

ART THEORY & CRITICAL STUDIES (ARTCR-GE)

ARTCR-GE 2151 History of Art Since 1945 (3 Credits)

Typically offered Fall

Study of painting & sculpture in America in 1945 to the present with background information concerning development of styles & movements in art in the 20th century. Lectures, discussions, slides, gallery & museum visits.

Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

ARTCR-GE 2235 History of Contemporary Art and New Media (4 Credits)

Typically offered Spring

This course surveys developments in contemporary visual arts since the '60s, from Conceptual Art to Land Art and Art and Activism through to Globalism of the '90s and early 2000s, including developments in performance art, dance, film, photography, and new media in the history of the arts.

Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

ARTCR-GE 2450 Art and Ideas (3-6 Credits)

Typically offered Summer term

This course considers the history and possibilities of imagining and representing the Other and the Unknown. It is centered on the close study of films, texts and media, including Yermek Shinarbaev's *Revenge*, on the Korean diaspora in central Asia; Susana Aikin's *The Salt Mines*; Kpop; and texts drawn from critical theory, fiction, and the news.

Through experimentations with various media, ranging from writing and storytelling to films and diagrams, students are asked to find ways to bring the unknown to the realm of the familiar, while questioning the merits of this practice.

Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

ARTCR-GE 2451 Art and Ideas: What is Social Practice Art? (3 Credits)

Typically offered occasionally

One common trait of experimental modernist and contemporary art is the pressure it exerts on conventional ideas about what art is and what it can do. This research seminar will address some of the many forms this redefinition has taken, combining art historical methods with approaches drawn from critical aesthetics and curatorial theory. Whenever possible, we will meet directly with artists, conduct site visits, and utilize NYU's extensive archives.

Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

ARTCR-GE 2459 Art & Ideas: What is Social Practice Art? (3-6 Credits)

Typically offered Fall

This course explores the burgeoning field of social practice art. Today artists working in the field of social practice focus on aesthetics, ethics, collaboration, media strategies, & social activism as central issues that inform their artworks & projects that are designed for public & social spaces. In the United States, visual art that engaged the public directly began in the late 1950s & coincided with the local "decentralization" efforts that, in the arts, resulted in community-based art practices that envisioned the public as diverse, socially-engaged, & contributed to an expansive aesthetic consciousness. Understanding this history contextualizes social practice art & allows us to interrogate the ways artists blur the lines between object making, performance, activism, grass roots organizing & pedagogy.

Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

ARTCR-GE 2461 Art & Ideas: Art & the Practice of Freedom (3 Credits)

Typically offered Spring

This class will seek to interrogate the categories of art & activism by looking closely at the following efforts: Occupy Wall Street movement, Gulf Labor Coalition & Global Ultra Luxury Faction (G.U.L.F.), the direct action wing of Gulf Labor Coalition, & the Direct Action Front for Palestine-NYC & Black Lives Matter. These case studies will sketch the possibility of a practice in which artist's work does not simply add an artistic flair to this or that campaign, but rather theory and research, action & aesthetics, debriefing & analysis. Close readings of texts and visual materials form the core of the class supplemented with field trips, & special guests.

Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

ARTCR-GE 2802 Art Theory and Criticism II (4 Credits)

Typically offered Fall

This class surveys theories of contemporary art from the 1970s to the present. Class meetings provide an overview of the parallel appearance of new art forms and the critical theories associated with them. Areas to be explored include contemporary media culture, the politics of the image and identity, social constructions, memory and history as these relate to art theory and criticism.

Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

ARTCR-GE 2803 Theories of Art and Culture (4 Credits)

Typically offered occasionally

This seminar consists of readings, writings, and discussion. The course is divided into weekly units covering theories and philosophies relating to art and new media, as well as geo- and spatial politics, social justice, literature, environment, race, gender, and other topics. The course bibliography is tailored specifically to current MFA students and their art practices. Readings span a range of historical periods, with emphasis on how these texts relate to the contemporary moment, exposing students to both canonical and new ideas in art and theory.

Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: Yes

ARTCR-GE 2804 Art Criticism II (4 Credits)

Typically offered Spring

A wide range of contemporary visual & critical methodologies used in art criticism are explored, along with an extensive evaluation of writing techniques from a variety of sources including major international newspapers, journals, books, & on-line & print art publications.

Grading: Grad Steinhardt Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: Yes