AEAH4800 Methodologies in the History of Art and Visual Culture

Dr. K. Donahue-Wallace
Associate Professor of Art History
Art 210/email through Blackboard
Office hours: Wed. 8:30-11am

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Survey of major contributions to the development and practice of art history methodologies and visual arts studies (including theory and criticism) from the 16th century to the present. Taught as a seminar, with emphasis on research (bibliographies, papers) as well as class discussion based on weekly assigned readings and presentations. Prerequisite(s): ART 1200, ART 2350 and ART 2360; must have completed art history entrance event and have degree audit on file; sophomore or junior status within major.

This semester we will use works by the Spanish artist Francisco de Goya to explore the methodologies of art history. Working independently and in groups, we will perform an array of tasks with the ultimate goal of writing a research paper demonstrating “best practices” of art historical research.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
• Distinguish research methods including critical theories commonly employed in art history.
• Given a broad research area, apply appropriate theoretical models to formulate specific research questions.
• Apply an appropriate research method to answer those questions.
• Develop and employ a bibliography appropriate to the research method and theoretical model selected.
• Compose a written research paper containing an argument, points of evidence, and correct grammar and citation.

TEXTBOOKS: (on sale at the UNT bookstore and elsewhere)
• The Art of Writing about Art
• Look! Again. Art History and Critical Theory
• The Methodologies of Art
• Additional readings available through the course Blackboard site.
COURSE STRUCTURE:
This class combines lecture, discussions, student presentations, and various forms of active learning.

The class requires attendance to one or more events outside of class time (noted in the semester schedule below), substituting for in-class contact hours. Students who cannot attend the scheduled events most propose an acceptable alternative to the instructor during the first week of school.

The course assessments are both individual and group. Students are required to work in a group on the major assignment, the semester-long research paper.

ASSESSMENT:
Note: All assessments are mandatory. Failure to complete ANY assessment listed below will result in a failing grade for the course regardless of points accumulated.

All written work is submitted through the Assignment function on Blackboard before class begins AND students will bring a hardcopy and/or digital copy to class.

- Cumulative Final Exam Monday., Dec. 13 10:30-12:30 (15% of final grade)
- Formal analysis paper due 9/15 (10% of final grade)
- Symposium analyses due 9/22 (10% of final grade)
- Critical theory analyses due weekly from 9/15-10/20 (Six averaged for a total of 10% of final grade)
- Participation in weekly class meetings (15% of final grade)
- Research paper (40% of final grade)
  - Thesis and research questions, due 9/29 (10% of research paper grade)
  - Preliminary bibliography, due 10/6 (5% of research paper grade)
  - Outline of argument, due 10/20 (5% of research paper grade)
  - Completed draft, including citations due on 11/10 (10% of research paper grade)
  - Group evaluation (10% of research paper grade)
  - Final paper due on 12/1 (60% of research paper grade)

How will your grade be calculated? Here is a sample. First, the grades you received on each assessment:
Final Exam 85, Formal Analysis 75, Symposium Analyses 80, Critical Theory Analyses average score 90, Participation 70, Research paper 78.

The formula is therefore (85 x .15) + (75 x .10) + (80 x .10) + (90 x .10) + (70 x .15) + (78 x .40) = 78.95 C+

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
This class requires excellent attendance since much of the learning happens during the class meetings through lecture, discussion and active learning. Therefore, after one absence (this is a whole week of the
semester), your grade will be lowered by a full letter grade for each missed class. You will likewise miss out on the participation opportunities.

Arriving more than 15 minutes late and/or leaving class more than 15 minutes early may be counted as an absence.

**LATE WORK POLICY:**
Late work loses 20% per day including weekends; the clock begins as soon as the deadline passes and continues until the work is handed in. Late work will only be accepted without this penalty for university-sanctioned excuses (documented illness, death, or university event). You must contact the instructor as soon as you realize that your work will be late; this means before the deadline. You must then provide the instructor with the written documentation immediately upon returning to class, as you hand in the late work.

**DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION:**
The College of Visual Arts and Design is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the College will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course.

If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) and to inform me of your need for an accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to me no later than the first week of classes for students registered with the ODA as of the beginning of the current semester. If you register with the ODA after the first week of classes, your accommodation requests will be considered after this deadline. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed.

Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union. You also may call the ODA at 940.565.4323.

**COURSE RISK FACTOR:**
According to University Policy, this course is classified as a category 1 course. Students enrolled in this course will not be exposed to any significant hazards and are not likely to suffer any bodily injury. Students in this class will be informed of any potential health hazards or potential bodily injury connected with the use of any materials and/or processes and will be instructed how to proceed without danger to themselves or others.
BUILDING EMERGENCY PROCEDURE:
In case of emergency (alarm will sound), please follow the building evacuation plans posted on each floor of your building and proceed to the nearest parking lot. In case of tornado (campus sirens will sound) or other weather related threat, please go to the nearest hallway or room on your floor without exterior windows and remain there until an all clear signal is sounded. Follow the professor’s instructions and act accordingly.

CENTER FOR STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
Students in this course are subject to the University of North Texas code of student rights and responsibilities available at www.unt.edu/csrr.

PLEASE NOTE:
The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus as needed.

SYLLABUS AGREEMENT AEAH4800 FALL 2010

I have read this syllabus. I agree to comply with all of the provisions it describes. I understand that this class includes a substantial amount of reading and discussion. I understand the attendance and late policies and I am aware that absences and late work will result in a lowered final grade.

By taking this course, I agree not to commit acts of academic dishonesty including plagiarism, cheating, and failing to cite sources. I understand that any act of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F” in the course. I further understand that Dr. Wallace will pursue disciplinary actions against me with the University of North Texas should I commit any act of academic dishonesty.

I understand that failing to complete any of the course requirements will result in a grade of “F” in the course, regardless of the points I have accumulated.

____________________________________       __________________________
PRINT YOUR NAME                        DATE

____________________________________       __________________________
STUDENT ID NUMBER                      SIGNATURE
Week One 9/1

TOPICS:
- INTRODUCTION TO SYLLABUS
- GETTING INTO GROUPS
- WHAT IS ART HISTORY? WHAT DO ART HISTORIANS DO?
- GETTING STARTED WITH PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIAL
- OBJECTS AND RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS
- PRELIMINARY BRAINSTORMING. MIND MAPPING.

Week Two 9/8 (Bring laptop if possible or thumb drive)

TOPICS:
- LIBRARY SESSION
- PRELIMINARY BIBLIOGRAPHY
- LOOKING CAREFULLY. DESCRIBING PROFESSIONALLY: FORMAL ANALYSIS.
- BEGIN INDIVIDUAL FORMAL ANALYSIS OF OBJECTS. COMPLETE AT HOME. DUE 9/15.

READ FOR 9/8:
- Blackboard Intro Reading #1
- Blackboard Intro Reading #2
- Hudson/Noonan-Morrissey, Chapter Two

DUE FOR 9/8:
- Preliminary research topic list of images

Week Three 9/15 (Additional mandatory symposium attendance on 9/17)

TOPICS:
- FORMULATING QUESTIONS, SELECTING AN APPROPRIATE THEORY, INTERPRETING DATA IN LIGHT OF THAT THEORY
  - FORMALISM AND QUESTIONS OF STYLE
- RAISING RESEARCH QUESTIONS. IDENTIFYING THESIS STATEMENTS AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS.
- READ ABSTRACTS AND PREPARE QUESTIONS FOR SYMPOSIUM (9/17)
READ FOR 9/15:
- Schneider Adams, Chapter Two
- Hudson and Noonan-Morrissey, Chapter Two
- Blackboard Reading #1

DUE ON 9/15:
- Formal Analysis paper
- Theory Analysis I: Formalism

Week Four 9/22

TOPICS:
- FORMULATING QUESTIONS, SELECTING AN APPROPRIATE THEORY, INTERPRETING DATA IN LIGHT OF THAT THEORY
- ICONOGRAPHY AND SEMIOTICS

Read for 9/22:
- D’Alleva, Look! Again, Chapter Two
- Schneider Adams, Chapter Three and Chapter Seven
- Blackboard Reading #2a
- Blackboard Reading #2b

Due on 9/22:
- Symposium analysis
- Critical Theory Analysis I1: Iconography and Semiotics

Week Five 9/29

TOPICS:
- FORMULATING QUESTIONS, SELECTING AN APPROPRIATE THEORY, INTERPRETING DATA IN LIGHT OF THAT THEORY
- MARXISM/MATERIALISM/SOCIAL HISTORY

Read for 9/29:
- D’Alleva, Look! Again, Chapter 3 pp.46-60
- Schneider Adams, Chapter 4, pp. 65-85
- Blackboard Reading #3
Due on 9/29:
- Critical Theory Analysis III: Marxism
- Thesis and research questions

Week Six 10/6

TOPICS:
- FORMULATING QUESTIONS, SELECTING AN APPROPRIATE THEORY, INTERPRETING DATA IN LIGHT OF THAT THEORY
- FEMINISM

Read for 10/6:
- D’Alleva, Look! Again, Chapter 3, pp. 60-76
- Schneider Adams, Chapter 5
- Blackboard Reading #4a
- Blackboard Reading #4b

Due on 10/6:
- Critical Theory Analysis IV: Feminism
- Preliminary Bibliography

Week Seven 10/13

TOPICS:
- FORMULATING QUESTIONS, SELECTING AN APPROPRIATE THEORY, INTERPRETING DATA IN LIGHT OF THAT THEORY
- CULTURAL STUDIES AND POSTCOLONIAL THEORY

Read for 10/13:
- D’Alleva, Look! Again, Chapter 3, 76-85
- Schneider Adams, Chapters 4, 85-96
- Blackboard Reading #5

Due on 10/13:
- Critical Theory Analysis V: Cultural Studies and Postcolonial Theory
Week Eight 10/20

TOPICS:
- FORMULATING QUESTIONS, SELECTING AN APPROPRIATE THEORY, INTERPRETING DATA IN LIGHT OF THAT THEORY
- POSTSTRUCTURALISM, DISCOURSE ANALYSIS, AND DECONSTRUCTION

Read for 10/20:
- Schneider Adams, Chapter 8
- Blackboard Reading #6a
- Blackboard Reading #6b

Due on 10/20:
- Critical Theory Analysis VI: Poststructuralism/Discourse Analysis/Deconstruction
- Outline

Week Nine 10/27

TOPICS:
- CONSTRUCTING YOUR ARGUMENT
- USING THE INTRODUCTION
- THESIS STATEMENT
- RESEARCH QUESTIONS
- THEORY APPLIED
- POINTS OF PROOF
  - MAKING RELEVANT COMPARISONS
  - ESTABLISHING CONTEXT

Read for 10/27:
- D’Alleva, *Look! Again*, Chapter 6
- Hudson and Noonan-Morrissey, Chapter 1 and Chapter 7
Week Ten 11/3 (Special session 1-3pm)

TOPICS:
- EDITORIAL PROCESS
- GRAMMAR REVIEW
- SPECIAL SESSION: FACULTY RESEARCH PAPERS/APPLYING TO GRADUATE SCHOOL

Read for 11/3:
- Hudson and Noonan-Morrissey, pp. 185-209

Week Eleven 11/10

TOPICS:
- WORKING DAY
- MANDATORY GROUP APPOINTMENTS TO REVIEW DRAFT IN PROCESS

Due on 11/10:
- Draft of paper, including citations and images.

Week Twelve 11/17

TOPICS:
- WORKING DAY
- MANDATORY GROUP APPOINTMENTS TO REVIEW DRAFT IN PROCESS

Week Thirteen 11/24

THANKSGIVING
Week Fourteen 12/1

TOPICS:
- PRESENTATIONS, GROUPS 1-5

Due on 12/1:
- Finished paper.

Week Fifteen 12/8

TOPICS:
- PRESENTATIONS, GROUPS 6-8
- EXAM