

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
DEPARTMENT OF ART

**UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE**

**Art (ART) 399, L02**  
**Art in Theory and Practice I**  
**Fall 2018**  
W 15:30-18:15; AB 672

**Instructor:** *Dr. Trevor Stark*  
**Office Location:** *AB 662*  
**Office Phone:** *403/220-5237*  
**E-Mail:** *trevor.stark@ucalgary.ca*  
**Web Page:** *<https://art.ucalgary.ca/profiles/trevor-stark>*  
**Office Hours:** *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 16:45-17:45, by appointment*

**Course Description**

Theories of art, critical methodologies, and aesthetics in the visual arts across history and cultures.

**Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites**

*None*

**Objectives of the Course**

This course is designed as an intensive immersion into theoretical and critical texts that have shaped contemporary discourses on art and culture, from foundational essays to recent interventions. It aims to provide students with the critical tools to grasp contemporary debates about art, and to deepen their understanding of the relationships between art practices and theoretical writing.

The course is organized as a seminar based in reading, discussion, and analytical writing. Its practical objectives will be:

- To gain familiarity with a selection of important theoretical and critical approaches to art and culture.
- To improve competence in reading and engaging with complex texts.
- To hone argumentative and critical writing skills
- To deliver effective oral presentations and engage productively in critical discussion.

**Textbooks and Readings**

Readings will be posted online in pdf form.

**Assignments and Evaluation**

Class participation	20%	
3 Reading responses	15%	2-4 pages each; worth 5% each. Due before class on the day the readings are assigned.
1 Reading presentation	15%	5-10 minutes. To be scheduled.
1 Research presentation	15%	5-10 minutes. To be scheduled.

Research prospectus	10%	Due before class on October 31.
Research Paper	25%	6-10 pages. Due by 5pm on Friday, December 7; submit to D2L.

Instructions for all assignments and evaluations will be provided on the first day of class and posted on D2L.

**A passing grade on the research paper is required in order to pass the course as a whole.**

Please submit writing assignments online through the D2L dropbox. If this is not possible, you can use the drop box outside of AB 608. Assignments that are put into the drop box during open hours will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

### **Participation**

The primary emphasis of this course is reading and discussion. Therefore, attendance, punctuality, and active participation in every meeting are the minimum conditions for success in this course. Each student will be evaluated based on their informed, respectful, and regular participation in discussions and activities.

Any absence from class meetings must be approved in advance, and documentation for legitimate absences is required. All lateness and unexcused absences will affect participation marks, and three unexcused absences will result in an automatic failing grade for the participation component of the course.

### **Note on Reading**

This course requires students to carefully read a selection of texts for every class meeting. Students must come to every class prepared to discuss all assigned readings in detail. Taking notes on readings to bring to class is recommended.

Close reading is a primary activity of the class. However, effective reading participation does not solely consist in the mastery of challenging texts: doubts, struggles, inspirations, connections, and critiques are also valid.

### **Writing**

Writing is a crucial component of this class. Graded writing assignments will comprise three reading responses, a research prospectus, and a final research paper.

### **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 assignments will lose a letter grade per day in penalties (e.g., from A- to B+), and no assignments will be accepted after December 7<sup>th</sup>.

No exceptions will be made for technical problems or corrupted files.

Extensions will be allowed only in exceptional circumstances, with documentation provided for approval in advance of deadlines.

### **Course Activities**

A schedule of topics and readings will be distributed on the first day of class and posted on D2L.

## 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

N.A.

## Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

Absolutely no cell phones allowed in class.

Please bring a pencil/pen and a notebook/pad to every class for note-taking during lectures, activities, and writing assignments.

As class meetings are based on looking, listening, and discussing, laptops will only be permitted as an option during certain class activities.

During times when laptops are permitted, absolutely no unauthorized use of the internet is permitted. Students are strongly urged not to let laptops get in the way of their participation, and the professor reserves the right to revoke laptop use at any time.

## Academic Accommodations

The student accommodation policy can be found at [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://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](http://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](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](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](http://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**

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.

**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](mailto: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.