



ART 426-01E - 84787- History of Art and Activism
Tuesday & Thursdays: 1:00 – 2:15 pm
Art 111

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Melynda Seaton, Assistant Professor of Art History
Office Location: Art 113
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12:30 – 1 pm or by appointment
Department of Art Office - 903-886-5208
Office Fax: 903-886-5987
University Email Address: Melynda.Seaton@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: email
Communication Response Time: M-TH: 24-48 hours, F-Sun will reply following Monday

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s) Required:

No textbook is required for purchase. Assigned readings and videos will be accessed via D2L and online through the ETAMU library.

Course Description

The course examines the role of art in protest associated with political and social movements throughout the world. The social and cultural contexts of the art produced will range from the French Revolution to contemporary topics, including civil rights and environmentalism, across a variety of artistic media. We will explore art as a means of activism.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. To gain an understanding of the role of the visual arts in political and social movements throughout the world.
2. To see the ways in which art reflects or communicates social, political, and ideological values.
3. To learn about how particular forms of media were implemented as tools of activism in uprisings and revolutions throughout history.
4. To learn about artists' roles as activists in political and social movements.

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the D2L Brightspace learning management system, Microsoft Word.

Course Instruction Methods and Student Expectations:

This course will require both reading material available in the D2L classroom or through the ETAMU library, regular class attendance, and active participation in class discussions. Assignments will include written assignments and class presentations.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grading

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 89.5%-100%		A = 450 – 500 Points
B = 79.5%-89%		B = 400 – 449 Points
C = 69.5%-79%	OR	C = 350 - 399 Points
D = 59.5%-69%		D = 300 - 349 Points
F = 59% or below		F = 299 & > Points

Assessments

In-class projects/Quizzes– 4 @ 25 pts = 100 pts

Writing Assignments – 4 @ 50 pts = 200 pts

Creative Research Project – 200 pts

Total Points – 500

Course Policies:

In-Class Projects and Quizzes: Can be made up only if absence falls within one of these categories: (1) participation in pre-approved University activities such as athletic events, sponsored field trips, and travel for specific University-related academic reasons; (2) verifiable legal proceedings; and (3) cases of severe illness, injury, or emergencies. Documentation will be required.

Writing Assignments/Creative Projects: Late submissions will incur a ½-letter-grade deduction for each day late and will not be accepted after three (3) days past the deadline.

Class Participation: Students are expected to attend class having completed the assigned reading and be prepared to critically discuss the readings and actively participate in class discussions. The success of each week's discussion depends on the preparation of all the class participants.

Attendance: It is each student's responsibility to monitor their attendance. Each student in this course is allowed five (5) unexcused absences. Unexcused absences require no explanation from the student.

In this class, excused absences are: (1) participation in pre-approved University activities such as athletic events, sponsored field trips, and travel for specific University-related academic reasons; (2) verifiable legal proceedings; and (3) cases of illness, injury, or emergencies. For any absences to be considered excused, illness or otherwise, documentation for your absence must be emailed to your professor not later than 5 days after the missed class. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence, NO EXCEPTIONS. When a student accrues more than five (5) unexcused absences, the instructor has the prerogative to drop the student 1 letter grade for each unexcused absence exceeding 5. For example, 6 unexcused absences will drop an "A" to a "B" and so forth. Students with excessive absences may be dropped from the course.

Academic dishonesty:

There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this class. Be sure that you understand what constitutes academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on exams, theft of instructional material or exams, representing the work of someone else as one's own, **use of AI technology**, etc.). Academic dishonesty is a serious offense in college and may result in referral to the Dean of Students, dismissal from a class, expulsion from the University, and a failing grade. Please see <https://www.etamu.edu/academic-integrity-guide/student-resources/>

The use of AI technology is prohibited in all coursework. AI tools such as Grammarly or Quilbot should ONLY be used to assist you with spelling and grammar issues. For all written assignments, students must provide a copy of rough drafts, handwritten notes, and/or outlines prior to editing. If AI use is suspected for any assignment - written or creative - a grade of zero will be assigned, and a report of Academic Dishonesty may be filed with the provost's office.

CELL PHONE USE IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE CLASSROOM. ANY STUDENT USING TEXT MESSAGING WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE CLASS. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Please be mindful and respectful of others in the classroom. In all communication, including email and discussion groups, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Use of profanity, slang, or racial slurs is NOT permitted
- Be mindful of tone, keep it professional and respectful of others
- Avoid jokes, as they may not come across as such to others

Any behavior deemed disruptive by the instructor may result in a student being asked to leave class, and continued disruptions may result in expulsion from the class.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE

CWID and Password

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Technology-Related Issues

Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

Learning Management System (LMS) – D2L

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Email is the quickest and most reliable way to contact me at Melynda.Seaton@etamu.edu
I will conduct email correspondence according to the following schedule:

- Monday–Thursday: Every effort will be made to answer your emails within a 24-48-hour period.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

- Friday–Sunday: I will try to answer your emails promptly, but please understand you may not receive a response until the following Monday or Tuesday.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

If you encounter problems accessing D2L, please get in touch with Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778.

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

Include the Following in Emails with Instructor:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Jackson)
- Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

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.

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The [Code of Student Conduct](#) is described in detail online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#).

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Use of Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

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

East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu
Website: [Office of Student Disability Services](#)

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University 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.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and ETAMU Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health – Counseling Services

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connections to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



East Texas State A&M University supports the Association's commitment to student health and wellness.

Art 426-01E – Fall 2026 History of Art and Activism Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>TOPIC</i>
Thu., Aug. 20	Course Intro
Tue., Aug. 25	What is Activist art?
Thu., Aug. 27	French Revolution
Tue., Sep. 1	Bolshevik Revolution
Thu., Sep. 3	Conducting Research and Developing a Topic
Tue., Sep. 8	Arab Spring
Thu., Sep. 10	Dada- Antifascism – WW II Research Topic Due
Tue., Sep. 15	Revolution & Conflict – American Wars post WWII
Thu., Sep. 17	Revolution & Conflict – American Wars post WWII Assignment 1 Due
Tue., Sep. 22	Artistic Activism – Overview 1
Thu., Sep. 24	Harlem Renaissance & Black Power
Tue., Sep. 29	<i>Do The Right Thing</i> Annotated Bibliography Due
Thu., Oct. 1	<i>Do The Right Thing</i> - Black Cinema
Tue., Oct. 6	Contemporary American Black Artists
Thu., Oct. 8	FALL BREAK
Tue., Oct. 13	Apartheid in South Africa Assignment 2 Due

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Thu., Oct. 15	Mexican Revolution
Tue., Oct. 20	Chicanx & Latinx - El Movimiento
Thu., Oct. 22	Chicanx & Latinx
Tue., Oct. 27	Creative Research Project Checkpoint - Rough Draft Due
Thu., Oct. 29	Native American 1
Tue., Nov. 3	Native American 2
Thu., Nov. 5	Native American 3
Tue., Nov. 10	Feminism Assignment 3 Due
Thu., Nov. 12	Feminism
Tue., Nov. 17	Feminism
Thu., Nov. 19	LGTBQ+/AIDS
Tue., Nov. 24	LGTBQ+ Contemporary
Thu., Nov. 26	THANKSGIVING
Tue., Dec. 1	Environmentalism Assignment 4 Due
Thu., Dec. 3	TBD
Tues., Dec. 8	Project Presentations and Final Draft Due 1:15 - 3:15 PM