

ART 181N: Contemporary Practices: Artists in Los Angeles
Spring Semester 2020
Wednesday 4:15–6:30pm, Lang 221
Melanie Nakaue, Visiting Assistant Professor
email: mnakaue@scrippscollege.edu
Office Hours: MW, 9-10am by appointment only

Course Addendum 3/23/20 **Please read

Due to extenuating circumstances, our course format has changed. We will be finishing the semester with a combination of asynchronous learning.

To accommodate all student schedules, I have decided to have all of the content for this course available to you via Sakai week by week.

The second half of our semester attempts to thematically relate to our current events and our role as cultural producers and consumers.

Please note that a few things have changed *check out the changes & instructions in the syllabus***:**

1. Weekly reading response papers and forum posts are now required, to replace our in class dialogue and class participation.

2. Artist Presentation & Paper: If you have yet to present your artist to class, you will record a Zoom video of your presentation (screenshare) and drop the file or link in the "Artist Presentation" folder via BOX. You will upload your paper to the "Artist Presentation" link via Sakai.

3. Collaborative Poster Design: If your group has not yet designed a poster, please pick one of the artists that lectured in our class this semester. The poster will be due on 4/29.

4. Final Project & Art Review: I have omitted the Art Review assignment in favor of a more hands on project, and changed the final project requirements.

***See syllabus.

I look forward to continuing our dialogue this semester!

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Course Description:

Contemporary Practices: Artists in Los Angeles is an upper-division course that provides an in-depth look at the history and methodologies underlying contemporary art practices of artists and designers based in Los Angeles, CA.

The course will consist of: visiting artist lectures and workshops, readings, group and individual studio projects and written assignments. The goal of this course is for students to contextualize contemporary practices of artists and designers in Los Angeles to important theories and movements within contemporary art.

Course objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Examine the history of art and design with a historical and critical context.
2. Clearly articulate their ideas through the use of studio projects, written assignments, and oral presentations.
3. Understand the diverse, divergent creative practices of artists and designers living in Los Angeles.

Assignment Criteria

- You will be required to put in a minimum of 5 hours of work outside of class.
- Late assignments are not accepted.
- Cited work must include a bibliography.
- All written assignments will be submitted through Sakai only.

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Grades:

Assignments & Projects = 80%

Attendance= 15%

Participation=5%

Note: If you are more than 10 minutes late to class, you will be counted absent.

Three unexcused absences will drop your grade by one letter. Absences will be excused if followed by a doctor's note.

Project Grades

"A" (90-100)- Performance of the student has been at the highest level, showing sustained excellence in meeting all course requirements and exhibiting an unusual degree of intellectual initiative.

"B" (80-89)- Performance of the student has been at a high level, showing consistent and effective achievement in meeting course requirements.

"C" (70-79) - Performance of the student has been at an adequate level, meeting the basic requirements of the course.

"D" (60-69) - Performance of the student has been less than adequate, meeting only the minimum course requirements.

"F" (0-59) - Performance of the student has been such that minimal course requirements have not been met.

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Weekly Assignments

Reading Responses

This is your opportunity to react and comment on the readings due each week. In a one to two page paper, you will synthesize and analyze concepts from previous readings/materials in class. Reading Responses must be submitted via Sakai each week.

Forum Posts

Every week, you will be required to post on the question(s) or prompt found on our class Sakai Forum. Your in class participation will be graded based upon your participation in our class forum each week! Be prepared to engage!

Course Projects ****UPDATED****

1. Collaborative Poster Design: Using analog or digital media, collaborate with other students in your group to create one poster design for one visiting artist lecture in Art 181. **Due 4/29**

2. Artist Presentation & paper: Create a 7 min keynote presentation on one artist from the list provided. Present your artist to class via a recorded Zoom presentation. Submit a 3-5 page paper on your chosen artist. Your paper must reference at least one of the readings from the syllabus. ***UPDATED** IF YOU HAVE NOT PRESENTED YOUR ARTIST: Upload your paper to the Artist Presentation link in the "Assignments" section in Sakai and upload the link to your artist presentation to our class Drop folder via BOX by 4/29.**

3. Representing Time

How do we document ourselves, and our world? **Using only digital mediums, create a work of art that focuses exploring the formal and conceptual structure of time. Upload your piece to the "Representing Time" drop folder on BOX by 4/22.**

4. Relational Aesthetics/Social Practice Project:

For this assignment, you will be required to create your own unique relational aesthetics/social practice art project. **Upload your piece to the "Final Project" folder via BOX by 5/6.**

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Accommodations

Scripps students seeking to register to receive academic accommodations must contact Academic Resources and Services (ARS) at ars@scrippscollege.edu to formalize accommodations. Students will be required to submit documentation and meet with a staff member before being approved for accommodations. Once ARS has authorized academic accommodations, a formal notification will be sent out.

A student's home campus is responsible for establishing and providing accommodations. If you are not a Scripps student, you must contact your home institution to establish accommodations. Below is a list of coordinators on the other campuses:

- CMC – Kari Rood, Kari.Rood@ClaremontMcKenna.edu
- Harvey Mudd – Brandon Ice, bice@g.hmc.edu
- Pitzer- Gabriella Tempestoso, gabriella_tempestoso@pitzer.edu
- Pomona - Jan Collins-Eaglin, Jan.Collins-Eaglin@pomona.edu

In addition, if you have accommodations you must see me during the first week of class.

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Modified Course Schedule (Please note: Calendar is subject to change; it is the student's responsibility to keep up with the current schedule.)

Week	Date	Topics	Assignments
11	Wednesday, 4/1/20	Art In the Age of a Global Pandemic: How are you doing?	<p>-read : <u>"In Times of Crisis, Is Art a Salve or a Distraction?"</u> <u>- "How Art Deals with Disaster, from Guernica to the climate crisis"</u></p> <p>Watch: <u>How art can soothe us in times of crisis</u></p> <p>Visit: Online exhibition <u>HOW CAN WE THINK OF ART AT A TIME LIKE THIS</u></p> <p>-Reading Response over readings due 4/8 via Sakai</p> <p>-Forum post via Sakai due by 4/8</p>

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12	Wednesday, 4/8/20	"Identity"	<p>-read: Chapter 2 in <u>Themes of Contemporary Art</u></p> <p>-reading response on this week's readings due 4/15 via Sakai</p> <p>-Forum post via Sakai</p> <p>-watch: <u>Art: 21 on Jes Fang</u></p>
13	Wednesday, 4/15/20	<p>Time</p> <p>-Representing Time Assignment</p>	<p>-Representing Time Assignment due 4/22 (upload to the "Representing Time" folder via BOX)</p> <p>-watch: <u>Art: 21 Stephanie Syjuco</u></p> <p>-Forum post via Sakai</p>
14	Wednesday, 4/22/20	<p>Relational Aesthetics & Social Practice</p> <p>-Social Practice (Final Project)</p>	<p>-read: selections from <u>Relational Aesthetics</u></p> <p>-<u>"we need to talk about social practice"</u></p> <p>-Forum post via Sakai</p> <p>-Reading Response over reading this week due 4/29 via Sakai</p>
15	Wednesday, 4/29/20	Artist Presentations due via Zoom	-Forum post via Sakai

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16	Wednesday, 5/6/20	Last Day of Class: Social Practice Final Project due *No work accepted after this date*	-Forum post via Sakai
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Important Dates:

April 6, 2020: Last Day to drop classes without academic penalty

May 6, 2020 : Last Class Day of Spring Semester

Selected Course Bibliography

(All readings will be available via Sakai)

Abreu, Manuel Arturo. "We Need to Talk About Social Practice." *Art Practical*. Art Practical, March 6, 2019. <https://www.artpractical.com/column/we-need-to-talk-about-social-practice/>.

Bourriaud, Nicolas. *Nicolas Bourriaud: Relational Aesthetics*. Paris: Les Presses du réel, 2002.

Charlesworth, JJ. "How Art Deals with Disaster, from Guernica to the Climate Crisis." CNN. Cable News Network, July 29, 2019. <https://www.cnn.com/style/article/art-dealing-with-disaster/index.html>.

Robertson, Jean, and Craig McDaniel. *Themes of Contemporary Art: Visual Art after 1980*. Oxford University Press, 2017.

Stiles, Kristine, and Peter Selz. *Theories and Documents of Contemporary Art: a Sourcebook of Artists Writings*. University of California Press, 2012.

"In Times of Crisis, Is Art a Salve or a Distraction?" *Frieze*. <https://frieze.com/article/times-crisis-art-salve-or-distraction>.

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Artist List

Cathie Opie
John Baldessari
Ed Ruscha
Kehinde Wiley
Mike Kelley
Liz Craft
Ricky Swallow
Lauren Halsey
Jacolby Satterwhite
Claudia Hart
Charles Gaines
Michael Asher
Diana Thater
Liz Larner
James Welling
Andrea Bowers
Mary Kelly
Wangechi Mutu
Mary Reid Kelly & Patrick Kelly
Mickalene Thomas
Bill Viola

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