EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
ART HISTORY
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Visual Art Art History
FA / ARTH 1000 3.0 SECTION A
CRITICAL ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY ART
FALL 2019 / WINTER 2020

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
Introduces students to visual, conceptual and theoretical language operative in contemporary art and visual culture. Frameworks for understanding contemporary art are examined through theories of representation, spectatorship, production, media, ideology and aesthetics. Open to non-majors. Core course for foundation studies. Open to non-majors. Course credit exclusions: FA/VISA 1000 3.0 and FA/VISA 1040 3.0.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fisher, Jennifer</td>
<td>Sec. A / BLEN / F</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES
York University Department of Visual Art and Art History
Fall 2019
Course Director: Jennifer Fisher
Class Time: Thursday, 10:00-11:30 CFA 312
Office Hours: By appointment, jefish@yorku.ca CFA 252

CRITICAL ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY ART
FA/ARTH 1000 3.0
This lecture/seminar course introduces students to thinking creatively and analytically about visual culture in the contemporary global context. Students are introduced to the ways in which meanings are produced through visual forms, including paintings, prints, photographs, film, television, video, advertisements, social media, news and science images. The course examines how images can be “read” as visual language and which influences inform ways of seeing, including aesthetics, ideology, gender, race and class.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

COURSE SCHEDULE September 5
• **Introduction**: Introduction to the Course

September 12
• **Lecture**: Images, Power, and Politics
• **Reading**: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 1: pp. 13-49.
September 19
• Lecture: Viewers Make Meaning
• Reading: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 2: 51-88.

September 26  ASSIGNMENT #1: Essay Questions from Ch. 1 and Image Analysis
• Lecture: Modernity: Spectatorship, The Gaze, and Power
• Reading: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 3: pp. 89-138.

October 3
• Lecture: Realism and Perspective: From Renaissance Painting to Digital Media
• Reading: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 4: pp. 139-177.

October 10
• Lecture: Visual technologies, Reproduction, and the Copy
• Reading: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 5: pp. 179-218.

October 17  Fall Reading Week

October 24  MIDTERM EXAM

October 31
• Lecture: Media in Everyday Life
• Reading: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 6: pp. 219-256.

November 7
• Lecture: Brand Culture: The Images and Spaces of Consumption
• Reading: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 7, pp. 257-299.

November 14  ASSIGNMENT #2
• Lecture: Postmodernism: Irony, Parody, and Pastiche
• Reading: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 8: pp. 301-336.

November 21
• Lecture: Scientific Looking, Looking at Science
• Reading: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 9: pp. 337-378.

November 28
• Lecture: The Global Flow of Visual Culture
• Reading: Sturken & Cartwright, Chapter 10: pp. 379-423.

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

Learning Objectives:
To gain familiarity with the critical terms and concepts of art history and visual cultural studies
To understand the production of meaning in visual communication especially in art, popular culture, media and design.
To develop awareness of key issues informing contemporary art history and media studies
To foster a theoretically informed analysis of art and visual media


GRADED ASSESSMENT

GRADING AND EVALUATION: Participation 10% ongoing
Assignment #1 15% due Sept. 26
Midterm Exam 25% due Oct. 24
Assignment #2 20% due Nov. 14
Final Exam 30% TBA

The last day to drop this course without receiving a grade is November 8.

Participation: is based on attendance at lectures, active involvement in classroom discussions, groups and presentations; timely and appropriate submission of assignment and evident effort in academic and learning skills.

Assignment #1: will cover essay questions, terms and images from September 12. The exam will be written in class during class time.

Midterm Exam: will cover all content from the first half of the course, including definitions, distinctions, essay questions, image identifications and comparisons, and visual analyses. The exam will be written in class during class time.

Assignment #2: will address the visual analysis of an advertising image according to the denotative, connotative and ideological approaches discussed in class. It is a take-home assignment.

Final Exam: will cover all content from the second half of the course, including definitions, distinctions, essay questions, image identifications and comparisons, and visual analysis.

Late Assignments: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Assignments should be handed in to the instructor at the beginning of class on the day of the deadline. Extensions will be granted for medical emergencies or other extreme circumstances if the instructor is notified before the assignment is due. Without an approved extension, your mark will decrease by 5% for each day the assignment is late.

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 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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:
https://www.library.yorku.ca/web/research-learn/academic-integrity/
- York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

Academic Honesty and Integrity
York students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty Codes of Academic Honesty are taken very seriously and violations are treated severely, including failing the course, being suspended from the university or withholding a degree, diploma or certificate. It is expected that all your work be produced by you, that you are not resubmitting work from other classes, and that you acknowledge sources that informed your thinking appropriately.

Writing Resources: Please consult the following general resources on theoretical writing and visual analysis keeping in mind the specific focus of the assignment:
- Spark Student Paper and Academic Research Tool Kit
  https://spark.library.yorku.ca/
- Citation Style Guides and Writers' Manuals
  http://www.library.yorku.ca/ccm/Home/ResearchAndInstruction/StyleManuals/ ESL Open Learning Centre
  http://www.yorku.ca/esloc/
- York Libraries Online Help with Research
  http://www.library.yorku.ca/ccm/Home/ResearchAndInstruction/index.htm

Access/Disability
York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials. These services are made available to students in all Faculties and programs at York University. Students in need of these services are asked to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Please note that registering with disabilities services and discussing your needs with your professors is necessary to avoid any impediment to receiving the necessary academic accommodations to meet your needs. Additional information is available through Counselling & Disability Services at www.yorku.ca/cds or from disability service providers:
- Personal Counselling and Learning Skills Services: N110 BCSS, 416-736-5297
- Mental Health Disability Services: N110 BCSS, 416-736-5297
- Learning Disability Services: W128 BCSS, 416-736-5383
- Physical, Sensory and Medical Disability Services: N108 Ross, 416-736-5140, TTY: 416-736-5263

Deaf and Hard of Hearing students can also contact dhh@yorku.ca

Religious Observance Accommodation
York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the course director immediately.
Student Conduct
Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Just as it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, so, too, it the responsibility of students to cooperate in that endeavour. A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available on the York website http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=82.

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