School of Art & Art History

Fall 2020 Courses

Course descriptions may have been truncated or may not accurately reflect a current class. For up to date course descriptions, please review class details when browsing for and registering online.
101 Signifying Practices: Art and Visual Culture
Jen Delos Reyes, T/R, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 35839 + 35835
Introduction to theoretical perspectives for analyzing experiences of visual and multi-modal phenomena.

112 Introduction to Drawing
Instructor TBD, M/W, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35868 + 35867
Instructor TBD, M/W, 3:00–5:40pm, CRNs: 35837 + 35838
Instructor TBD, T/R, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 39929 + 39925
Orientation to the description and expressive potential of drawing through exposure to a variety of subjects, media, and formal concepts.

130 Introduction to Painting + Color
Instructor TBD, M/W, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 37541 + 35871
Instructor TBD, M/W, 3:00–5:40pm, CRNs: 40419 + 38247
Instructor TBD, T/R, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 39408 + 39406
Instructor TBD, T/R, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 38243 + 39916
Introduction to major directions of contemporary painting; underlying historical precedents; orientation to subjects and formal concepts using relevant materials and process.

140 Introduction to Sculpture
Instructor TBD, M/W, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35874 + 35873
Instructor TBD, M/W, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 35876 + 35875
Faheem Majeed, T/R, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 35878 + 35877
Instructor TBD, T/R, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 40475 + 40474
Orientation to concepts of 3-dimensionality through use of relevant processes and heuristic approaches to making.

150 Introduction to New Media Arts
Instructor TBD, M/W, 3:00–5:40pm, CRNs: 35882 + 35881
Instructor TBD, T/R, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35884 + 35883
Instructor TBD, T/R, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 42854 + 42853
Instructor TBD, T/R, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 35880 + 35879
Students learn to design interactive interfaces and responsive environments. Survey lectures focus on current practices and the history of new media.

151 Introduction to Creative Coding in New Media Arts
Instructor TBD, M/W, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 42471 + 42470
Instructor TBD, M/W, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 44903 + 44905
Instructor TBD, T/R, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 43430 + 473431
Instructor TBD, F, 9:00am–3:40pm, CRNs: 43432 + 43433
Students will investigate the ways in which social media, data, and code have been instrumental in reconfiguring the nature of social relationships in our society.

160 Introduction to Digital Photography
Zuri Washington, M/W, 8:00–10:40am, CRN 35886 + 35885
Leticia Bernaas, M/W, 8:00–12:40pm, CRNs: 40418 + 40417
Lauren Edwards, M/W, 3:00–5:40pm, CRNs: 40579 + 40578
Julian Vandermore, T/R, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35882 + 35891
Silvia Malagrinio, T/R, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 35887 + 35887
Jessica Pierott, T/R, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 35889 + 35889
Basic familiarity with camera, photographic techniques, Photoshop, low level lighting and high end printing. Includes social, cultural, critical and aesthetic considerations.

170 Introduction to Moving Image
Instructor TBD, M/W, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35895 + 35893
Instructor TBD, M/W, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 35898 + 35897
Instructor TBD, T/R, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35900 + 35989
Instructor TBD, T/R, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 40581 + 40580
Basic experimentation with image/sound capture and editing as related to film, video and audio.

190 Introduction to Socially Engaged Art
Faheem Majeed, T/R, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 38352 + 37250
Laurie Jo Reynolds, T/R, 6:30–9:00pm, CRNs: 38373 + 38378
Introduces the concept of socially engaged art, a practice that blurs the line between art and life, emphasizing participation, dialogue, and action.

201 Democratic Practices in Art Education
Instructor TBD, T/R, 11:00am–1:40pm, CRNs: 42053 + 42052
Explores the evolution of various practices and sites of art education in Chicago, the U.S. and in global contexts. The course examines the role of the arts in education and democratic life.

230 Topics in Painting I
Matthew Metzger, T/R, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 35904 + 35903
Direct experience and related readings investigate innovations and directions in contemporary painting.

240 Topics in Sculpture I
Nate Young, T/R, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35908 + 35907
Topics, designed by the instructor, address current practices and theories in sculpture and installation.

250 Topics in New Media Arts: Intermediate
Instructor TBD, M/W, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 42301 + 42302
Students create artwork with new media technologies, interactive installations, and computer animation.

260 Topics in Digital Photography
Iris Bernblum, M/W, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35912 + 35911
Conceptual/contextual image making, familiarity with camera, photographic techniques, Photoshop, basic lights techniques and high end printing.

270 Topics in Film: Sex and Gender
Nazli Dince, M/W, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 42064 + 42065
This course explores the dialectic of gender representation in cinema, mass media and avant-garde film. Coursework relies on producing a film (analogue, digital, other) during the semester by reading theory, watching films, and discussing the contemporary politics of the body and its representation.

300 Visual and Verbal Literacy in Art Education
Instructor TBD, T/R, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 35868 + 35867
Instructor TBD, M/W, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 40419 + 38247
Instructor TBD, T/R, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 39408 + 39406
Instructor TBD, T/R, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 38243 + 39916
Introduction to major directions of contemporary painting; underlying historical precedents; orientation to subjects and formal concepts using relevant materials and process.

310 Topics in Drawing II
Dianna Frid, T/R, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35926 + 35925
Topics directed by the instructor; may include individual study and related readings in contemporary art; further investigation and extended applications in drawing.

350 Advanced Topics in New Media Arts
Sabrina Raaf, M/W, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 37253 + 37254
Students create artwork with interactive installations, software and computer animation. Includes social, cultural, critical and aesthetic considerations of new media.

362 Topics in Photography: Alternative Process and Lighting Studio
Colleen Keihm, M/W, 3:00–5:40pm, CRNs: 35938 + 35937
Exploring Analog and Digital photographic practices and how they can inform contemporary practice as well as introducing photographic lighting studio tools and techniques.

372 Topics in Video: Collage
Jesse Malmed, T/R, 3:30–5:40pm, CRNs: 35942 + 35941
Donald Barthelme noted that “the principle of collage is the central principle of all art in the 20th century in all media.” Is it still? Approaching editing as an act of collage, this course considers diffuse sourcing, appropriation, collision and citation as integral components of histories and futures of moving image art. Student artists will produce video, sound, film and paper works while strategizing forms of montage.

381 Topics in Documentary Media
Doug Ischar, T/R, 8:00–10:40am, CRNs: 35951 + 35950
Specific topics varying each semester will address current practices and theories in documentary media. The mechanical reproduction applied to recording, documenting, and interpreting real life situations and events.
Topics in Art
Dianna Frid, T/R, 12:00–2:40pm, CRNs: 37255 + 37256
Multidisciplinary art making course based on a topic chosen by instructor. Course consists of art production and written assignments, lecture, class critiques and individual meetings.

Advanced Critique
Doug Ischar, F, 1:00–3:40pm, CRN: 42495
A sustained viewing and discussion of student work in order to consider, measure and reconsider effective strategies in artistic production.

Senior Projects: Critique
Dan Peterman + Laurie Jo Reynolds, T/R, 12:00–2:40pm,
CRNs: 35953 + 35952
Critique/discussion for advanced art majors.

Art Education Practicum
Instructor TBD, T, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 43438 + 43439
Experience in classroom teaching and curriculum design, connecting practices of contemporary artmaking with practices of contemporary critical pedagogy. Design and teach interdisciplinary curriculum.

Interactive 3D
Instructor TBD, T/R, 6:30–9:00pm, CRNs: 35967 + 35966
An introduction to real-time interactive art theory and to the design and production practices used in creating 3D applications for games and the web.

Advanced Independent Projects: Photography
Silvia Malagrino, T, 3:30–6:15pm, CRNs: 45018 + 45019
A practical and conceptual exploration into independent individual projects in contemporary photography.

Advanced Topics in New Media Arts
Sabrina Raaf, Date and Time: TBD, CRNs: 37600 + 37599
Students create artwork with interactive installations, software and computer animation. Includes social, cultural, critical and aesthetic considerations of new media.

Seminar in Contemporary Theory
Hannah Higgins, M, 3:00–5:40pm, CRNs: 35985 + 35984
Using primarily artists' writings, as well as writing about art written by poets, composers, and philosophers, this introduction to contemporary theory examines the unique perspectives that artists in all media bring to the theoretical table. In keeping with this orientation, students will be given ample time to write in several forms including, but not limited to, the ekphrastic poem, the concrete poem, deep description, linguistic analysis, social analysis, performative writing, the manifesto, and professional writing.

Teaching Artists:
Histories and Theories of Higher Education in the Arts
John Neff, F, 9:00–11:40am, CRNs: 35986 + 35987
This seminar-style course will examine the history and practice of advanced visual arts instruction from the early modern era to the present. The course will be divided into three sections: Models and Theories, Institutions and Roles, and Collaborations. The goal of the course is to equip studio MFA students with a toolbox of "professional practices"—with an emphasis on community-oriented and experimental approaches—that might inform their future work in the visual arts.

Advanced Graduate Critique
Nate Young, Arranged, CRNs: 36027 + 35988
Jennifer Reeder, Arranged, CRNs: 36027 + 35988
Matthew Metzger, Arranged, CRNs: 36027 + 35988
Individualized graduate study; creative projects and research by each student through consultive agreement with graduate faculty committee.
Environmental and Climate Justice (ECJ)
Rosa Cabrera, W, 3:00–5:30pm, CRN: 43535
This course examines the environmental justice movement and its connection to climate change. It scrutinizes larger systems of power and privilege that produce unjust environmental and climate conditions putting people of color, immigrants, and low-income earners at greater risk.

Critical Race Theory and Contemporary African American Art
Instructor TBD, R, 12:00–2:30pm, CRN: 45571
How can we analyze the formal and thematic elements of 20th and 21st century African American art through the lens of Critical Race Theory (CRT)? This question will drive the lectures, readings and discussions in this seminar. Students will learn about the core principles of CRT and the movement’s critique of the incongruence between the United States’ legal idealism and the lived, political realities of African Americans. With this knowledge, students will be encouraged to examine the overlap between CRT’s philosophy and the corrective measures African American artists’ have taken to achieve visibility and to advance political, economic, and cultural parity.

Museum Collections
Lisa Yun Lee, W, 8:00–8:30pm, CRN: 43541
Practical, theoretical and institutional settings of the museum and exhibition professions. Students meet in seminar environments, read and discuss core texts and ideas; travel to representative exhibition and cultural heritage sites.

Writing for Exhibitions
Instructor TBD, M, 12:00–2:30pm, CRN: 43534
Practicum in producing texts for sites across physical and virtual museum and exhibition environments, from labels to exhibition catalogs. Includes digital and virtual exhibition venues.

Museum Genres, Practices, and Institutions
Therese Quinn, T, 6:00–8:30pm, CRN: 43539
In this core course in the Museum and Exhibition Studies Graduate Program, students will be introduced to the histories, theories, and practices of museums and related institutions through dialogue about readings and the contexts of cultural work, critical reviews of museums, presentations by practitioners, and other course activities and assignments.

Critical Race Theory and Contemporary African American Art
Instructor TBD, R, 12:00–2:30pm, CRN: 45572
How can we analyze the formal and thematic elements of 20th and 21st century African American art through the lens of Critical Race Theory (CRT)? This question will drive the lectures, readings and discussions in this seminar. Students will learn about the core principles of CRT and the movement’s critique of the incongruence between the United States’ legal idealism and the lived, political realities of African Americans. With this knowledge, students will be encouraged to examine the overlap between CRT’s philosophy and the corrective measures African American artists’ have taken to achieve visibility and to advance political, economic, and cultural parity.

Supervised Internship in Museum and Exhibition Studies
Therese Quinn, Arranged, CRN: 43972
Practical supervised experience in institutions serving the visual arts. Placements in museums; community arts centers; college, commercial, or non-traditional galleries; public agencies, and commercial and not-for-profit sites.

Readings in Museum and Exhibition Studies
Therese Quinn, Arranged, CRN: 43973
Individually planned readings on selected topics under the supervision of a faculty member.
Art History (AH)

100 Introduction to Art and Art History
Instructor TBD, M/W/F, 10:00–10:50am, CRN: 27410
Elise Archias, M/W/F, 12:00–12:50pm, CRN: 31612
Forms, meanings, and purposes of art. Discussion of techniques, styles and content as well as historical and social contexts, in various media and cultures. Creative Arts course.

110 World History of Art and the Built Environment I
Andrew Finegold, M/W/F, 12:00–12:50pm, CRN: 10114 + one discussion:
M, 8:00–8:50am, CRN: 10108
M, 9:00–9:50am, CRN: 20689
T, 11:00–11:50am, CRN: 10082
T, 12:30–1:20pm, CRN: 21587
W, 9:00–9:50am, CRN: 10081
W, 10:00–10:50am, CRN: 21588
W, 1:00–1:50pm, CRN: 21589
W, 2:00–2:50pm, CRN: 10098
R, 8:00–8:50am, CRN: 10102
R, 9:30–10:20am, CRN: 21590
R, 2:00–2:50pm, CRN: 40326
R, 3:30–4:20pm, CRN: 40327
F, 10:00–10:50am, CRN: 40325
F, 11:00–11:50am, CRN: 40328
Comprehensive overview of how world art, architecture, and visual culture from prehistory to 1400 CE respond to and shape culture, religion, politics and history. Creative Arts course.

125 Introduction to the Art and Architecture of Asia
Catherine Becker, T/R, 12:30–1:45pm, CRN: 41012
Using cross-cultural case studies, this course introduces students to some of the major artistic methods, monuments, and themes associated with Asian art and architecture. Creative Arts and World Cultures course.

160 Trends in International Contemporary Art Since 1960
Instructor TBD, M/W, 4:30–5:45pm, CRN: 23943
Surveys international trends in art since 1960. Emphasis is on movements, new media, intermedia, criticism and theory. Creative Arts course.

180 Intro to Museum & Exhibition
Instructor TBD, T/R, 3:30–4:45pm, CRNs: 38683 + 38692
Surveys museum and exhibition histories, frameworks and experiences through activities, reading and films, field trips and lectures by professionals and faculty in affiliated areas including anthropology, art, and history. Creative Arts and Understanding the Individual and Society course.

204 Greek Art and Archaeology
Karen Ros, M/W/F, 2:00–2:50pm, CRN: 10122
Contributions of archaeological excavations to the study of ancient Greece, 600 BC to 31 BC. Architecture, sculpture and painting in their social and historical contexts. Creative Arts and Understanding the Past course.

206 Museums and Exhibitions in Motion
Instructor TBD, R, 3:30–6:00pm, CRN: 45350
Students will shadow museum staff, and learn about traditional and leading-edge exhibition craft through example and practice. They will look at exhibitions, and examine creative and critical interventions made by artists, activists and scholars.

211 History of Urbanism: Cities and Festivals in the Ancient Middle East
Ömür Harmanşah, M/W, 9:30–10:45am, CRN: 32182
Cities are powerhouses of social life, theaters of political action, places of belonging and love. They come alive with public events. What did ancient and medieval cities look like and how were they imagined by their citizens? Reading current literature on cities and urban space, this class investigates the urban design and festivals of eleven cities in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East, including Nineveh, Babylon, Jerusalem, and Constantinople.

225 European Architecture, 1750–1900
Instructor TBD, M/W/F, 1:00–1:50pm, CRN: 31618
The development of European architecture, urbanism and architectural theory from 1750 to 1900.

232 History of Film I: 1890 to World War II
Martin Rubin, T/R, 5:00–7:00pm, CRNs: 10128 + 10130
History of film from its beginnings in the 1890s up to World War II

260 European Art from 1750 to 1900
Nina Dubin, T/R, 11:00am–12:15pm, CRN: 10154
Painting and sculpture in Western Europe from the Rococo to Post-Impressionism. Creative Arts course.

263 Latin American Colonial Art
Instructor TBD, M/W, 3:00–4:15pm, CRN: 41505
A survey of Latin American art and architecture from European contact to independence. Same as LALS 263. Creative Arts and World Cultures course.

280 History of Performance Art, 1900–Present
Julia Vaingurt, W, 6:00–8:30pm, CRN: TBD
We will read various theories of the avant-garde and study avant-garde practices in literature, film, architecture, and visual and performing arts. Specifically, we will consider such movements, as Cubo- and Ego-Futurism, Neoprimitivism, Suprematism, Biomechanics, and Constructivism. Crosslisted with RUSS 440.

291 History of the Russian Avant-garde
Julia Vaingurt, W, 6:00–8:30pm, CRN: TBD
The course examines the term "avant-garde" and its referents in Russian culture before and after the October Revolution of 1917. We will read various theories of the avant-garde and study avant-garde practices in literature, film, architecture, and visual and performing arts. Specifically, we will consider such movements, as Cubo- and Ego-Futurism, Neoprimitivism, Suprematism, Biomechanics, and Constructivism. Crosslisted with RUSS 440.

301 History of Urbanism: Cities and Festivals in the Ancient Middle East
Ömür Harmanşah, M/W, 9:30–10:45am, CRN: 32182
Cities are powerhouses of social life, theaters of political action, places of belonging and love. They come alive with public events. What did ancient and medieval cities look like and how were they imagined by their citizens? Reading current literature on cities and urban space, this class investigates the urban design and festivals of eleven cities in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East, including Nineveh, Babylon, Jerusalem, and Constantinople.

303 Writing in Art History
Blake Stimson, F, 2:00–2:50pm, CRN: 39948
Research methodology and writing in the field of art history.

304 Topics in Architecture, Art and Design
Instructor TBD, M, 6:00–8:30pm, CRN: (UG) 25108 / (G) 25110
Selected topics in the history of European and North American architecture, art and design.

366 History of Film I: 1890 to World War II
Martin Rubin, T/R, 5:00–7:00pm, CRNs: 10128 + 10130
History of film from its beginnings in the 1890s up to World War II

404 Topics in Architecture, Art and Design
Instructor TBD, M, 6:00–8:30pm, CRN: (UG) 25108 / (G) 25110
Selected topics in the history of European and North American architecture, art and design.

440 Material Worlds: Topics in Material Culture Studies
Ömür Harmanşah, M, 3:00–5:30pm, CRN: (UG) 44910 / (G) 44913
Things, artifacts, objects... These are our intimate companions as we live in and make sense of the world. In this course we explore new work on thing theory, materials and materiality, the social life and the cultural biography of objects, their ability to configure social realities, human subjectivities, and cultural identities. We will pay close attention to theories in material culture studies, focusing on materials, materiality, agency, and technologies of production.
511  Toward New Histories of the Visual Arts, 1960 to the Present
Nina Dubin, T, 3:30–6:00pm, CRN: 40042
Examines the transformation of Art History, theory, and criticism since 1960 with regard to issues of gender, class, ethnicity, popular culture, post-colonialism and contemporary aesthetics.

512  Art History Teaching Seminar
Andrew Finegold, F, 1:00–3:00pm, CRN: 10248
Theoretical and practical aspects of teaching in undergraduate courses in the history of the visual arts.

561  The Aesthetic Contract
Blake Stimson, R, 3:30–6:00pm, CRN: 33951
This seminar will begin with the case for Kant's old aestheticist and statist argument that "the beautiful interests empirically only in society." We will then turn to the opposing case in post-1968 anti-statist, anti-aesthetic treatises such as Sussman's The Aesthetic Contract, Agamben's The Coming Community, Scott's Seeing Like a State, and Azoulay's The Civil Contract of Photography. In the end we will look to selected examples of contemporary art (such as Haacke's Der Bevölkerung) to derive our own dialectical sublation of these first two positions.