students will be responsible for their own transportation & entrance fee to any exhibits). Students will provide responses to the work they encounter during these visits as journal entries.

Students will be given a choice of galleries to attend, all of which will be affordable (some free) and easy to access via transit.

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.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

The use of laptops for note taking purposes is permitted in this class. Texting, social media, and other cell phone use are not allowed in the classroom.

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (S.A.S.); S.A.S. will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

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

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. 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.

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

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

Student Ombudsman

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

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](#).

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/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 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 or 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 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.