

Fine Arts FINA 201.01
Introduction to the Fine Arts
Fall 2012
MW 14:00 - 15:15
CHC 119

Instructor: Dr. RICHard SMOLinski
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Additional Information

Some course information, research materials and list of weekly reading schedule will be posted on Blackboard.

Course Description

From the Calendar: “A survey of major issues in the fine arts. An overview of the interactions among the arts; the arts and society; an introduction to criticism and aesthetics; technical aspects of the individual arts.”

The course lectures cover a broad spectrum of creative practices to consider such questions as “What is art and what is it for?” “What do artists do?” and “What is creative research?”

Objectives of the Course

This class encourages the students to acquire and develop a practical and critical knowledge of the creative arts. By undertaking this class the student will build up a vocabulary of discipline specific terminology relevant to the discussion of the individual arts and to creative practice in general. Likewise, the student will gain the ability to analyze works of art and understand the contexts that informs those works. Lastly the class will introduce methods for creatively responding to culture and for undertaking research in the fine arts.

Textbooks:

Dennis J. Sporre, *Perceiving the Arts: An Introduction to the Humanities*.

César Aira, *Varamo*.

Jacques Rancière, *The Emancipated Spectator*.

Supplemental resources:

Other on-line articles and resources will be assigned throughout the term.

Assignments and Examinations

Midterm Test (Oct. 10) 20%

Creative Research Project (Nov. 14) 25%

Creative Response Journal (Dec. 3) 25%

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination 30%

Date of examination to be announced.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

The detailed schedule of readings can be located on Blackboard.

Assignments

Creative Response Journal (25%). Outside of class time the student must attend and respond to 4 (four) arts events. These may be on-campus events presented by the Departments of Drama, Dance, Music and Art, or they may be presentations in the broader cultural community.

Each response should be one-and-a-half to two-pages (for a total submission of 6-8 pages) and must employ full sentences, proper grammar and punctuation. Each report should describe in detail the specifics of the art event attended and attempt to identify the disciplinary genres that the work is related to. The reports must incorporate discipline-relevant terminology and attempt to analyze how the particular presentation functions within its presentation context—that is, how the work relates to its discipline and how it might relate to our contemporary cultural context. The reports may include some degree of subjective response but if a judgment is made about the quality of a work of art, it is the writer's responsibility to state her or his rationale and criteria for commenting upon the relative merits of the work.

For information about free tickets for on-campus cultural events presented by the Faculty of Arts visit claimyourseat.ucalgary.ca.

Creative Research Project (25%). The student may choose to complete either a research paper or a creative project. The research paper will be developed in response to a series of questions that will be distributed in class. Length: 2500 words. Students interested in pursuing a creative project must submit a one-page proposal to the instructor that describes the creative work and its relationship to the course content. Creative projects must receive the instructor's approval and **proposals are due October 12th**.

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

Note: Please submit assignments electronically via Blackboard's "digital dropbox."

Submissions must either be as a pdf or Word .doc—NO .docx files please. If it is not possible to do this you may submit hardcopies of assignments directly to the instructor on the due date. A drop box is also available in AB 612 for after-hours submissions. Assignments will be removed the following morning, stamped with the previous day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: Yes-Date to be announced.

Policy for Late Assignments Late assignments *may* be penalized with the loss of a grade (example A- to B+). Assignments that are *more* than a week late may be penalized an additional grade (B+ to B-).

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.**

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Grading System

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Internet and electronic communication device information

Laptop computers may be used during classtime for the taking of notes. The use of cellphones, text-messaging and other social media devices is prohibited. The recording of any class room lectures may only be undertaken with the permission of the instructor.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link;
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation Policy

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course. For further information, please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points

Please note the evacuation points for this particular classroom. All classrooms on campus exit to specific places in case of emergency. The emergency assembly points differ depending upon where your classroom is located. For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" Program

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 403-220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

Student Representation

There are now four Arts reps because of the amalgamation, with the email addresses being arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, and arts4@su.ucalgary.ca. Please contact if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns.

For your student ombudsman, please see

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.