ART (ART) 611, L01  
Research Methods in Art  
Fall 2019  
Tuesday 3:30-6:15, AB617

Instructor: Brian Rusted  
Office Location: AB-612  
Office Phone: 220-6102  
E-Mail: rusted@ucalgary.ca  
Web Page: N.A.  
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description
Introduces students to art making as a process of knowledge production and research creation.

Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites
Admission to a graduate program in the Department of Art.

Objectives of the Course
This course should provide a foundation for finding your place in graduate level creative practice. This course complements work you will do in studio and in theory. The course objectives are:
- To provide an opportunity to think about your creative practices as research
- To provide ways of working creatively that advance your practice towards completing a thesis project
- To introduce you to current debates regarding research creation, and other forms of practice-based creative research
- To facilitate development and completion of a SSHRC graduate scholarship application

Textbooks and Readings
There are no required textbooks for this course. Weekly readings are related to the schedule of topics and will be on (physical) reserve in the Taylor Family Digital Library, available online through the relevant journals, or ebooks. It is your responsibility to access material on physical reserve in timely manner for class readings and for assignments, so plan ahead!

Assignments and Evaluation
The final grade in the course is based on completing all four of the following assignments:

(Artist) Seminar Presentation 25%  
(dates coordinated with weekly topics, to be assigned in class)

The due date of this assignment is based on selecting a reading from assigned weekly readings (up to and including November 5). Students are to present the work of an artist of their choosing in
relation to issues of method raised by the week’s readings. Students may infer the artist’s methods from documented aspects of their practice. A formal, 5-7 page paper should be submitted following the presentation.

Note: There are sufficient weekly topics so that it is not necessary for more than one student to present in a given week.

**Journal Article Critique** 25%
due September 24

The assignment calls for students to produce a detailed, critical evaluation of a research article published in a journal relevant to arts-based research creation. Journals may include Art/Research International; Inflexions: Journal of Research Creation; International Journal of Creative Arts in Interdisciplinary Practice; Journal for Artistic Research; RACAR; Studies in Material Thinking, etc. Your paper should consider the article’s influence, its method, the validity of its argument and contribution to the field. (Influence can be determined in part through citation frequency.)

**MFA Support Paper** 25%
Due October 22

This assignment is designed to give you a sense of graduate research conducted in Art at the University of Calgary and elsewhere. Select one or two MFA support papers (available in the Department office or electronically through the TFDL) or even a practice-based PhD dissertation in an area of your own interest. In 5-7 pages provide a summary and assessment of the project completed by the artist researcher. Your discussion should include a clear statement of their research question and objectives, an overview of the theoretical context in which they framed their question, the application of methods, and the creative or practice-based outcomes of the project. You should conclude with evaluating the merits and accomplishments of the project (prefaced with an account of how you chose to evaluate the work).

**Research (Grant) Proposal** 25%
due November 26

The final assignment should build on skills acquired throughout the course. It asks you to develop a feasible research question and a research creation grant proposal. Drawing on relevant research traditions in creative research, students should suggest the relevance of their research question to their field of practice, and should show how these traditions provide an approach to answering the question. If relevant, try to relate your question to the evolution of contemporary practice. If appropriate, try to develop a context in relation to other research creation projects. The completed proposal should meet the SSHRC guidelines for a Canada graduate scholarship - master’s application and be completed in time for their submission deadline. If you are not eligible, the proposal may be a paper submission approximately 10 pages and include an annotated bibliography. The bibliography should indicate your familiarity with current journals, research, and practice that might be relevant to your creative research.

**Writing**

This course is writing intensive so the evaluation of written work will be a central factor in the grading of assignments. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Support for writing is available in the Student Success Centre: [https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support](https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support)

**Note:** It is the student’s responsibility to keep a copy of any relevant documentation regarding each submitted assignment.
Please hand in your assignments directly to your 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.

**Late Assignment Policy**

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

**Course Activities**

SCHEDULE for FALL TERM:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 10</td>
<td>Introduction: review course objectives and assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 17</td>
<td>Research Creation</td>
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<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>Arts Based Research</td>
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<td>Oct 1</td>
<td>Practice Based Research</td>
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<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>A/r/tography</td>
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<td>Oct 15</td>
<td>Material Thinking</td>
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<td>Oct 22</td>
<td>Discussion of MFA Support Papers (UAAC Conference)</td>
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<td>Oct 29</td>
<td>Autoethnography</td>
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<td>Nov 5</td>
<td>Indigenous and Decolonizing Methods</td>
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<td>Nov 12</td>
<td>Reading Week (no class)</td>
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<td>Nov 19</td>
<td>Responsible Conduct in Research Creation</td>
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<td>Nov 26</td>
<td>Review Grant Applications and Proposals</td>
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<td>Dec 3</td>
<td>Impact of Creative Research Methods</td>
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**Graduate Studies Grading System**

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>Graduate Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Outstanding performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Excellent performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>Very good performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>Good performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Satisfactory performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>Minimum pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>All grades of &quot;C+&quot; or lower are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. Individual programs may require a higher passing grade.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
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Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

Use of internet and electronic devices is permitted (laptops, cell phones, etc.) during class if required for course purposes.

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.

Academic Accommodations

The student accommodation policy can be found at 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.

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

F.O.I.P.

For more information go to https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip

Instructor Intellectual Property and Copyright Legislation

Course materials created by the instructor (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in
the same course section and term may be allowed under fair dealing. Check with the instructor if you have any questions about sharing materials with classmates.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.).

Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

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

Lockers for all sessions can be rented through 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/

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

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

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

Faculty of Graduate Studies General Information

For more information go to https://grad.ucalgary.ca/

*You can also contact Biljana Arnautovic, the Graduate Program Administrator (arnautov@ucalgary.ca) in the Department of Art.

Graduate Students’ Association

For more information go to https://gsa.ucalgary.ca/