

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE

Art (ART) 311 L05

Topics in Art

“Public Art”

Spring 2018

Tuesday & Thursday, 9.00 – 11.45 am AB 672

Instructor: *Dick Averbs*
Office Location: *AB 667*
Office Phone: *403 220 5216*
E-Mail: *dick.averbs@ucalgary.ca*
Web Page: *N/A*
Office Hours: *Tues & Thur 12.30-1.30pm*

Course Description

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

In exploring public art this course provides students with a historical grounding followed by a concentration on public art created since late modernism. Case studies cover a range of considerations in public art including monuments, patronage/funding, street art, festivals, counter-monuments, activist art and craftivism, land art, and performance. The course includes participatory and experiential learning such as fieldtrips and student presentations.

Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites

None. May be repeated for credit (if taking a different topic).

Objectives of the Course

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have:

- 1 been introduced to significant examples of public art associated with current & historical practices.
- 2 gained an understanding of ascribing value & criticality in the making and appreciation of public art.
- 3 gained an understanding of the role(s) of “an” art object, subject, concept, content, form and process.
- 4 acquired a context and understanding for commissioning and funding mechanisms.
- 5 developed skills in critical thinking, research, & analysis of public art in oral & written form.
- 6 an expanded art vocabulary particularly pertaining to public art and related processes.

7 developed practical skills in public presentation and the use of supporting technologies.

Textbooks and Readings

Select readings will be available either online or in the print reserve section of the TFDL (ground floor behind service desk).

Assignments and Evaluation

Participation

10%

Students will be required to provide ten short written submissions spread throughout the course, comprising questions/answers relating to class readings and course activities including field trips, lectures and screenings. Each submission will be worth one percent. These questions/answers allow students to demonstrate an understanding of course material and related activities, and enable productive participation in the class. Questions will be set each week by the instructor, or students may instead be required to structure a commentary or propose their own question on a particular course component. The awarding of these marks is based on participating in the process by handing in each typed submission at the start of the respective class.

In class art vocabulary test (May 22)

5%

This short test is based on key art terms as covered in the first three classes. Content is based on a combination of material covered in class readings, and instructor presentations.

In class test on hybridity and street art (May 29)

5%

This short test is based on key art terms relating to hybrid practices seen through the lens of street art. Content is based on a combination of instructor presentations, readings, and a movie screening.

Letter to the Editor (due May 31)

10%

For this assignment you will identify an editorial source (e.g., newspaper, magazine, political body, interest group) and a subject of choice relating to public art that is of relevance to the course. You will research the subject and write a letter that creates a persuasive argument based on your research. You need not follow any citation protocol, but must reference some evidence.

Mid-term exam (June 5)

20%

Content is based on a combination of material covered in class readings, instructor presentations, fieldwork and homework, during the first part of the course, including key vocabulary, case studies and readings.

Field Trip Questionnaire (June 7)

5%

This short questionnaire will enable you to apply art vocabulary and theory from the first three case studies through experiential and participatory learning. Content is based on a combination of instructor presentations, readings, movie screening and artworks visited during the field trip.

Individual presentation on chosen public artwork (June 14-26)

20%

Each student will make a seminar presentation on a public artwork of choice. This will follow the *pecha kucha* format: 20 slides timed for 20 seconds each, with a spoken commentary based on a script, totaling a 6m 40s presentation. A roster for these presentations will be compiled after midterm. Grade will be given upon course completion.

Research paper (Due last class, June 26)

25%

1,000 – 1,500 word paper on a chosen public artwork, relating to course content. Hard copy should be handed in to the instructor. Grade will be given upon course completion.

COURSE SCHEDULE

This schedule provides an overview of course content. Please note that the schedule may vary to accommodate flexibility in course delivery, such as field trips.

Class 1 – Course Introduction Welcome, class introduction, review of Course Outline, schedule, assignments.	May 15
Class 2 – What makes art public? Instructor lecture, historical overview, art object, subject, concept, content and process	May 17
Class 3 – Case Study # 1 Commemoration, Memorials, Monuments & Counter-monuments <i>In-class vocabulary test (5%)</i>	May 22
Class 4 – Testing Ground! Field Trip #1 – U of C public art tour	May 24
Class 5 – Case Study # 2 Hybridity, Performativity and Street Art Movie and <i>In-class test (5%)</i> . Issue <i>Letter to the Editor</i> assignment	May 29
Class 6 – Case Study # 3 Environmental Art, Land Art & The Environment <i>Letter to the Editor due (10%)</i>	May 31
Class 7 – Mid-term exam (20%)	Jun 5
Class 8 – Field Trip # 2 – Public Art in Calgary <i>In-class participation questionnaire (5%)</i>	Jun 7
Class 9 – Case Study # 4 – Public Art as Social Practice	Jun 12
Class 10 – Student Presentations (20%)	Jun 14
Class 11 – Student Presentations (20%)	Jun 19
Class 12 – Student Presentations (20%)	Jun 21
Class 13 – Paper due Student Presentations (30%) Course Wrap up. Looking forward...	Jun 26

N.B. Students are also encouraged to bring forward suggestions for readings and related course content.

Writing

The student seminar presentations, exam, and essay will all require writing. Grading will be based primarily on the content of answers. Readability, comprehension, spelling and syntax will form part of the grade, particularly in the essay.

To pass the course students must complete the seminar presentations, mid-term exam, and essay, and pass the seminar presentation and essay assignments.

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

- All assignments must be handed in on time. Extensions may be granted in extenuating circumstances, e.g., documented illness, family emergency, or similar, but this should be approved in advance by the instructor, whenever possible and always documented in writing.
- Late assignments (without an extension) incur penalties of one grade per day, excluding weekends and holidays, for a maximum of two weeks.
- After ten working days, assignments will not be accepted and a failing grade may be assigned for the course.

Additional Information

Any work submitted must have your name and student number clearly printed. Pages should be numbered and be held with a paper clip or staples: no plastic covers or folders please!

Good luck with your studies and enjoy the class. Remember I'm available by office hours and appointment and am here to help you succeed to the best of your potential and input.

Course Activities

When taking part in field trips please show respect and gratitude to members of the public and those persons involved in the activities.

Note: students will be responsible for their own transportation and for any associated fees.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous and friendly manner, offering encouragement and respect to peers during class activities. Class discussions, particularly relating to student presentations, require thoughtful engagement.

With the course running on a compressed spring schedule, regular attendance, participation and completion of homework are required to ensure optimum success.

All assignments must be completed on time (see Late Assignment Policy).

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

Cell phones and pagers must be turned off and stored out of sight, except if a student or faculty member has compelling circumstances that warrant active cell phone use during class hours. These circumstances must be identified and approved by both faculty and students at the beginning of the semester or class.

Laptops may be used in class for note taking only. Surfing the web is restricted to project work as approved by the instructor. Wireless connections should be disabled at all other times.

Email: class time and office hours are the primary contact periods for instruction and questions. Email may be used for communicating unexpected absences, arranging appointments or general questions. The instructor will endeavor to answer emails within a reasonable period of time (1-3 days) but students should not rely on immediate responses. Course instruction does not occur via email.

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 the deferral 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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

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.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.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 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 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.