

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
DEPARTMENT OF ART

**UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE**

**Art History (ARHI) 211 - Lecture 01**  
**Writing and Art History**  
**Winter 2018**  
W/F 10:00-11:15; AB 658

**Instructor:** Dr. Susan Cahill  
**Office Location:** AB 663  
**Office Phone:** 403.220.5254  
**E-Mail:** susan.cahill@ucalgary.ca  
**Office Hours:** By appointment—contact by email or phone

**Course Description**

An introduction to the techniques and strategies of writing about art and cultural objects within the discipline of art history. Students develop and strengthen their writing skills in relation to addressing, evaluating, and assessing art.

**Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites**

None

**Objectives of the Course**

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate:

1. understanding of the methodologies of art history and visual studies;
2. capacity to undertake evaluations of art and cultural objects;
3. ability to assess art and cultural objects in both written and verbal discussions;
4. capability to contextualize art and cultural objects in relation to social, political, economic, and cultural contexts;
5. comprehension of the contingency of creating history and knowledge, and openness to critical self-reflection.

**Textbooks and Readings**

The readings are in a textbook, which is required for the course and can be purchased at the University of Calgary Bookstore. From week to week, you may be asked to look at websites and online readings that relate to the materials we will be discussing. These will be assigned at least a week before the class to which they relate.

**Textbook:** Sylvan Barnett. 2015. *A Short Guide to Writing About Art*. Eleventh Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, Inc.

## Assignments and Evaluation

- Class participation----- 15%

Your participation in class is based on evidence that you have been intellectually engaged with the reading and visual material, demonstrated by the quality of your participation and critical contribution to class discussions and group activities. A handout with further information on the specifics of this assignment will be circulated in class.

- Artist talk reviews----- 10%

Students are required to attend five visiting artist lectures throughout the semester, and write a review for each. The review is due the following Wednesday after the artist talk it addresses. Each review is worth 2%.

- Visual analysis assignment----- 10%

Due: Wednesday, 24 January 2018

- Exhibition review----- 10%

Due: Wednesday, 14 February 2018

- Research Proposal + Bibliography----- 15%

Due: Friday, 02 March 2018

- Research Outline----- 15%

Due: Wednesday, 21 March 2018

- Research Paper, First Draft----- 0%

Due: Wednesday, 04 April 2018

- Research Paper, Final----- 25%

Due: Friday, 13 April 2018

\*\*\*Please note: Unless otherwise stated, all assignments must be submitted in hard-copy directly to the 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. It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

There is not one particular component that students are required to pass in order to pass the course as a whole.

## Writing

The format, organization, and style of writing will be assessed as part of all written assignments. Students who receive 70% or less on a written assignment are encouraged to attend a writing workshop.

## Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam

There is no registrar-scheduled final exam as part of this course.

**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 be deducted 5% a day. Aside from the final assignment, no assignment will be accepted after Friday, 13 April 2018. Extensions will be given only in extreme circumstances and must be accompanied by supporting medical documentation.

## 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

Please turn off cell phones during class. Laptops are permitted.

## Academic Accommodation

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 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](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 is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. 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](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/>

### **Assignments**

The Department of Art will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen course work given to instructors for grading.

### **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](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca) or [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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.