

ARTH 374-001**ART NOW****Fall 2017**

Department of History and Art History
George Mason University

Instructor: Dr. Heather McGuire
Time: Tuesday & Thursday 12:00-1:15 pm
 Planetary Hall, Room 212
Office: Robinson B 373A
Office hours: Thursday 10:00 - 11:00 am and by
 appointment
Email: hmcguir@gmu.edu
Blackboard : <http://mymason.gmu.edu>
Teaching Assistant: Maggie Edwards medwar20@gmu.edu
Research Librarian: Stephanie Grimm sgrimm4@gmu.edu

**Required Course Texts** - You must have a textbook for this course.

- **Art Since 1900: 1945 to the Present: Modernism, Antimodernism, Postmodernism, 3rd Edition VOL 2** (ISBN: 978-0-500-29272-3)
Theories and Documents of Contemporary Art: A Sourcebook of Artists' Writings (Second Edition, Revised and Expanded by Kristine Stiles) 2nd Edition (ISBN: 978-0520257184)
- **Additional Readings are posted on Blackboard (see schedule of readings)**
- **Both of the textbooks are on 2 hour reserve at the Fenwick Library, but you should have your own copy.**

Blackboard

Copies of all course documents including the Syllabus, Schedule of Readings, PowerPoints, Study Guides, and Research Paper Project Instructions are posted on Blackboard at <http://blackboard.gmu.edu> under this course listing. PowerPoint presentations used in class will be posted on Blackboard immediately after each class meeting. Please note that these PowerPoints are for use by students enrolled in this ARTH 374-001 course only; they cannot be duplicated, shared, posted, etc. They are covered by copyright laws.

Course Description

In this course, we will study critical issues and major artistic trends in art since 1968. While the textbook presents a chronological unfolding of artistic, social, political, and theoretical issues, each course meeting will develop a particular focus on art, the artist's role, the viewer's role, and concepts introduced in the reading. Lecture, PowerPoint presentations and classroom exercises will aid our understandings. We will also analyze the formal characteristics of art, discuss the techniques used to make art, study the historical and social context surrounding these objects, and apply these developing understandings to investigate and research a museum object. This case study will culminate in a research paper and presentation.

Course Goals

We will learn to discuss works of art, to identify characteristics that link each work to its culture or period, to participate in interactive exercises designed to develop complex understandings of art, to inquire, to think critically about art and its history, to pursue our individual interest in art and its history, and to undertake a research site visit and paper that analyze a work of art in depth.

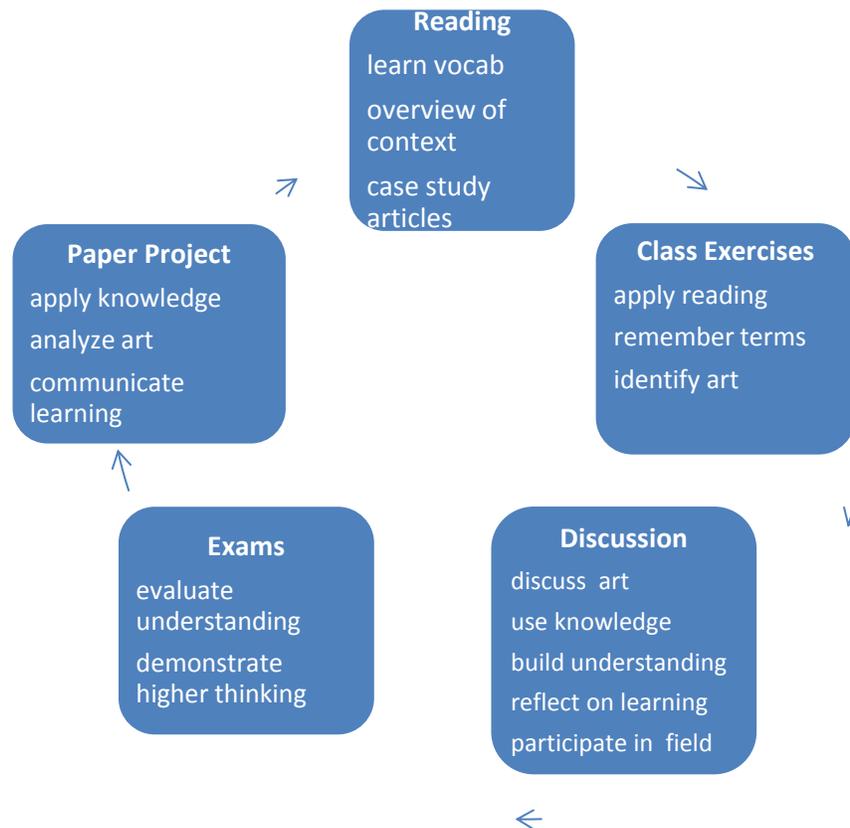
Course Expectations

- 1) We will gain the research methods and language of contemporary art history.
- 2) We will gain an understanding of artistic forms and theoretical constructs from 1968 to the present.
- 3) We will examine how particular art objects intersect with the discourses they engage.
- 4) We will examine how the objects function within a conceptual/thematic framework.
- 5) We will learn to identify, select, and analyze resources.
- 6) We will practice a variety of forms of writing, with emphasis on focused reader responses and analytical writing that synthesizes and considers academic sources in a critical manner.

Methods

- 1) Lectures, PowerPoint presentations, films, exercises, and in-class discussions.
- 2) Close analysis of assigned texts, which should be completed prior to the assigned date.
- 3) Reader Response Papers, Reading Assignments, Tests, and a Research Paper/Presentation Project.

**ARTH 374
GRAPHIC SYLLABUS**



COURSE REQUIREMENTS / POLICIES

Communication

GMU's e-mail system will be used for correspondence outside class meetings. Students are required to obtain and use Blackboard in conjunction with an official GMU email address. **All students are required by the university to actively use and check their GMU e-mail account.** I will communicate with the class using Blackboard and your GMU account of record.

- Please attempt to address questions and concerns after class, in my office hours or by appointment. If you need to contact me at other times, please e-mail me with your questions and concerns. I will usually reply within 24 hours of receiving your message.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is essential for this class. You are expected to attend **all** scheduled class meetings and will be required to sign in.

- **Roll will be taken during each class** - at the beginning, end or both.
- The maximum number of absences with no penalty is three. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to ask a classmate for notes and any information relating to in-class exercises, videos etc. **Reserve your three absences for unexpected conflicts for emergencies.**
- There will be a half grade point deduction from your final grade for each absence thereafter.
- It is your responsibility to keep track of your absences.
- Please arrive on time and do not leave early.

Readings

The Schedule of Readings is posted on Blackboard. This document lists all lectures, readings, and assignments for each class meeting. Assigned readings should be completed before the scheduled due date. Comprehensive reading usually requires note-taking as a supplement to class notes. This schedule is subject to change if needed. If any changes are needed, you will be notified by email

Evaluation and Grading Policy

Your grade is based on the following items.

Reader Response Papers (Best 10 of 13)	40%
Exam #1	15%
Exam #2	15%
Research Paper/Presentation	30%

Grade Scale:

A+	99-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A	93-98	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62
						F	0-59

Reader Response Papers (40 % of grade = 10 x 4% (best 10 of 13))

Each Tuesday, you will turn in a 1 typed page response to that week's reading, with a particular focus on a concept or theme. These responses are used to assess your comprehension of the reading and facilitate personal reflection, along with additional thought. These responses demonstrate that you have read the course material and thought about it. They also indicate whether or not you are tracking the course as scheduled. The three lowest grades will be dropped.

Exams (30 % of grade = 2 x 15 %)

Each exam will be a series of short answer or essay questions that will total 100 points. The exam questions are drawn from required readings, class lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and any other class material, such as exercises and films. **Do not miss a test. There are no make-ups except in documented extreme circumstances.**

Paper Project/Presentation (30% of grade)

This research paper will examine one artwork from a Washington DC Museum (National Gallery, Hirshhorn or another Smithsonian Museum). The project builds from five components (detailed on blackboard). The final paper will be a 5 page well-researched, well-written, and thoughtful analysis of an art object that engages a topic from our study. Your paper should be typed and double spaced. This paper provides an opportunity to investigate an object and to learn basic research methods. You will synthesize your research findings and demonstrate your understanding of the work within its historical, social, artistic, and political context. This paper must be printed out and turned in during class on the due date. **No late papers will be accepted. Please note, there are no exceptions to this rule. Deadlines are deadlines.**

Each step of this assignment must be completed in order and on time per the class schedule.

1. Select a work of art from a DC Museum (Hirshhorn, National Gallery, or Smithsonian) dated between 1975 and the present. Visit this object and retrieve documentation (like the daily schedule) or take a selfie next to the object.
2. Complete two Questionnaires
 - 20 Questions for Formal Analysis - document on Blackboard
 - 20 Questions for Contextual Analysis - document on Blackboard
3. Research your art work and take notes. Fill out the four Resource Analysis Forms noted below. Make sure to select one book, one peer reviewed journal from the GMU library database JSTOR.
 - Research Analysis Form 1 - book
 - Research Analysis Form 2 - JSTOR article
 - Research Analysis Form 3 - qualified third source, must have an author
 - Research Analysis Form 4 - qualified fourth source, must have an author
4. Write a five page paper combining 1½ pages of Formal Analysis, 1 ½ page contextual analysis and a 2 page focus topic relating to the work of art.
5. Attached your 4 Research Analysis Forms to your paper.

Participation

Please ask questions and offer constructive comments. If you need lengthy clarification, please stay after class or see me during office hours. We are all part of a constructive learning community. To that end, you are expected to read assigned readings, come to class prepared to discuss the readings, and participate actively. Please take **hard copy notes** on your reading and have them available during class meetings.

Late or Missed Assignments Policy:

No late work is accepted. Do not miss quizzes and tests. There are VERY rare exceptions in the case of extreme medical or family emergency, but you must communicate with me before the test and provide documentation demonstrating the extreme circumstance.

Cell phones, texting, and other uses of personal technology

- Cell phones, pagers, and other communicative devices are not allowed in this class. Please keep them stowed away and out of sight. Laptops or tablets (e.g., iPads) may be permitted for the purpose of taking notes only, but you must submit a request in writing to do so. Engaging in activities not related to the course (e.g., gaming, email, chat, etc.) will result in a reduction in your grade.

All cell phones and PDAs must be turned off and put away during class

Laptop computers or tablets. If needed, laptops can be used only at the very back of the classroom only because ambient screen light affects optical perception of PowerPoint slides for those around you.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**Important Dates**

Classes Begin 8/28

Last Day to add is 9/5

Last Day to drop without tuition penalty is 9/5

Columbus Day Change 10/10 (Tuesday classes do not meet)

Thanksgiving Break is 11/22 - 11/26

Last day for classes is 12/9

Reading Days are 12/11-12/12

Final exam is 12/14 at 10:30 am

Academic Integrity : upholding academic integrity:

Please review the Mason Honor Code at <http://oai.gmu.edu/>. We are bound by the honor code and pledge not to lie, cheat, steal or plagiarize.

- The integrity of the University community is affected by the individual choices made by each of us. Mason has an Honor Code with clear guidelines regarding academic integrity. Three fundamental and rather simple principles to follow at all times are that: (1) all work submitted be your own; (2) when using the work or ideas of others, including fellow students, give full credit through accurate citations; and (3) if you are uncertain about the ground rules on a particular assignment, ask for clarification. No grade is important enough to justify academic misconduct. Plagiarism means using the exact words, opinions, or factual information from another person without giving the person credit. Writers give credit through accepted documentation styles, such as parenthetical citation, footnotes, or endnotes. Paraphrased material must also be cited, using MLA or APA format. A simple listing of books or articles is not sufficient. Plagiarism is the equivalent of intellectual robbery and cannot be tolerated in the academic setting. If you have any doubts about what constitutes plagiarism, please see me.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

- If you have a documented learning disability or other condition that may affect academic performance you should: 1) make sure this documentation is on file with Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 703-993-2474 (SUB I, Rm. 4205; <http://ds.gmu.edu>) to determine the accommodations you need; and 2) talk with me to discuss your accommodation needs by September 15. *All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.*

Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, and Interpersonal Violence

George Mason University is committed to providing a learning, living and working environment that is free from discrimination and a campus that is free of sexual misconduct and other acts of interpersonal violence in order to promote community well-being and student success. We encourage students who believe that they have been sexually harassed, assaulted or subjected to sexual misconduct to seek assistance and support. University Policy 1202: Sexual Harassment and Misconduct speaks to the specifics of Mason's process, the resources, and the options

available to students. *As a faculty member and designated "Responsible Employee," I am required to report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason's Title IX Coordinator per university policy 1412. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact the Student Support and Advocacy Center (703-380-1434), Counseling and Psychological Services (703-993-2380), Student Health Services, or Mason's Title IX Coordinator (703-993-8730; cde@gmu.edu).*

Privacy

- Students must use their MasonLive email account to receive important University information, including communications related to this class. I will not respond to messages sent from or send messages to a non-Mason email address.

Student conduct in the classroom

As a student, you are expected to conduct yourself in an orderly and cooperative manner. In preparation for a professional life, your cooperation is expected through courteous behavior, appropriate attire, and classroom behavior/participation that does not distract from learning. Please do not consume food during this class.

Withdrawal from classes

Before withdrawing from classes, students should consult their instructor as well as other appropriate university offices. Withdrawing from classes may negatively impact a student's financial aid award and his or her semester charges.

Final Note

By choosing to remain in this class, you agree to abide by the standards set forth in this syllabus.

Students are required to acknowledge that they have read and understood ALL of the requirements /policies listed on this syllabus. Students are required to sign the acknowledgement statement below testifying that they will comply with the listed course requirements/expectations/policies and turn in the statement by September 5, 2017.

Please sign below, detach and turn in by Sept 5, 2017

PRINT NAME: _____
 (CLEARLY WRITE YOUR NAME IN THE SPACE PROVIDED)

- I have read the syllabus for ARTH 374-001, Fall, 2017.
- I understand the course requirements, exam policies, classroom conduct issues, and all other information presented in the syllabus.
- I have addressed all of my issues/concerns regarding the syllabus & the course with the instructor.
- DUE: September 5, 2017.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____