

ARTS 595.01W: Research, Literature, and Techniques
Dr. Emily Newman
Texas A&M University – Commerce

Summer Online Course - 6/6/2016 through 8/11/2016

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTCOMES

In this advanced art history class, the student will be introduced to basic approaches and various research methodologies in the history of art. We will study the history of art history for the sake of understanding the origins, applications, and strengths and weaknesses of these methods; acquaint ourselves with major figures who devised some of the principal tools for crafting written narratives of art; contextualize art historiography so as to ascertain the motives and social forces underlying significant developments; and assess the current state of art history, so as to determine how scholars today continue and change this centuries-old discipline. Working to refine our research skills, the students will produce an exemplary research paper incorporating the methods and tools that we have investigated over the semester.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- read, understand, and critique foundational texts in art and art history
- learn to analyze the relationships among content, context, and style
- acquire a working knowledge of the specialized vocabulary used in art history
- develop ability to analyze important documents, artist writings, and criticism
- enhance visual literacy and critical thinking skills
- complete a major research project, resulting in a substantial paper with a thesis argument and backed by accurate research
- learn how to correctly use Chicago Style in their research, as well as how to write and prepare a formal thesis-style paper

RESPONSIBILITIES AND ASSESSMENT

Students' ability to meet the course objectives and learning outcomes will be evaluated through written assignments, class participation, and a major research project.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition, 2013 ISBN: 0226816370.

Other textbooks to be determined.

Additional readings will be uploaded to the course website.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Participation: Each person is expected to be prepared, which means having completed the reading in the appropriate textbook, paper, and writing utensils, and ready to engage in the class. Assignments must be done and completed on time.

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.

Book Essays: At various points throughout the class, you will be given questions asking you to respond to the reading. These will require you to develop your writing skills and respond to challenging and unique questions the readings present.

Research Project: Throughout the course, you complete a major research project. Information will be given on this separately.

Thematic Study: You will choose one of the Whitechapel Documents of Contemporary Art books, and thoroughly analyze it, resulting in a presentation.

Grade Breakdown:

20% Participation and short essays

25% Thematic Study

55% Research Project

Grade Scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Assignments will NOT be accepted over TWO DAYS late.

No EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE ASSIGNED

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.

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.

NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

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 is a safe environment, and each student should behave with

