Art 497.01W Art Writing on Gender and Identity Issues
Dr. Emily Newman
Texas A&M University – Commerce

Web Based Class, Summer I
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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTCOMES
By working and developing different kinds of writing, this course intends to provide students with a variety of resources and skills that will help cultivate their writing practice. Through the careful study of artworks, students will be engaged in an extended, examination of issues concerning gender and identity. Students will read challenging, sophisticated and seminal texts and demonstrate their command of such texts in short responses, online discussions, and a variety of different types of essays. Additionally, students will practice peer review, and work on learning how to talk about writing and both providing critique and accepting and utilizing those critiques themselves. By the end of the course, the student will have produced a number of different types of essays and have a sense of the different types of writing necessary in art history.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
- understand art terminology and be able to utilize it in the appropriate context
- discuss and explain historically significant works of art, while often addressing issues of gender and identity
- learn to analyze the relationships among content, context, and style
- analyze and discuss significant artworks and texts texts (including a variety of types of media) and then apply the evaluation techniques to everyday life
- enhance visual literacy and critical thinking skills

ASSESSMENT
Students' ability to meet the course objectives and learning outcomes will be evaluated by written assignments, online discussions, and peer review.

TEXTBOOKS
Gilda Williams, *How to Write About Contemporary Art*, 2014, ISBN: 0500291578

Supplementary articles and videos will be posted online.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:*

Participation: Each person is expected to be prepared for the class, which means having completed the reading and/or viewing the film screening and completed the assignments. Responding to classmates blog entries and discussions is a pivotal and key part of each of the assignments for the course.

Discussion: Each student will write numerous times to the discussion page for the class. There will be clear class prompts, with word counts for you to follow.

Writing Assignments: Throughout the course, you will read a number of different articles that engage historical and theoretical ideas concerning gender, art, and identity. Over the course of the class, you will write short papers that respond to course material, but do not include research.

Peer Review: At various times throughout the class, you will be asked to provide thoughtful critique and reviews of your peers' writings. You will need to learn how to give helpful and useful feedback, as well as to incorporate those comments into your own project.

Grade Breakdown:
20% Discussion posts
10% Comments on classmates' posts
50% Writing Assignments
20% Peer Review

NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED
NO EXTRA CREDIT WORK WILL BE ASSIGNED.

*Subject to Change

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS
- internet access
- access to eCollege, course documents (including pdfs of the slides shown in class) will be uploaded here

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you use a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (8.0). Your courses also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating system.

WEB-BASED COURSE
This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx. You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu. This course will use most of the features in eCollege including email, announcements, threaded discussion, assignment drop boxes, and the grade book. Students can also find the syllabus and other necessary materials posted in the course space.

Technical Support: Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week:
· Chat support: Click on 'Live support' on the tool bar with the course to chat with an eCollege representative.
· Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll free) to speak with eCollege technical support representative.
· E-mail: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege technical support representative.
· Help: Click on the 'help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege.

FORMATTING: All written assignments must be typed using the following guidelines: 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1" margins, double-spaced, with page numbers. Failure to format properly will result in a lower grade.

EMAIL POLICY: For all emails sent, please **include full name, student ID, and the class** that you are attending (this is a school policy). Do not send emails to myself and other professors at once, as each professor has different issues to address.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:
Statement on Student Behavior:

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenet of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

All students must show respect toward the instructor and the instructor's syllabus, presentations, assignments, and point of view. Students should respect each others' differences. If the instructor determines that a student is not being respectful towards other students or the instructor, it is the instructor's prerogative to ask the student to leave, to refer the student to the department head, and to consider referring the student to the Dean of Students who may consider requiring the student to drop the course. Please refer to pages 42 – 46 of the Texas A&M University-commerce Student guidebook's Codes of Conduct for details.

Academic Dishonesty: There is **no tolerance** for any kind of academic dishonesty in this course. This includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating on exams, theft of instructional material or exams, representing the work of someone else as one's own, and misrepresenting absences. Academic dishonesty is a severe transgression in college and may result in referral to the Dean of Students, expulsion from class and/or the University, and a failing grade.

Discussion: In this class, we will look at a wide array of artwork, some of which might include nudity, intense language, violence, etc. Each person will bring their own experiences to the art, and should feel comfortable expressing their opinions and vulnerabilities. The classroom (even if online) is a safe environment, and each student should behave with integrity and treat their peers with respect.

STATEMENT ON ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ADA ELIGIBLE STUDENTS:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

After contacting the Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor of what accommodations are needed **IN ADVANCE** of when they are needed.