

WESTERN UNIVERSITY ■ FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES ■
VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

VASTUDIO 2274A ART NOW! 1 FALL 2016

Professor Susan Edelstein

Email: sedelst@uwo.ca

Office: Rm. 122, John Labatt Visual Art Centre (VAC)

Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday, 12:30 – 1:30pm

Telephone: 519 661-2111 ext. 86186 (with voice mail)

Graduate Teaching Assistants (*preferred email contacts for assistance*)

Ruth Skinner: Email: rskinne6@uwo.ca

Office: Rm. 240, VAC

Office Hour: Tuesdays, 3-4pm

Sarah Munro: Email: smunro5@uwo.ca

Office: Rm. 128, VAC (located *inside* the Artlab Gallery)

Office Hour: Wedneadays, 11am-12pm

COURSE MEETING ROOM: North Campus Building (NCB), Rm. 113

COURSE MEETING TIME: Thursdays: 7pm-10pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This introduction to contemporary artistic practice combines guest lectures with in-class discussions, film screenings, and campus based field trips. Visiting artists will present a wide range of practices and issues current in contemporary art. Students will gain a broad exposure to contemporary art practices including; performance, video, installation, sculpture, painting, photography, sound art, public art, and social practice. Emphasis will be placed on major recent art movements. The course will also focus on developing critical writing skills and vocabulary.

COURSE AIMS

To familiarize students with contemporary visual art by building a base of knowledge and confidence that will allow them to critically engage with art and the issues that it raises.

COURSE CONTENT

Syllabi and all relevant course information will be posted online via OWL

COURSE OUTCOMES

- Students will have good knowledge of the key critical and theoretical frameworks that pertain to the period being studied and will be able to engage with/analyze works of art from that period according to those frameworks
- Students will have developed a vocabulary suitable for descriptive/critical understanding of contemporary art
- Students will be able to communicate in writing and orally regarding their projects and regarding relevant art and culture
- Students will have an awareness of the art world, and of differing arenas and audiences for art, and they will understand the function and appropriateness of their own creative strategies in relation to the immediate context as well as a broader context

CLASS FORMAT

The Art Now class will meet every Thursday evening from 7PM-10PM in North Campus Building (NCB), room 113. The class will consist of guest artist presentations, discussions, lectures, slide/video screenings and several on-campus field trips.

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is required. Students are expected to attend all class sessions and be prepared for and participate in all lectures, discussions and/or critiques. A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.

Additionally, it is the student's responsibility to notify his/her TA that he/she will be tardy; otherwise the student may be marked absent.

Failure to attend guest lectures/presentations and class seminar discussions without due cause will result in students researching the technical information for themselves. Lectures cannot be repeated.

MEDICAL POLICY

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

The instructor will NOT accept any missed assignments, whether totaling more than 10% or less than 10%, unless the student has arranged accommodation through the Dean's Office.

COMMUNICATIONS

Students must have regular access to a computer with high-speed internet. Every student is required to check their UWO email regularly. If you do not have internet access where you live, schedule a regular stop at a public terminal on campus such as Weldon library. Important class announcements will be sent out via Owl or directly to your email. It is **your** responsibility to check your email regularly. The course syllabus, and all readings can be accessed through OWL through this link:

<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/pda/?force.login=yes>

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE

Your Graduate teaching assistants are committed to responding to your e-messages in a timely fashion. At times they are not able to respond immediately, but will do their very best to respond to emails within 24 hours of receiving them. We would expect the same response time, i.e. within 24 hours from our students.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Computers/IPads: You may use a computer in class to take notes. All other activities (e.g. checking e-mail or social media sites, watching movies, etc.) are prohibited.

Cell Phones: Students must turn off all cell phones, or similar electronic devices while in the classroom. Texting is prohibited.

ASSIGNMENTS

All Assignments are due in-class on the assigned due date. Late assignments will receive a deduction of 5% per day. Assignments will **not** be accepted via email or as an email attachment. All assignments **MUST** be submitted as a hard copy, typed document.

Assignment details will be given out with each assignment in class. Extensions will be given out only upon official notification from the student's faculty advisor documenting serious health and bereavement reasons.

For information about Western's medical policy, see below.

All other late assignments are subject to a 5% penalty per day.

DUE DATES:

When calculating late days, weekends and holidays are included in this addition. As mentioned above, official documentation will be required if assignments are submitted after the due date.

PLAGIARISM

Will not be tolerated! The strictest of penalties will be applied in the case of plagiarism. You are responsible for understanding how to use sources in an ethical fashion and for knowing the difference between quoting and paraphrasing. Possession of this syllabus means that you understand that you are required to comply with Western's policies regarding plagiarism. For information concerning Western's Plagiarism and Academic Offences (Scholastic Offences) policies please read below:

Plagiarism, which may be defined as "The act or an instance of copying or stealing another's words or ideas and attributing them as one's own," will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from Black's Law Dictionary, 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170).

(Refer to www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html#2016/2017, Western Academic Calendar, p. 18-19, with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.)

This includes presenting the visual or aural work of another creator as your own. Visual or Aural Plagiarism may involve both hand-based media such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, as well as digital media such as photography, video and sound. It includes work subsequently manipulated or transferred between different media, as well as self-plagiarism – work submitted for assignments previously produced and graded for another course. Similar to textual plagiarism, all student work involving the visual or aural work of others must be appropriately cited/identified whether in print or orally. Failure to do so will lead to similar academic penalties as those identified in Western's Academic Calendar.

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a scholastic offence."

CITATION

Please ensure that you properly cite/credit all source material. If you are in doubt about how to properly cite a work, please reference the **Chicago Style Manual**. If you are still unclear, please consult your TA in advance of the assigned due date. Proper bibliographic and footnote format is required with *all* written assignments.

Use this guide to organize your Bibliography and the Notes at the end of your essay, or your Reference List and Parenthetical Notes if you use the author/date method of citing sources. The guide is based on the fifteenth edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style*, available at call number Z 253.C572 2003 in the following libraries: DBW reference NO LOAN; and EDU reference NO LOAN. Please consult the manual to cite materials not included below (e.g.: videos, lectures, speeches, emails, etc.).

See especially The Chicago Manual of Style Online available at the following URL:<http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/contents.html> and also Electronic Styles: A Handbook for Citing Electronic Information [DBW reference NO LOAN PN 171.F56L5 1996] for further information. This guide covers: Books, Edited Books, Journal Articles, Newspaper

WORD COUNT

This does not include the use of your bibliography. Only your essay text should be included in your word count. Your writing style will constitute an important part of the grade you receive on your paper, so please leave adequate time for editing to ensure there are as few grammar and syntax errors as possible.

WESTERN UNIVERSITY POLICIES Visual Arts Department

POLICIES

Student Conduct:

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

Attendance:

A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams, or participation in final studio evaluations. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.

Prerequisites:

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism, which may be defined as "The act or an instance of copying or stealing another's words or ideas and attributing them as one's own," will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from [Black's Law Dictionary](#), 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170). (Refer to www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html# or the 2016/2017 Western Academic Calendar, p. 18-19, with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.) This includes presenting the visual or aural work of another creator as your own. Visual or Aural Plagiarism may involve both hand-based media such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, as well as digital media such as photography, video and sound. It includes work subsequently manipulated or transferred between different media, as well as self-plagiarism – work submitted for assignments previously produced and graded for another course. Similar to textual plagiarism, all student work involving the visual or aural work of others must be appropriately cited/identified whether in print or orally. Failure to do so will lead to similar academic penalties as those identified in Western's Academic Calendar.

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments.

Mental Health:

"Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help."

Building Access:

The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:30 pm each night. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00 pm-5:00 pm. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:30 pm and 5:00 pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

Permission re: Promotion

You grant permission for Western University to reproduce your name, information describing your artwork, representations of your work and any other information you have provided for the purpose of display, promotion and publicity either now or in the future.

By installing your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you grant Western University an irrevocable, perpetual, royalty-free world-wide licence to photograph your artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, flickr, Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Artlab Gallery or Cohen Commons. As the area is open to the public, students, faculty, staff and other visitors will not be prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre.

You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.

Artwork Installation Liability Release

You understand that the area where your artwork will be hanging or displayed is unsupervised and is in a part of the building that may be open to the public, day and evening, whether or not the building is open. Western University accepts no responsibility for damage to, or loss of, artwork at any time while on display or while being transported to or from the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. By displaying your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you accept all risk of loss or damage to your artwork. Western University does not provide insurance for the artwork on exhibition. **If you wish to insure artwork, it is your responsibility to do so.**

Removal

Western University reserves the right to dispose of artwork not picked up by April 15th of each year.

Please remember:

One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Professor C. Barteet (tel. 519-661-3440; vaugc@uwo.ca). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty. Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the academic counselors in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities located in IGA Building, Room 1N20.

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; www.sdc.uwo.ca) offers a wide range of useful services including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.

The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: www.lib.uwo.ca.

Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program which offer part-time positions on campus for Western students. Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail, finaid@uwo.ca; or check out their website at http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html

August 23, 2016

OWL Training: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

Owl Course Site: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

VISUAL ARTS STUDIO GRADING RUBRIC

90-100 (Outstanding, A+) - The **studio work** shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated analysis and synthesis involving complex theoretical and conceptual thinking are demonstrated. Mastery of complex ideas is immediately evident. The studio work has originality, clarity and ambition. The project is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is exemplary.

80-89 (Excellent, A) - The **studio work** shows originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. The work is clearly focused and intelligently presented. Mastery of complex ideas is demonstrated. The studio work has clarity and ambition. The quality of the studio production immediately engages the viewer. The studio work has been sufficiently developed and demonstrates mastery of techniques so that results are compelling. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is impressive.

75-79 (Very Good, B+) - The **studio work** shows above average analysis, critical thinking and independent thought. It demonstrates a clear awareness of the parameters of the assignment and a very good attempt to respond creatively to them. The work demonstrates reasonable depth and/or breadth and engages in a production that is appropriate to the level of the course. The quality of studio work engages the viewer and demonstrates above-average mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is very good.

70-74 (Good, B) - The **studio work** shows a satisfactory attempt at analysis and critical thinking. It shows a good attempt to respond to assignment parameters. The work demonstrates some depth and/or breadth, making references to appropriate course material/art context. The studio production engages the viewer and demonstrates a sufficient mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is satisfactory.

60-69 (Competent, C) - The **studio work** demonstrates adequate engagement with the project. It shows an attempt to respond to assignment parameters but does so at a very basic level that lacks creativity. Engagement with studio production demonstrates basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is competent.

50-59 (Marginal, D) - The **studio work** shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The studio work waivers in its attempt to respond to assignment parameters and tends to be simplistic. Engagement with studio production demonstrates less than a basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is less than satisfactory.

Below 50 (Unacceptable, F) - The **studio work** demonstrates a failure to comprehend/engage the topic. The studio work is incomplete and lacks redeeming creative merit. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is unacceptable.

COURSE EVALUATION BREAKDOWN

ASSIGNMENTS	Grade Value	Date Assigned	Due Date
Assignment #1 Studio Project: Mind Map	5%	Sept. 8	Sept. 15
Assignment #2 Research Paper Proposal	10%	Sept. 22	Oct. 6
Assignment #3 Research Paper	20%	Sept. 22	Nov. 17
Assignment #4 Studio Project: Zine	20%	Oct. 6	Nov. 3
 EXAMS			
Mid Term Exam	20%	Oct. 13 (written in class, one hour)	
Final Exam:	25%	Date TBA (2 hours)	
TOTAL POSSIBLE GRADE:	100%		