

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
DEPARTMENT OF ART

**UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE**

**Art (ART) 311 Lecture 01**  
**Topics in Art**  
**“Survey of New Media”**  
**Summer 2019**

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00PM - 2:50PM, AB 672*

**Instructor:** *Craig Fahner*  
**Office Location:** *AB 647*  
**E-Mail:** *cefahner@ucalgary.ca*  
**Office Hours:** *T, R 11:00 AM - 12:00 AM*

**Course Description**

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

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

**Textbooks and Readings**

All readings will be available via hyperlinks on D2L.

Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction" (1936)  
Roland Barthes, "The Death of the Author" (1967)  
Marshall McLuhan, "Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man" (1964)  
Maggie Nelson, "Art of Cruelty" (2011)  
John Berger, "Ways of Seeing" (1972)  
Jean Baudrillard, "Simulacra and Simulation" (1981)  
David Rokeby, "Transforming Mirrors" (1996)

**Assignments and Evaluation**

**Unit Quizzes:** Multiple choice and image identification (short answer) 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. Images will be selected from lecture slides that have a *white* background, with the artist's name, artwork title and date displayed at the bottom of the slide.

**Experience analysis:** Students will work in small groups to create a collaborative presentation, in which the experiential aspects of an independently selected artwork, performance or other cultural artefact are examined in relation to course concepts. A template will be provided for students. Slides will be submitted by D2L and presented at the end of the term.

Students receiving a grade of A+ will be asked to present for an extra 5% bonus mark applied to their final grade.

**In-class group exercise contributions:** Students will respond to in-class prompts, documenting their discussions with slides that will be submitted electronically (students are welcome to use their laptops during class to submit the slides).

Unit quizzes	<b>60%</b>
· Quiz 1: July 16 (33% of quiz total)	
· Quiz 2: July 30 (50% of quiz total)	
· Quiz 3: August 8 (17% of quiz total)	
Experience analysis (due July 25)	<b>20%</b>
In-class group exercise contributions (ongoing throughout semester)	<b>20%</b>

## Writing

Writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of student work.

It is not essential to achieve a passing grade on any particular component of the course in order for the student to pass the course as a whole.

## 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.**

Assignments should be handed in via D2L in PDF or Microsoft Word format. Assignments handed in on paper will not be evaluated.

## 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.

Attendance is expected and required. Students are responsible for making their own accommodations for missed classes. Students will have access to materials posted online. However, the instructor cannot provide summaries of lectures or lessons for individual students.

Class begins promptly at noon. Latecomers are invited to join the second half of the class, after the break. (If the door is closed, please do not disturb the class – I will interrupt the lecture to inform you to wait until the break.) If you need to leave early, please inform me at the beginning of class.

## 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 fees, if necessary, and transportation). Students will provide responses to the work they encounter during these visits.

Students will be given a choice of galleries to attend. The instructor will ensure that entry to galleries is free and locations will be accessible by 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. Any disruptive use of technology (cell phone use, social media, etc.) is not permitted in the classroom.

## 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/>

## **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.

## **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.

