EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
VISUAL ARTS
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Visual Art Art History
FA / VISA 4090D6.0 SECTION A
PAINTING: CONTEMPORARY EXPLORATIONS
FALL 2018 / WINTER 2019

Last Modified Date: 08/01/2018

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Provides a focused practicum for senior students that examines contemporary practices in painting. This course is structured around self-initiated projects under the direction of the Instructor. Through the coupling of theoretical and practical explorations, the course facilitates students' ability to develop their individual projects within the contemporary context of representational and abstract art, popular culture and mass media. Prerequisites: three credits from the 302x plus three credits from the FA/VISA 302x or FA/VISA 308x series of courses with a grade of B or better, third- or fourth-year standing.

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INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Expanded Course Description

This is an advanced level painting course that is designed to further students understanding of contemporary painting & to introduce students to a professional practice in the visual arts. This will be accomplished primarily through studio practice: finding one’s ‘own voice’ through the completion of five major, inter-related painting projects that address contemporary trends in painting & secondarily, through an introduction to the contemporary artworld through exhibiting one’s work and planning class exhibitions.

At the beginning of this course, each student will choose one of the following four themes:

Theme #1: Urban Environments
Theme #2: Environmentalism / Contemporary Approaches to Nature
Theme #3: Cross-Cultural Overlays / Family Background
Theme #4: The Body as a Contested Site

These themes are examined in the introductory class and discussions relating to a particular theme continue throughout the year - with the students who chose the theme. Your chosen theme may be explored using any art style you wish; from highly realistic to abstract. The painting materials, techniques and formal qualities you choose need to be carefully considered.

After the introductory class, each student is required to write a 1/2 page artist statement/proposal (300 words max.) for five thematically /stylistically related works; three to be completed in the Fall Term and two in the Winter term that relate to her/his chosen theme. This very concise statement should include: general theme
(one of the four noted above) and the specifics of the theme, style, the materials to be used and the names of at least three well-known, preferably contemporary artists who are influencing your work. If you are unsure about who these artists might be, please do some research. A good way to begin is to look at a number of the books listed on the bibliography, in particular Vitamin P and P2.

During the class critiques, students are expected to clearly present her/his work to the rest of the class and explain the conceptual ideas behind his/her work and its relationship to contemporary art. Readings on contemporary painting and looking at the work of contemporary painters are assigned depending on individual student’s projects.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Course Text / Readings

The following are books that will be referenced during this course. They are pertinent both to a general understanding of contemporary visual art, in particular painting, and the themes we will be addressing this year. In addition, articles and books, which suit each student’s individual project, will be recommended.


LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

The purpose of this course is to further students' painting abilities and the understanding both of contemporary painting and the conceptual ideas related to her/his chosen theme; primarily through studio projects, and secondarily through class discussion, class critiques and presentations / viewing of works by contemporary painters. As this is an advanced level class, the main objective of this course is to give students the tools to develop their own practices as ‘young’ artists.

There will be a class exhibition in the Fall Term at The Gales Gallery & in the Winter term at Gallery 1313 in downtown Toronto. Full participation in the planning of these exhibitions is an important aspect of the professional practice component of this course, as well as the participation in / planning of a number of Departmental exhibitions and events, such as Open House and the Painting Area exhibition in the Gales Gallery. As senior painting students, it is expected that the students in this class will all take leadership roles in these Departmental events.

GRADED ASSESSMENT

Evaluation

Fall Term:
1. 1/2 Page Artist Statement / Proposal – 5%

Due Class #2: September 13th. Three thematically linked paintings that related to the chosen theme: Total 30%
Painting #1: 10%

It is expected that this painting will be exploratory and tentative. It is a time for you to experiment with what will work in terms of materials & techniques. You may wish to try several small paintings to figure out your ‘direction’. Your Artist Statement and these ‘experiments’ should be your guide throughout the rest of the course.

Due: First Critique September 27th

Painting #2 & #3

Each 10%

Due: Final Critique before the Holiday Break – Last two Fall session classes.

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Winter Term:

Painting #4 & 5

Two thematically linked paintings that relate to the same chosen theme: each 20%.

Total: 40%

These are major projects. Your theme/style should be fully developed by this point.

These are each due on the dates of the Class Critiques. See Winter Term schedule that will be distributed the first class of the Winter Term.

Fall/Winter Professional Practice:

Active participation in and planning of Class Exhibitions, Departmental Exhibitions and Events. Total 13%

(It is expected that there will be at least two class exhibitions; one at the end of the Fall term in the Gales and Project Space Gallery & the second in mid-March at Gallery 1313 in downtown Toronto). The class will be divided up into groups, each group responsible for a different event.

-Speakers Series (Fall /Winter)
-Gales Gallery & Project Gallery Exhibition (with the 4000 level Installation Class). Fall Term
-Gallery 1313 Exhibition (with the 4000 level Installation Class). Winter Term
-Open House Exhibition (Winter Term)
-Painting Area Exhibition (Winter Term)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fall/Winter Class Participation and Attendance

Students will be expected to sign an attendance sheet at the beginning of each class. Attendance will be a factor in assigning the participation and attendance grade. Working in class during class time is mandatory. Enthusiastic participation and thoughtful comments during critiques and discussions are required for an excellent participation grade.

Total 12%

Please Note:

The last day to drop this course without receiving a grade is February 8, 2019.

Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Department or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests* will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf)

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the Faculty of Fine Arts section of the
Assignment Submission: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Painting Studio Assignments are to be completed for the in class critique date to be reviewed and graded by the Course Director.

Lateness Penalty: Paintings are to be completed for the in class group critiques. Exceptions for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor.

Additional Information
As this is a studio painting course students are expected to come to class on time with the appropriate painting materials / tools and stay until the end of each class.

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS
All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm

Please note that this information is subject to periodic update. For the most current information, please go to the CCAS webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents): http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm

FALL Class Schedule:
Class 1: September 6
Introduction to the course and to one another.
Review of the course outline.
In-depth discussion of the four themes.
Discussion of the creative process of painting / your creative process

For Class 2: 1/2 page artist statement / project proposal to be presented to your Thematic Group

Class 2: September 13
Divide into Thematic Groups / Individual presentations and discussion of proposals.
Professional Practice Groups- assigned & first meeting
Begin to work on Painting #1- Individual consultations
Hand In Proposals

Class 3: September 20
In-class workday on Painting #1.
Individual consultations and critiques.

Class 4: September 27
Critique Painting Project #1.

Class #5: October 4th
Begin work on Painting #2 & #3
Individual consultations and critiques

Fall Reading Week: October 6-12 NO CLASSES

Class 6: October 18
In-class workday. Individual consultations and critiques

Class 7: October 25
In-class workday. Individual consultations and critiques

Class 8: November 1
In-class workday. Individual consultations and critiques.

Class 9: November 8
In-class workday. Individual consultations and critiques.

Class 10: November 15
In-class workday. Individual consultations and critiques.

Class 11: November 22
Critique Painting Project #2 & 3.
Thematic Groups #1 & #2.

Class 12: November 29
Critique Painting # 2 & 3.
Thematic Groups #3 & 4.

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