

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
DEPARTMENT OF ART

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Art (ART) 399 - Lecture 01**  
***Art in Theory and Practice I***  
*Fall 2015*

*Lecture: Tuesdays, 3:30pm-6:15pm; AB 672*

**Instructor:** *Nancy Nisbet*  
**Office Location:** *AB 648*  
**Office Phone:** *N/A*  
**E-Mail:** *nancy.nisbet@ucalgary.ca*  
**Web Page:** *N/A*  
**Office Hours:** *By appointment*

**Course Description**

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

**Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites**

N/A

**Objectives of the Course**

Upon successful completion of this course the student will have:

1. developed skills and confidence in critical thinking and awareness of a range of art theoretical positions and critical methodologies;
2. developed skills in analyzing significant texts from areas including art theory, aesthetics, psychoanalysis, and social theory;
3. produced written work that communicates well argued positions based on course materials;
4. developed an awareness of his or her situated relationship between praxis and knowledge.

**Textbooks and Readings**

Readings will be available as Library reserves or via the library electronic databases.

**Assignments and Evaluation**

**Grading Overview**

Journal	30%
Quizzes	20%
Case Study Presentations	15%
Final Essay	35%

### **Reading Journal (main points, questions & summary) (30%; 10 entries, graded equally)**

Students are required to keep a written journal for each assigned reading. Each journal entry will include:

1. clear identification of the author's thesis and two of the author's main supporting points;
2. two questions (e.g., for clarification, extensions of author's thinking) or two specific topics of interest (e.g., relations to other readings, relation to art practice ...) for group discussion. Be sure to indicate the exact section (e.g., page number, section, paragraph number) in the text that your questions or topics emerge from;
3. a brief summary (about 250 words) of what you have learned from the reading.

These journals will be handed in each week (NB. possibly uploaded in the weekly drop box on the D2L on-line course management system - TBA).

Evaluation: Each journal assignment will be graded out of a total of 3 points.

A grade of 3 indicates all three required elements were satisfactorily completed.

A grade of 2 indicates that only two of the required elements were satisfactorily completed.

A grade of 1 indicates that only one of the required elements was satisfactorily completed.

A grade of zero indicates that the journal entry was not completed, or was submitted late.

No other partial grades will be given.

### **Quizzes (20%; graded equally)**

There will be four short (15 minute) in-class quizzes on the readings during the semester.

Unless otherwise indicated, the quizzes will cover material from the prior two reading assignments & related class discussions. There will be five short answer questions worth 1 point each. No partial marks will be given.

The quizzes will be peer-graded in class and then given to the TA for review.

Note: All electronic devices and other reference materials must be put away during the quizzes.

### **Case Study Presentations (15%)**

The presentation of a case study of an artist (of the student's choice) is in the form of a *pecha kucha* (see <http://pechakucha.org>) which consists of 20 slides timed for exactly 20 seconds each for a total of 6m40s. The presentation is to be scripted and reflect the work of the chosen artist and its relationships to at least one theoretical approach discussed in the course. A copy of the written presentation script is to be handed in at the beginning of the class in which you present.

Presentation dates will be randomly assigned by the instructor. Students are required to present on their assigned day. If there is a known medical or other serious circumstance with the assigned day, it is the student's responsibility to make alternate arrangements with the instructor as soon as possible. A medical note or other appropriate documentation is required if the student is unexpectedly unable to present on their day. See Late Assignment Policy.

Presentations will be graded on:

1. clarity and effectiveness of presentation of the chosen artist's work;
2. clarity and strength of theoretical connection(s) to artist's work;
3. and the visual quality of the presentation and adherence to pecha kucha format.

## **Final Essays (35%)**

A final essay of 1,200 words maximum (~ 5 double spaced pages) is required and must incorporate relevant material from the assigned readings. Students will be able to choose one of two possible essay topics (provided when essay is assigned). Proper citations of all sources used (quoted or paraphrased) is required. Please use MLA style of citations.

Peer-review of your essay is required. Two weeks after the assignment is introduced, students will bring their PRINTED draft essays (must be a minimum of 80% complete i.e., 4 pages) to class. With the help of a review form supplied by the instructor, each student will peer-review another student's essay and have their own essay reviewed. This review form must be attached to the final essay on the due date.

Evaluation is based on:

1. an introduction that includes a clear thesis statement and states your main supporting ideas;
2. well developed support for each main idea with clear reference to relevant course readings;
3. a clear conclusion and final statement;
4. adherence to the assigned topic;
4. clear writing style and absence of grammatical and other writing errors;
5. proper citations for support material used (Please refer to the section on plagiarism).

Essays are required to be printed AND submitted electronically. No late submissions are accepted except under documented circumstances of an exceptional nature. Please refer to the Late Assignment Policy outlined in this document.

**\*\*Environmental gold stars\*\*** (optional)

Submit your essay printed double sided or on re-cycled paper already used on one side. (Please ensure your text is legible and be sure to draw a line across the re-cycled side!)

The **Writing Support Centre** offers free one-on-one appointments, and both drop-in, and on-line consultations to help with your writing assignments. They also host workshops that cover the fundamentals of academic writing and strategies for revision. Students are encouraged to take advantage of these excellent resources.

Location: Taylor Family Digital Library 3rd Floor                      Mon-Fri: 9am - 4pm

Helpful Links:                      [https://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing\\_support/overview](https://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing_support/overview)

[https://ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing\\_support/undergraduate\\_writing\\_workshops](https://ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing_support/undergraduate_writing_workshops)

<https://ucalgary.ca/ssc/resources/writing-support>

## **Writing**

As described in the above assignment descriptions, writing is a significant component of this course.

## **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 or via D2L as per assignment instructions. 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

Late assignments are not accepted except for a valid reason supported by appropriate documentation (e.g., doctor's note, funeral notice). You must contact the instructor by email within three working days of the missed assignment or a grade of zero will be assigned for the assignment. If difficult circumstances arise, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

### Additional Information

N/A

### Course Activities

**SCHEDULE:** subject to minor revisions. Reading List to come.

week 1	09/8	Welcome and introduction to course What is Aesthetics? Critical (Art) Theory? Introduction to ancient Greek aesthetics Reading Theoretical Essays	Reading 1
week 2	09/15	Reading Discussion Plato & Aristotle Intro: German Aesthetics (Kant, Hegel & Heidegger)	Reading 2
week 3	09/22	Quiz 1 (Plato, Aristotle, Kant) Reading Discussion German Aesthetics Intro: Social Theory - Frankfurt School	Journal 1 due Reading 3
week 4	09/29	Reading Discussion Social Theory Intro: Marxism	Journal 2 due Reading 4
week 5	10/6	Quiz 2 Reading Discussion Marxism Intro: Psychoanalysis	Journal 3 due Reading 5
week 6	10/13	Reading Discussion Psychoanalysis Intro: Existential Aesthetics	Journal 4 due Reading 6
week 7	10/20	Quiz 3 Reading Discussion Existential Aesthetics Intro: Modernisms	Journal 5 due Reading 7
week 8	10/27	Reading Discussion Modernisms Intro: Postmodernisms	Journal 6 due Reading 8
week 9	11/3	Quiz 4 Reading Discussion Postmodernisms Intro: Feminist Aesthetics	Journal 7 due Reading 9
week 10	11/10	<b>Case Study Presentations</b> Reading Discussion Feminist Aesthetics Intro: The Linguistic (& Pictorial) Turn	Journal 8 due

week 11	11/17	<b>Case Study Presentations</b> Reading Discussion Liguistic & Pictorial Turn Final essays assigned Journal 10: outline proposal for essay	Journal 9 due
week 12	11/24	<b>Case Study Presentations</b> Effective Writing	Journal 10 due
week 13	12/1	<b>Essay Peer Reviews - REQUIRED</b> Course Review	80% Draft essay due
Final	12/8	<b>Final essays due</b> at 3:30 pm in class	Essays Due

### 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

Computers or electronic notebooks may only be used in accordance with classroom pedagogical requirements. Cell phones and other personal electronic equipment must be

turned off during class time. Use of cell phones or other electronic aids during quizzes or exams is strictly prohibited, unless otherwise stated, and may result in failure of the course.

### **Academic Accommodation**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (S.A.S.); S.A.S. will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/)

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf)

### **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 go to [http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred\\_final](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. 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/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**

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/>

### **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 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.