EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

ART HISTORY
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Visual Art Art History
FA / ARTH 3620B3.0 SECTION A
REVOLUTIONS: TOPICS IN ROMANTIC ART
FALL 2020 / WINTER 2021

Last Modified Date: 08/05/2020

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Explores the relationship between Romantic art and the modern condition of revolution, industrialization, urbanization, and colonial expansion in Europe from the late-18th through the mid-19th centuries. Students develop a specialized theoretical and historical understanding of the Romantic movement and its place in Western art history. Prerequisite: FA/VISA 1130 6.00. Previously offered as: FA/VISA 3620B 3.00 prior to FW 2014.

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>Grosskurth, Brian J B</td>
<td>Sec. A / LECT / F</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bgrossk@yorku.ca">bgrossk@yorku.ca</a></td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

This online course will focus on Romantic art of the early 19th century. In exploring this period, the central emphasis will be placed on developments in French art of the era. Particular focus will be given to the practice of Géricault and Delacroix. Politics, history, medicine, orientalism, revolution, crime, and psychiatry will be among the many topics to be addressed. However, specific emphasis will be given to the question of death in the early nineteenth century and the multiple ways in which this subject was articulated in the work of French Romantic artists.

The course will be given online through Moodle. The equivalent of 12 weeks of lectures will be cumulatively posted on the Moodle page. In addition, I shall be posting essay advice and additional commentary from week to week. I shall also be communicating with the class, on a regular basis, through email. You may contact me at bgrossk@yorku.ca with any questions that you may have about the course. If public health conditions permit, we may possibly consider having one or two optional field trips downtown, outdoors, with masks, and social distancing.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Course Texts:


Suggested:

Hugh Honour, Romanticism, London, 1979. This is still the best overall introduction to the art of the Romantic era.
For those of you who already have a copy from an earlier course, Stephen Eisenman, Nineteenth-Century Art: A Critical History is also useful.

Finally, I encourage you all to read Achille Mbembe, Necropolitics, Durham, 2019 for its discussion of some of the concepts that I shall be using in the course. The original article on which the 2019 book is based can easily be found online as a pdf - Achille Mbembe, “Necropolitics”, 2003.

In terms of specific readings, you should begin by reading through the William Vaughan text at your own pace. You should also start reading Achille Mbembe’s article, “Necropolitics” of 2003 (it can be found online as a pdf).

Course Schedule (please note that the following outline is provisional in character and may be subject to change):

Week One: Introduction
Week Two: Death in the Romantic Era
Week Three: Géricault and the Art of War
Week Four: Géricault, Crime and Punishment
Week Five: Medusa
Week Six: Medicine and the Macabre
Week Seven: Delacroix and Death
Week Eight: Reimagining Dante
Week Nine: Massacres on Chios
Week Ten: Executions
Week Eleven: Sardanapalus
Week Twelve: Revolutions

Important Dates:
Week Seven: Essay Outline Due, 15 October, 2020
Week Ten: First Essay Due, 6 November 2020
Week Twelve: Final Essay Due, 4 December 2020

Selected Bibliography
Giorgio Agamben, Homo Sacer, Stanford, 1999
Nina Amstutz, Caspar David Friedrich: Nature and the Self, Yale, 2020
T.J. Clark, Farewell to an Idea, Yale, 1999
Thomas Crow, Emulation, Yale, 1995
Thomas Crow, Painting and Public Life in Eighteenth-Century Paris, Yale, 1985
Thomas Crow, Restoration: The Fall of Napoleon in the Course of European Art, 1812-1820, Princeton, 2018
Ewa Lajer-Burcharth, Necklines: The Art of Jacques-Louis David after the Terror, Yale, 1999
Michael Marrinan, Painting Politics for Louis-Philippe: Art and Ideology in Orleanist France, Yale, 1988
LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

1) The course will assist students in examining key historical issues within a challenging theoretical framework.
2) Students will focus on using advanced conceptual tools to analyse specific works and issues.

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GRADED ASSESSMENT

EVALUATION: Two 8-Page Essays (30% each, due dates: 6 November and 4 December, 2020), Essay Outline (15%, due date: 15 October 2020) Class Presentation (20%), Participation (5%).

Essays: The 2 short essays must be a minimum of 7-8 pages and focus on one or two works of art from the Romantic period in any visual media from any perspective. Possible topics could include landscape, nature, Orientalism, gender issues, sexuality, and politics. Students may also have the option of writing 1 long paper instead of 2 short essays. In order to qualify, however, this paper must have a minimum of 12 pages of text, excluding endnotes and bibliography. Anything less will not be accepted as a long paper and will be counted as a short essay in the final grading scheme.

Essay Outline: The essay outline should be a minimum of 2 pages and include bibliography. It should a clear and concise presentation of the central arguments that you propose to use in your upcoming papers.

Presentations: Presentations should be approximately the equivalent of 5 double-spaced pages and they should focus, in a preliminary way, on your essay research. The format for this is flexible – power point, pdf document etc. As I am very concerned about safeguarding your online privacy, I have decided that it’s best to email this material directly to me at bgrossk@yorku.ca at a date to be determined later. If you wish to share your presentation with the rest of the class, you may do choose to do so through the class email that I will also be using. However, this would be an entirely optional decision on your part.

Assignment Submission: All work, except for presentation material, must be submitted through Moodle.

Essay Deadlines: 6 November 2020 and 4 December 2020
Essay Outline Deadline: 15 October 2020

Lateness Penalties: Essays turned in after the due date are penalized by 5% per day. Lateness due to medical or other reasons must be fully documented.

GRADING: The grading scheme for this course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g. A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (or both); (e.g. A+ = 90-100; A = 80-90; B+ =
75-79; etc.). For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

THE WITHDRAWAL DATE FOR A FALL TERM COURSE IS 06 NOVEMBER 2020

Important Deadline Dates:
- Week Seven: Essay Outline Due, 15 October, 2020
- Week Ten: First Essay Due, 6 November 2020
- Week Twelve: Final Essay Due, 4 December 2020

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
- York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- 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 (http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=69).

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, 416-736-5350
- 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

Glendon students - Counselling & Disability Services, Glendon Site: Glendon Hall E103, 416-487-6709

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 Course Director immediately.

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 for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment to be completed in a lab, practicum placement, workshop, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course director immediately. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained from Student Client Services, Bennett Student Services Centre or online at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf

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. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. 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 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

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

Moodle @ York University