

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

COURSE OUTLINE

Art (ART) 661.02
Thesis Studio Practice
Fall 2014/Winter 2015
Tuesdays, 15:30 to 18:30

Instructor: Linda Carreiro
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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 11:00 to 12:00,
and by appointment

Course Description

Individual weekly study in studio, with seminar-based discussions in research area. The seminar meets every two weeks throughout the entire academic year.

Prerequisites

Art 661.01

Objectives of the Course

The objective of this course is to provide students with an advanced level of understanding about contemporary art practice, and in particular, their individual approaches within a wider critical framework. The combination of theory and practice in studio research will enable students to become familiar with the technical, technological, creative, theoretical and critical concerns that inform their artistic work. The course will prepare students for articulate writing and independent studio work required for their upcoming thesis exhibition and supporting paper.

Textbooks and Readings

Recommended texts include: *Sweet Dreams* by Johanna Drucker; and *Theory in Contemporary art since 1985* (Second edition), Zoya Kocur, which are available in the TFDL. Students should also be prepared to read appropriate sections of *Companion to Contemporary Art Since 1945*, by Amelia Jones, available for download free from the U of C Library to registered graduate students. Readings will also be handed out, for discussion in relation to practice. In addition, students will be expected to read material related to their independent research, including those recommended by the instructor.

Assignments and Evaluation

The emphasis of grading is on the development of a cohesive body of work for exhibition and supporting paper

Assessment:	% weighting	Due Date
Writing on peer work	10%	According to schedule of selected artist
Solo exhibition	30%	November, December, as per the schedule
Presentation of	10%	January/February
Final essay on own	30%	January 13
Participation	20%	September through April

Criteria for Evaluation

Criteria for exhibitions: Depth, range and quality of conceptualization; concept development over the year, including innovation, articulate expression, sophistication; technical development and use of medium (media), particularly its relationship and appropriateness to concept; presentational qualities and considerations of how the work is installed.

Criteria for writings: Depth of research, demonstrated through relevant literature review and citations; articulation of ideas and ability to formulate analysis and make connections; depth of reflection on practice, integrated into a discussion of studio work within format; organization of material formed from an outline, which includes attention to editing, salience and argument.

Criteria for presentation: Ability to synthesize and summarize points; attention to critical/creative research; clarity and organization.

Criteria for participation: Attendance at all scheduled classes, discussions and presentations is considered the *minimum* expectation. Contributions to discussions, including feedback to peers, is essential. Students must also be prepared to discuss any assigned readings, with the understanding that they have familiarized and analyzed these ahead of the class. All assignments and responsibilities are due on the scheduled date.

Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam – NO

There is no final examination in this course. Marks are based on term work.

Course Activities

This is a seminar-based class, preparing students to address critical and creative issues related to their graduate studio research. Students in this course will be expected to prepare a solo exhibition for critical discussion with the aim of generating deeper understanding about their own work as preparation for their thesis. Accompanying this exhibition will be critical writing by peers in the course, which will form the basis for discussion during that particular class. Thesis students will also be expected to prepare an essay positioning their work within a critical framework, with relevant illustrations, as well as a public presentation resulting from this research. Classes will be comprised of studio critiques and group discussions, critical readings and writing about art. The critical readings in art and related ideas will encourage discussion of issues relevant to a contemporary program of study, providing direction for independent research. These activities, along with independent work and tutorials, will attempt to ground the student's work within a critical framework relating to their own research concerns.

Students will also be expected to prepare one writing, 1,000-2,000 words double-spaced, on the work of a peer within the program, selected on the first day of class. This paper will form the initial interpretation and basis for the discussion in the gallery of that work, and will be due on the Tuesday of that student's exhibition. A second paper, due in January, will be on critically positioning your own work within a contemporary context. The essay will discuss a critical framework that is well integrated with your own studio production, making relationships between media/material, presentation strategies, and concept. This paper will comprise the foundation of the draft required for your thesis supporting paper, consisting of a minimum of 3,500 words, double-spaced, with illustrations of your creative research. Proper footnoting is essential in all writing, and a bibliography of works consulted is to be appended to the paper. Please include a word count at the end of the essay. It is strongly suggested that individual meetings with the instructor be scheduled to provide opportunity for continued development of this writing.

In the second term, a short public presentation of your work, based on your essay, will be given. The presentation, no more than 15 minutes, will address salient ideas within your work, illustrated with visual accompaniment.

Studio visits will encourage a progress within your own practice, and enable peer and instructor feedback in preparation for your thesis. Students should expect a *minimum* of fifteen hours per week for out-of-class project completion, research and other course-related activity. Tutorial assistance will

be arranged in consultation with the instructor. Topical readings will be assigned to students on an individual basis.

Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment. Please hand in your written assignments directly to your instructor by the due date.

Grading Method/Grading Scale:

Percentage	Grade	G.P.A.	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, messaging devices, and headphones MUST be turned off for the duration of the class, and during all presentations.

Academic Accommodation

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

Academic Standing

Students should familiarize themselves with the sections of the University Calendar that deal with **Academic Standing**, including grading, unsatisfactory standing, examinations, and deferrals as well as the sections on **Reappraisals and Appeals** and **Student Misconduct**.

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. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages, and material taken from such sources.

Visual art projects submitted for course credit must be produced specifically for this class. Students must not submit a project 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 appropriate copyright permission is granted, when required.

Please consult your instructor or Writing Support Services (at the Student Success Centre) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

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 and Student Ombudsman

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

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

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.

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 Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Stop by SS110, call us at 220-3580 or email us at 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 2nd 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.