

ARTH 374-001: ART NOW

Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. Heather McGuire
Time: Tues & Thurs 1:30-2:45 pm
Robinson B113
Office: Robinson B 373A
Office hours: Thursday 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

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

Hi All - Welcome to ARTH 374. I am thrilled to be teaching my favorite subject to you all this semester - American and European contemporary art history. We'll develop a rich learning community through our exploration of exciting trends in recent art. It's going to be an exciting semester. In order to begin, we need to introduce and understand the course structure and methods.

Required Course 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

Blackboard

All course documents (Syllabus, Schedule, PowerPoints, Study Guides, and Museum Visit Paper 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.**

Course Information & Methods

This course examines late twentieth century and twenty-first century art through major movements and approaches, such as institutional critique and re-envisioning the viewer's role. We will analyze the historical, political, social and theoretical contexts surrounding contemporary art production. Each class meeting involves illustrated lectures and exercises. In addition to assessments, each student will visit the Hirshhorn Museum to select and study one artwork made after 1980. This museum project includes close visual analysis, some research, and writing.

- 1) Readings, Lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and group exercises.
- 2) Close analysis of assigned texts and periodic quizzes.
- 3) Assessments and a Hirshhorn Museum Visit Paper.

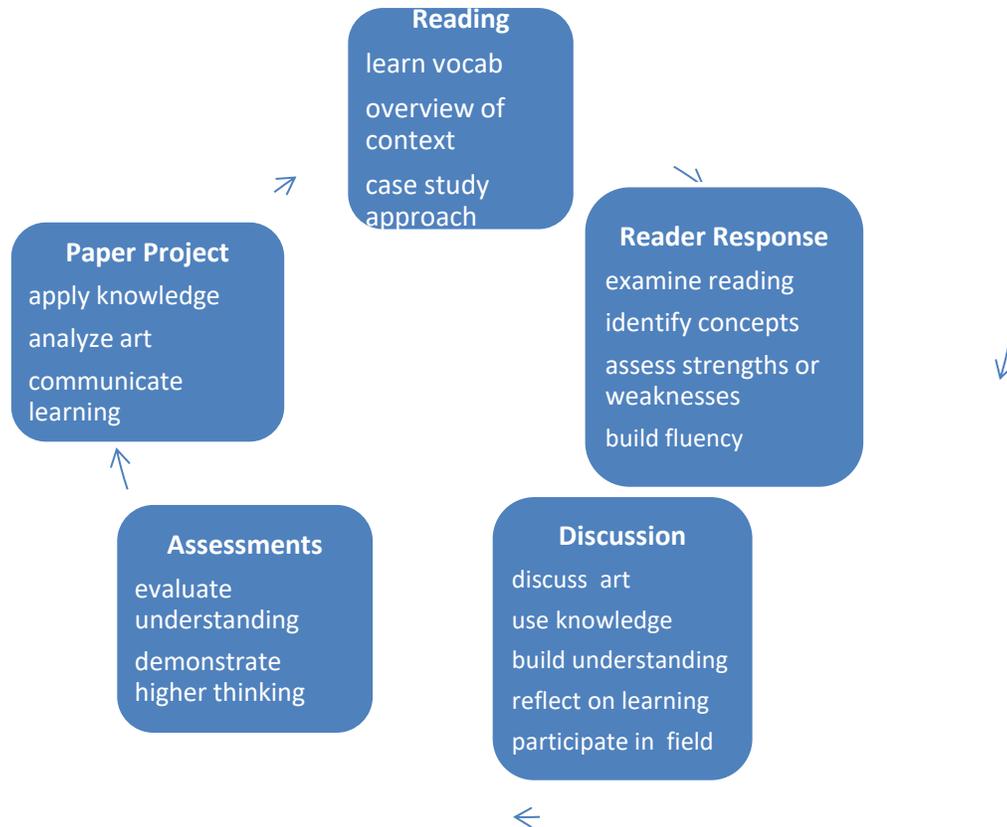
Course Objectives To develop complex understandings of contemporary art, its theories and histories. To visit a contemporary art museum, discern one's interests, select an object to study, closely analyze this object and report our findings in a paper.

Course Expectations

- 1) Read scholarly art historical writing and learn to assess its strengths and weaknesses.
- 2) Complete all assigned readings prior to each class meeting.

- 3) Active and respectful participation in class
- 4) Submit work on time

ARTH 374 : GRAPHIC SYLLABUS



COURSE REQUIREMENTS / POLICIES

Communication

All students are required by the university to actively use and check their GMU e-mail account. I will communicate 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 let me know beforehand. Please do not eat in class.

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 3 points from your grade. (for example 95-3=92)
- It is your responsibility to keep track of your absences.

Readings

The course Schedule on Blackboard lists each week's readings and assignments. Complete the assigned reading before the scheduled class. Comprehensive reading is enhanced by good note taking.

Evaluation and Grading Policy

Your grade is based on the following:

6 Quizzes (Best 5 at 6% each: lowest quiz dropped) 30%

2 Tests (22.5% each)
Museum Visit Paper

45%
25%

Grade Scale:

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

Quizzes (Best 5 of 6 X 6% = 30% of grade) Usually short answer, these quizzes assess student comprehension of the reading.

2 Tests (2 X 22.5% = 45% 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 Visit Paper (25 % of grade)

This paper examines one post-1980 artwork at the Hirshhorn Museum that was seen in person specifically for this class. This 3-page, well-written, and thoughtful analysis of one artwork includes visual analysis and some research.

- 1. Visit the Hirshhorn Museum. Select** an artwork dated between 1980-2005. **Take a selfie** that includes you and your selected art in the image. Document on Blackboard
- 2. Complete two Questionnaires**
20 Questions for Formal Analysis - document on Blackboard
20 Questions for Contextual Analysis - document on Blackboard. This one requires some research.
- 3. Write a 3-page paper** combining ½ page Formal Analysis, ½ page contextual analysis plus 2 pages focused on your personal response to this artwork. **Submit Selfie Cover Sheet and Paper through Blackboard.**

Participation

Our class is a constructive learning community. We will discuss readings in class, so read assignments, take notes, be prepared, and participate actively. Please have notes them available during class meetings. Please ask questions and offer constructive comments **Laptops must be used in the last row to minimize distractions. Misuse of laptops and smartphones (such as surfing, gaming, chat, texting) results in forfeiting your use of 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:

Do not miss your quizzes, tests, or paper deadlines. There are VERY rare exceptions in the case of extreme medical or family emergency, but you must communicate with me **asap** and provide documentation demonstrating the extreme circumstance.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Important Dates

Classes Begin: January 21, 2020
Last Day to ADD: January 28, 2020
Final DROP deadline without tuition penalty is: February 11, 2020
Spring Break: March 9-13, 2020
Last day for classes: May 4, 2020
Reading Day: May 5, 2020
Final Exam Period: May 10-13, 2020 (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. Paraphrased material must also be cited. Plagiarism is not to be tolerated in the academic setting. **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 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: February 4, 2020

PRINT NAME: _____

- I have read the syllabus for ARTH 374-001, Spring, 2020.
- 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: _____