EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

VISUAL ARTS

School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Visual Art Art History

FA / VISA 4090A6.0 SECTION A
INSTALLATION ART
FALL 2017 / WINTER 2018

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Offers a focused practicum for senior students that addresses the origins and history of installation art including site-specificity, the context of the gallery/museum, alternate environments and artist collectives. Compulsory supplementary fees. Prerequisites: Third- or fourth-year standing and at least six credits in studio at the 3000-level with a grade of B or better.

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INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<td>Levitt, Nina E</td>
<td>Sec. A / STDO / Y</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Communication
Please make sure to check your York email account and Moodle frequently for announcements regarding field trips, events and other course-related information. It is your responsibility to check both before coming to class and stay informed. You may also miss any last minute changes to the schedule.

Area Technicians:
Joel Wendle, wood, plaster shop, jwengle@yorku.ca
Roch Smith, foundry, metal shop, roch@yorku.ca
Lindsay Page, room 132 digital print lab, lpage@yorku.ca
Kotama Bouabane (all other Photo areas), kotamab@yorku.ca

Calendar Description
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FA/VISA 4090A is a full year course. The LAST DATE TO DROP this course without academic penalty FEBRUARY 9, 2018.

Information about a refund for dropping this course can be found at http://sfs.yorku.ca/refunds
For information on other important York dates:
http://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw17

Expanded Description
This senior level studio course centers on the development and production of four independent installation projects. Through discussions, proposal writing, guest artist talks, work-in-progress presentations, and class critiques, students will learn to refine their investigations. Competence beyond basic technologies is required in the focus area, and independent research and production is required.

Some professional development will also be the focus of the course. Topics covered include writing proposals and artist statements, presentation techniques, and critiques. We will hold some joint sessions with the 4090 course in Painting for guest talks from the art community, informal group critiques and two exhibitions in Gales Gallery and SPG.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Self-Directed Projects
You will complete 4 distinct projects during the year (2 in fall semester, 2 in winter semester). Projects can be related in subject matter, aesthetics, materials but must be finished works. The 4th project can be an adaptation/refinement/extension of any of your completed projects or a new project.

Demonstrating a commitment to your ideas, conducting research (subject, technical and aesthetic), skill development, synthesis of class discussions and responding to feedback during work-in-progress are equally essential to the success of your projects.

Each project will consist of the following stages:
1. Initial written proposal (possibly with revisions):
2. Evidence of research: reading, web search, archives, libraries, gallery visits
3. Work-in-progress presentation consisting of production drawings, mock-ups, simulations
4. Class critique of finished project
5. Final written Artist Statement handed in one week after Critique.

Launch your project by presenting your project idea to the class including your initial research for the project. Guidelines for successful proposal writing will be thoroughly covered in class. Hand in hard copy of your Proposal on due date. A grade of “Pass” or “Resubmit” will be given either during class (if time permits) or within one week.

Students who receive a "Pass" are good to go! Students who receive a “Resubmit” must revise their proposal in consultation with the Instructor, before production is allowed to commence. Your written Proposal will be adapted for your final Artist Statement.

Work-in-progress presentations will be held for each project. Students will have to present sufficient evidence of project development with simulations, drawings, mockups, maquettes and other related material as well as evidence of research demonstrating that you are "in production."

Discussions with the class will help support, guide and shape your project. Everyone's
observations, questions and lively comments are essential. Showing work-in-progress is mandatory and will be part of the overall project grade. There are no extensions for missing your work-in-progress class. If you do not attend this class, you will receive Zero for that portion of the overall project grade.
Final Artist Statements are due one week following the critique. I will provide you with a grade sheet with grading criteria in a weighted scale. You can expect me to increase my expectations of your work as you progress from project to project, with the winter term projects "worth" more.
FALL 2017 TERM:
Project #1 (15%)
Written proposal due in class September 21 for oral presentation with support material (research, inspiration, sketches, work prints, etc.)
Studio visits with all 4090s: October 5
Work-in-progress Presentations: October 12
Final Critique: October 19
Project #2 (15%)
Written proposal due in class November 2 for oral presentation with support material (research, inspiration, sketches, work prints, etc.)
Work-in-progress Presentations: November 16
Final Critique: November 30
WINTER 2018 TERM:
Research Presentation (15%)
Give a comprehensive 15-minute illustrated presentation about an artist, artist collaborations in relation to any of the work completed or in progress for this course. Other criteria and guidelines will be discussed in detail during class.
Date: TBA
Project #3 (20%)
Written proposal due in class for oral presentation with support material (research, inspiration, sketches, work prints, etc.).
Dates TBA
Project #4 (20%)
This final project can be a revision or adaptation of any of the work completed this year. If you choose to do this, the work must represent a significant variation or extension of the original work.
Written proposal due in class for oral presentation with support material (research, inspiration, sketches, work prints, etc.).
Dates TBA
EXHIBITIONS
Two exhibition slots (one in the fall and one in the winter) are scheduled for 4090 students in both the SPG and Gales Gallery. A student committee will be struck to coordinate, install and promote these shows. Unless your work is off-site or not suitable for either gallery, all students are required to participate in these shows. Critiques are schedule to coincide with shows. Exhibition Dates:
November 27-30, 2017
March 19-30, 2018
Fall 2017 Schedule
Note: this schedule is subject to change. Revisions will be announced in class and posted on Moodle.

Thursdays 8:30 am - 12:30 pm.
Room 130 CFA

week date content
1 Sept. 7 Course outline, Schedule & Assignments, Grading; What is Research? What are your stages of art production? Tips for successful Proposal writing; Group work: defining installation art.
2 Sept. 14 Learning to Love Critiques (& Benefit from Them). Project development & completion discussions. Lab orientation working groups, informal project discussions with me.
3 Sept. 21 Project #1 written Proposal due. In-class oral presentations and feedback
4 Sept. 28 Work-in-progress one-on-one meetings with me
5 Oct. 5 Both 4090s: Work period 8:30-10:00 am.
Guest artist talks: York grads Nadia Belerique, Jessica Thalman 10:00 am.
6 Oct. 12 Work-in-Progress Presentations (graded)
7 Oct. 19 Project #1 Critique
8 Oct. 26 Fall Reading Days: no class
9 Nov. 2 Project #2 written Proposal due. In-class oral Presentations and feedback
10 Nov. 9 One-on-one meetings with me
11 Nov. 16 Informal studio visits, both 4090s
12 Nov. 23 Work-in-Progress Presentations (graded)
November 27-30: 4090 Exhibition in SPG and Gales
13 Nov. 30 Project #2 Critique (in both galleries)

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

Learning Outcomes: developing research and creative practices, improving technical production skills, understanding the value of work-in-progress, developing critique skills. During the course, students will:
• explore installation art through research and production of self-directed projects
• continue to develop confidence in their artistic practice, technical competence and creative skills
• acquire critical language skills in visual art, and in relation to broader discourses related to social practices and cultural production
• be exposed to a range of art practices as a source of inspiration
• acquire first-hand experience organizing, installing and participating in group exhibitions
• have the opportunity to install artworks in public spaces

Teaching Mode
This is a four-hour per week studio course. Class time will include illustrated lectures, demonstrations, student presentations, one-on-one meetings with me, artist’s talks and class critiques.
A significant amount of class time will be devoted to production. This is time for you to be in production studios on campus and for informal discussions with me. A sign up sheet will be posted on the door at the beginning of each production class for informal discussions, technical and production assistance. You also have to dedicate sufficient production time to your projects during the week and take advantage of after-hours and free time. Students are expected to spend 3-6 hours per week outside of class time in the creation and production of course work. This time should include sketching, reading, visiting galleries, writing and thinking. Familiarize yourself with lab hours. Manage your time economically and productively with a balance of research, inspiration, self-discipline and motivation.
This course allows for mixed levels of learning and artists working in a range of media so a willingness to share skills and ideas with your peers is especially important. Respectful, collegial behaviour is required in the classroom and labs.

Readings
There is no textbook for this course. Readings and research areas may be assigned based on individual projects.

GRADED ASSESSMENT

GRADING
Project 1 15%
Project 2 15%
Project 3 20%
Project 4 25%
Research Presentation (winter) 15%
Participation 10 %

Participation grade is based on your presence in class, personal and creative growth, an active commitment to your work, demonstrating a willingness to help and support classmates, your contributions to discussions during critiques, participation in, organizing and installing class exhibitions.

Evaluation
Assignments are graded on the basis of:
• evidence of effort and commitment to your projects
• presenting satisfactory levels of work-in-progress
• achieving technical competence in area of focus
• evidence of independent creative thinking and problem-solving
• evidence of aesthetic and historical awareness and research
• written artist statement

Demonstrating a commitment to your ideas, conducting subject research, skill development,
synthesis of class discussions and responding to feedback during work-in-progress are equally essential to the success of your projects.
Work-in-Progress will be a % of a final project grade. Missing a work-in-progress critique will result in a zero for that portion of the grade unless you have a medical exemption.
Late Projects will receive one letter grade deduction per week overdue to a maximum of 2 weeks. Late projects will NOT be accepted after two weeks past deadline unless you have extenuating circumstance you discuss with me in advance, or a Doctor’s note.
The final grading scheme for this course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York. For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar http://registrar.yorku.ca/grades/legends/fa
Demonstrating a commitment to your projects, conducting independent research, skill development, synthesis of class lectures and responding to feedback during work-in-progress are essential to the success of your projects.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Medical Absence
A Doctor’s note is absolutely required for an extended absence or for late assignments. The instructor reserves the right not to accept a late assignment unless there are extenuating circumstances that the student brings to the attention of the instructor prior to the assignment deadline. One letter grade will be deducted for each week the work is late to a maximum of 2 weeks. After 2 weeks, the assignment will not be accepted and you will receive zero.
Absence for Religious Observance
Please advise me in advance of any absence due to religious observance. More information at Religious Observance Accommodation
Accessibility
Students who feel that there are extenuating circumstances that may affect their ability to successfully complete the course requirements are encouraged to discuss the matter with me during the first two weeks of the course. Students with physical, learning or psychiatric needs who require reasonable accommodations in teaching style or evaluation methods should discuss this with the Instructor so that appropriate arrangements can be made.
Access/Disability Website
Academic Honesty
All students are subject to the policies and procedures regarding academic honesty as defined by the Senate of York University. Further information can be found: York's Academic Honesty Policy and Academic Integrity Website.
Ethics Review Process
York students are subject to the York University Policy for the Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants. In particular, students proposing to undertake research involving human participants (e.g., interviewing the director of a company or government agency, having students complete a questionnaire, etc.) are required to submit an Application for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants at least one month before you plan to begin the research. If you are in doubt as to whether this requirement applies to you, contact your Instructor immediately. Please refer to York’s Ethics Review Process for
Research Involving Human Participants.

Damaged Equipment
In the case of damaged tools and equipment that are the property of the Department of Visual Art & Art History, staff technicians will determine if the damage is a result of normal wear and tear and if the item is repairable. If it is determined that the damage was the result of abuse, the student will be responsible for the full cost of the repair, or the full cost of replacement if the item is not repairable.

Damage Collection Procedure
Upon receiving any of these notifications, (damage, loss, theft) the Department will prepare an invoice for the full repair or replacement cost of the item/s. You will be responsible for full payment of this bill within 14 days. Payment must be made by certified cheque, money order or cash to the VAAH office. Personal cheques will not be accepted. If payment is not received within 14 calendar days or by the last class day of the semester, whichever is sooner, your equipment borrowing privileges will be suspended and the outstanding amounts owed will be billed directly to your student account. Until your student account is paid in full you will not be able to obtain official transcripts or graduate etc. In certain special cases, the Studio Manager may authorize the borrower to provide a substitute for the missing or stolen equipment with an item of equivalent function and value.

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University's course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.
Moodle @ York University