

**ARTH 374-001
ART NOW
Fall 2019**

Department of History and Art History
George Mason University

Instructor: Dr. Heather McGuire
Time: Tues & Thurs 10:30-11:45 pm
Planetary Hall 212
Office: Robinson B 373A
Office hours: Tuesday 9:30- 10:30 am and by
appointment

Email: hmcquir@gmu.edu

Blackboard : <http://mymason.gmu.edu>

Teaching Assistant: Adriana Baker abaker20@masonlive.gmu.edu

ARTH Research Librarian: Stephanie Grimm sgrimm4@gmu.edu
<https://infoguides.gmu.edu/arth374>



Writing Center <https://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>

Student contact info for 2 classmates 1) _____ 2) _____

Required Course Texts - This course requires 2 textbooks.

- **American Art Since 1945.** London and New York: Thames & Hudson, 2003 ISBN 978-0500203682 (cost @ \$15 new)
- **Art Since 1900: 1945 to the Present: Modernism, Antimodernism, Postmodernism, 2nd Edition VOL 2** ISBN 978-0500289532 (cost @ \$25 used)
Additional Readings will be posted on Blackboard (see schedule of readings)
- Textbooks are on 2 hour reserve at the Fenwick Library.

Hi All - Welcome to ARTH 374. I am thrilled to be teaching my favorite subject to you all this semester - contemporary American and European art history. I hope we'll develop a rich learning community through our exploration of exciting trends in art now including: artists reconsidering history, artists creating art as a social space, and artists recasting former art-making modes. It's going to be an exciting semester. In order to begin, we need to introduce the course structure and methods.

Blackboard

All course documents (Syllabus, Schedule, PowerPoints, Study Guides, and Research Paper Project Instructions) are posted on Blackboard at <http://blackboard.gmu.edu> under this course listing. **Please note that posted materials on Blackboard are only for students enrolled in this ARTH 374-001 course; they cannot be duplicated, shared, posted, etc. They are covered by copyright laws.**

Also, all course work must be submitted through Blackboard so that our course teaching assistant has access and it allows grading and commenting within the system. **Any assignment not submitted through Blackboard will be automatically marked down by 15 points.**

Course Description

This course examines late twentieth century and twenty-first century art through major movements and key issues such as critiquing institutions, expanded representation, and re-envisioning the viewer's role. We will analyze the historical, political, social and theoretical contexts surrounding contemporary art production. Each class consists of lecture, PowerPoints, and exercises. In addition to assessments, students will visit a major DC museum, select and study one artwork dated between 1980-2005, and research/assess scholarly writing on it. This museum research project includes close visual analysis, research, and writing.

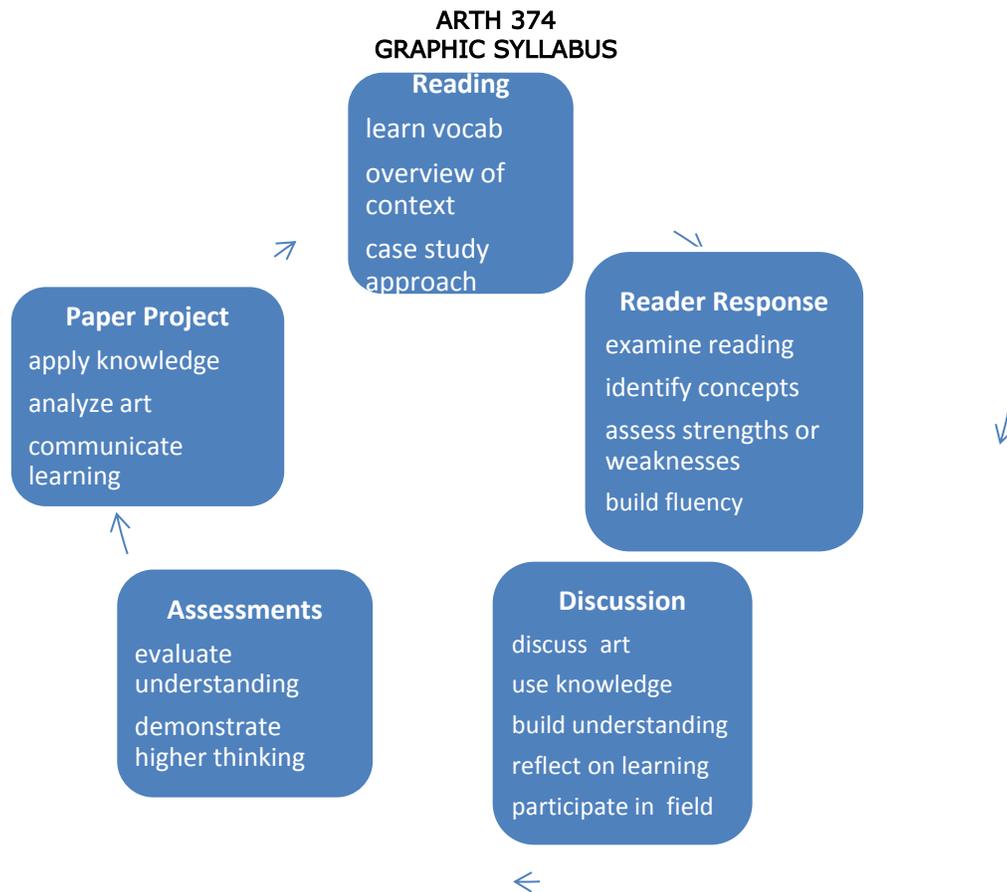
Course Goals We will develop our understanding of contemporary art, its theories and histories. We will apply this learning to a museum object case study analysis, one that demonstrates research and synthesizes findings.

Course Expectations

- 1) We will read scholarly art historical writing and learn to assess its strengths and weaknesses.
- 2) All assigned readings will be completed prior to its due date.
- 3) We will gain and build research skills.
- 4) We will learn to identify and select and analyze scholarly writing.
- 5) We will all work through the Blackboard site to access and submit course assignments
- 6) We will build a learning community that values professional behaviors such as respectful participation in class discussions.
- 7) **No late work will be accepted**
- 8) **All assignments need to be submitted through Blackboard on time.**

Methods

- 1) Readings, Lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and exercises.
- 2) Close analysis of assigned texts and periodic quizzes or reader response papers.
- 3) Assessments and a Research Paper project.



COURSE REQUIREMENTS / POLICIES

Communication

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 address questions via email, in office hours or by appointment. I usually reply within 24 hours of receiving your message (Monday through Friday). Weekend messages will be addressed on Monday. Please include your name and course number in your email.

Etiquette

We will be respectful and constructive in our course interactions. Arrive on time and do not leave early unless you have cleared it with me beforehand.

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.**
- The maximum number of absences with no penalty is **4**. 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 absences for unexpected conflicts or emergencies.**
- For each absence over 4, you lose 5 points from your grade. (for example 96-5=91)
- It is your responsibility to keep track of your absences.
- Please arrive on time and don't leave early.
- Please do not consume food during class.

Readings

Blackboard contains the Schedule of readings and assignments for each weekly unit. Assigned readings should be completed before the scheduled due date. Comprehensive reading requires note-taking. This schedule may be changed if needed, and if changed you will be notified by email.

Evaluation and Grading Policy

Your grade is based on the following items.

5 Quizzes (4% each)	20%
2 Tests (20% each)	40%
Museum Research Paper Project	40%

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

Quizzes (5 X 4% = 20% of grade) Usually short answer, these quizzes assess student comprehension of the week's reading.

Tests (2 X 20% = 40% of grade)

Tests will assess your understanding of the core artists, artistic movements, concepts, and strategies covered in the readings, lectures, and PowerPoints. Good notetaking from reading before class and during class lectures will aid in good performance on these assessments. A study guide will be posted one week before each test. **There are no make-ups for missed tests.**

Museum Research Paper Project (40 % of grade)

Your research paper will examine one artwork from a major museum collection (**dated between 1980 - 2005 that engages a course Schedule topic**). This project builds from several components posted on Blackboard under the Research Project Tab. The final paper will be a 5 page, well-researched, well-written, and thoughtful analysis of one artwork that you examined for the first time specifically for this class. After close visual analysis and research, you will synthesize your findings and demonstrate that you understand scholarly writing on this art. **No late papers will be accepted. All components must be submitted through blackboard**

1. **Visit a the Hirshhorn Museum or National Gallery of Art. Select** an artwork (dated between 1980-2005 that engages a topic from the course Schedule). **Check** the GMU Library Catalog and GMU Library Online Databases like JSTOR and Worldcat to make sure that there are books and articles on your artwork. If none exist, then choose another piece. **Take a selfie** that includes you and your selected art in the image. **Submit through Blackboard**
2. **Complete two Questionnaires & Submit through Blackboard**
20 Questions for Formal Analysis - document on Blackboard
20 Questions for Contextual Analysis - document on Blackboard. This one requires research.

3. **Review the Research Methods PowerPoints and the ARTH 374 Research Guide** posted on and linked through Blackboard. Take notes from books and scholarly journals. **Go to the GMU Library and find books on your artist.**

Fill out 3 Resource Analysis Forms. Select resources written by art historians targeting your artwork/object and topic. These books and articles are easily obtainable through the GMU Fenwick library and the GMU library online databases. **Submit through Blackboard**

Research Analysis Form 1 – book by an art historian

Research Analysis Form 2 – article by an art historian

Research Analysis Form 3 - article by an art historian

4. **Write a 5 page paper** combining ½ page Formal Analysis, 1 page contextual analysis and a 3 ½ page synthesis of your research findings and topic. Consider a free Writing Center consultation on your paper <https://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>. **Submit through Blackboard.**

Participation

Our class is a constructive learning community. Please ask questions and offer constructive comments. We will discuss readings in class, so read assignments, take notes, be prepared, and participate actively. Please have notes them available during class meetings. **Laptops, if necessary, must be used in the last row to minimize distractions. Misuse of laptops and smartphones (such as surfing, gaming, chat, texting) will result in forfeiting personal technology in the classroom. Be respectful of the learning environment - Do not engage in unrelated activities during class meetings.**

Late or Missed Assignments Policy:

No late work is accepted. Do not miss your reading and research project deadlines. There are VERY rare exceptions in the case of extreme medical or family emergency, but you must communicate with me **beforehand** and provide documentation demonstrating the extreme circumstance.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Important Dates

Classes Begin: August 26, 2019

Last Day to ADD: September 3, 2019

Final DROP deadline without tuition penalty is: September 9, 2019

Student Self-Withdrawal Period: September 18-30, 2019

Fall Break: October 14th (this class does not meet Oct 15th)

Thanksgiving Break: November 27-December 1, 2019

Last day for classes: December 7, 2019

Reading Days: December 9-10, 2019

Final Exam Period: December 11-18, 2019 (**there is no final exam in this course**)

Academic Integrity : upholding academic integrity:

- 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 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. A simple listing of books or articles is not sufficient. Plagiarism is not to be tolerated in the academic setting. If you have any doubts about what constitutes plagiarism, please see me.

Academic integrity is an essential part of a learning community. The GMU Academic Integrity Policy is very clear and will be enforced in this class. If you plagiarize or are caught cheating, you will be reported to the Honor Committee office. If you submit plagiarized work, it will receive an automatic zero. 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. For further clarification, please read the following in-depth explanation - <https://cs.gmu.edu/resources/honor-code/statement-on-academic-integrity/>

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. You may speak to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator Jennifer Hammat, by calling 703-993-8730 or email cde@gmu.edu. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact the Student Support and Advocacy Center (703-993-3686), Counseling and Psychological Services (703-993-2380), Student Health Services, or the 24-hour Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence Crisis Line for Mason 703-380-1434.*

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

This class holds and values a diversity of perspectives. 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 and participation that does not distract from learning.

Course Repetition Policy

Beginning in Fall 2018, there is a limit of three graded attempts for this course. A W does not count as a graded attempt. Please see AP.1.3.4 in the University catalog and consult with your academic advisor if you have any questions.

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 syllabus and its contents. Students are required to acknowledge that they have read and understood ALL of the requirements /policies listed on this syllabus. Please sign the acknowledgement statement below noting that you will comply with the listed course requirements/expectations/policies. DUE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

PRINT NAME: _____

- I have read the syllabus for ARTH 374-001, Fall, 2019.
- I understand the course requirements, expectations, policies, and all other information presented in the syllabus. I have addressed all of my issues/concerns regarding the syllabus & the course with the instructor.

• SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____