

ART 997 Seminar Interdisciplinary Theory 2
Spring 2020
TBD
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<http://jdsperry.people.ysu.edu>

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Topic will rotate each semester and address key concepts and topics of modern and contemporary critical theory. The course provides various perspectives towards the understanding of interdisciplinary art practice and critical discourses within contemporary art culture. Students will investigate interconnections between philosophical and theoretical issues and the ways they inform and impact interdisciplinary art practice today. MFA Seminar should be taken in sequence and serve as a foundation for individual studio practices.

Prereq.: ART 6996.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will be able to define key concepts in critical art theory and topics related to interdisciplinary art practice
- Students will be able to demonstrate a multi-disciplinary approach to analyzing and understanding the complex interweaving of sociopolitical, economic, cultural and ethnic impacts on art production
- Students will be able to better define their work against the current artistic and cultural production

COURSE STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS

- The semester will be primarily structured around readings and discussion, with occasional artist lectures, visual presentations, student presentations, and field trips.
- Reading assignments will be introduced weekly and students will be expected to engage in critical analyses and discussion of provided material
- Students will be asked to actively participate in-group critiques of artwork and selected thematic exhibitions throughout the semester.
- Students will be assigned writing assignments including self-analysis, critical analysis of classmate's work, exhibitions reviews, and critical responses to lectures.
- At the conclusion of the semester, students will engage in individual research assignments on selected topic.
- Students will be expected to present the issues and questions related to their research to whole class for constructive debates and in-depth discussions.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Media storage (portable hard drive, etc.)

Sketchbook/notebook

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Written assignments/presentations	50%
Readings and participation in discussions	50%

ARTIST LECTURES/EVENTS

Attendance at lectures/events sponsored by the Department of Art Lecture Series or the Beecher Center Lecture Series outside of this class is necessary to complete the 'Thoughts' assignment.

GRADING

Assignments will be graded using a combination of technical execution, aesthetic value and creative risk-taking in relation to the objectives/guidelines given. These guidelines will be given at the beginning of each assignment. Because creative process is an emergent process, the objectives of the assignment may start of as open-ended and gain clarity through the process of making, one-on-one conversations with the instructor as well as group critiques.

From the YSU Undergraduate Bulletin:

A represents exceptional work in which the student shows that he or she has firmly grasped and achieved the objectives of the course.

B indicates very good work and considerable grasp of the essentials of the course.

C indicates good work and a usable grasp of the essentials of the course.

D indicates a definite, but not necessarily coherent, knowledge of the course.

F indicates that the student has not achieved even a minimum grasp of the essentials of the course.

LOST WORK

Lost work is viewed as work not completed. Protect all work with great care.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

The final grade will drop one letter grade for each class period the assignment is late.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

An incomplete grade of "I" may be given to a student who has been doing satisfactory work in a course, but, for reasons beyond the control of the student and deemed justifiable by the instructor, has not completed all requirements for a course when grades were submitted. A letter grade MAY NOT be changed to an "I" (Incomplete) after the term has ended and grades have been recorded. For **Fall Term** courses, the final date to complete an "I" will be *March 1* of the following term; for **Spring Term** courses, *September 1*; for **Summer Term** courses, *October 1*. These dates can only be extended with the approval of the instructor and the Dean of the College where the course is taught. Forms for extension of the deadline may be obtained and after obtaining the proper signatures, this form must be submitted to the University Records

office 24 hours before the original deadline (i.e. for Fall Term courses, March 1 of the following term).

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory due to the participatory structure of the course. Missing more than two courses will impact your grade with each unexcused absence over two resulting in a half grade reduction of your final grade. Students who miss a class should work with other students in the class to make up missed work. Come with your supplies and ready to work.

ATTENDANCE: Excused Absences

From the YSU undergraduate course catalog:

The responsibility for work missed during absence rests with the student. The instructor has no obligation to give make-up graded coursework or to review other class work missed by a student as a result of absence except under those specific conditions cited below:

- Participation in University-sponsored activities. University-sponsored activities are those that are scheduled by academic, student affairs, and athletic units. They include, but are not limited to: intercollegiate athletic competitions activities approved by academic units, including artistic performances; R.O.T.C. functions; academic field trips; professional conferences; and special events connected with coursework.
- Government-required activities, such as military assignments, jury duty, or court appearances.
- Religious observances that prevent the student from attending class.
- Death of an immediate family member, including father, mother, sister, brother, spouse, children, step-children, step-parent, parent-in-laws, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, grandparents, foster parents, foster children, legal guardians, any person who stands in the place of a parent (loco parentis), or a domestic partner.
- Documented personal illness.

Make-up Policy for Excused Absences:

For anticipated events, such as University-sponsored activities, students should meet with the professor the week before the absence either during office hours or during class, if possible. At this meeting, the instructor will create a plan with deadlines to make up any work and information missed.

For unanticipated events, such as illness, students should meet with the professor the during the following class. At this meeting, the instructor will create a plan with deadlines to make up any work and information missed. For personal illness, a doctor's note is required. For death of an immediate family member, an obituary is required.

CLASS CANCELLATION

If this class is being cancelled for any one day due to instructor illness, or other reasons, an e-mail will be sent to the student's YSU e-mail account as soon as possible, and a cancelled class notice will be put on the classroom door. University-wide class cancellation is a decision made by the President's Office, and officially announced via the YSU homepage and on WYSU (88.5 FM) radio. Students may also register at the YSU Portal to receive a text message about University-Wide closures via the Emergency Alert Notification System.

COMMUNICATION

YSU's e-mail system will be used for correspondence outside of class meetings. Students are required to obtain and use an official Youngstown State University email address.

IMPORTANT DATES

Last day to change a grade option is Tuesday, January 22. The last day to withdraw from the class and receive a full refund is Sunday, January 27. The last day to withdraw from class (without a refund) is Wednesday, March 27.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In accordance with University procedures, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course; please contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. You must be registered with the Center for Student Progress Disability Services, located at 36 West Wood Street, and provide a letter of accommodation to coordinate reasonable accommodations. You can reach CSP Disability Services at 330-941-1372.

CENTER FOR STUDENT PROGRESS (CSP)

The Marion G. Resch Center for Student Progress is a resource on Campus established to help students successfully complete their University experience. Please phone 330-941-3538 or visit the Center for assistance in tutoring or for individualized assistance with social and academic success. The main Center is located in Kilcawley West below the bookstore.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY

As outlined in *The Student Code of Conduct*, all forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Youngstown State. This includes plagiarism, the unauthorized use of tools or notes in taking tests or completing assignments, fabrication of data or information used for an assignment, working with others without permission from the instructor, and more. A student who is believed to have violated the academic integrity policy will meet with the instructor to discuss the allegations. The student may accept responsibility for the violation and any sanctions selected by the instructor, or they have the right to ask for a hearing before a hearing panel. The full Academic Integrity

policy can be found in Article III. 1. of *The Student Code of Conduct*, while further information on University procedures for alleged academic integrity violations can be found in Article V.

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Youngstown State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, disability, age, religion or veteran/military status in its programs or activities. Please visit www.ysu.edu/ada-accessibility for contact information for persons designated to handle questions about this policy.

FACULTY EVALUATIONS

In an effort to constantly improve courses, faculty within the Department of Art take the responses from students in the faculty evaluations seriously. Please fill them out.

HONORS CONTRACTS

The contract honors option is not available for this course.

NOTE TO STUDENT

By choosing to remain in this class, you agree to abide by the standards set forth in this syllabus. The instructor reserves the right to alter the office hours, schedule, grade distribution and assignments at any point during the semester.

BE INTERESTING