

The University of Western Ontario
Department of Visual Arts
Fall 2017

VAH 9561A/9661A: Race & Gender in the Americas

Tuesday 11:30-2:30 — VAC 148

Professor:

C. Cody Barteet

Office: VAC Room 222

Email: cbarteet@uwo.ca

Phone: (519) 661-2111 ex. 86199

Office Hours: Wednesday 10:00-11:00 and Thursday 1:00-2:00 or by appointment

Graduate Course Description:

Overview: This course will explore how the visual arts were used to document and present racial and gender concerns during the pre-modern era in South and North America. For context, we will begin by establishing a theoretical framework for exploring gender and race for the course. Next we will examine specific studies, beginning with conceptions of gender and race among some pre-contact indigenous cultures in comparison to select European cultural traditions. From here will shift our focus to the colonial era by considering the cultural conceptions and the stereotypes developed about colonial peoples, whether European, indigenous, or African. As such we will be considering how women, Amerindians, and African peoples were represented and impacted pre-modern art production in the colonial Americas, whether as subjects, creators, patrons, and so forth. We will examine each of these roles in this course.

Learning Outcomes:

This course is designed to assist you in:

- gaining a broader understanding of art within its diverse cultural and historical contexts.
- developing the ability to communicate orally and in writing the knowledge you have acquired pertaining to Visual Culture.

Textbook:

There is no required text for this course. Readings will be available on WebCT.

Grade Distribution:

Attendance & Participation:	15%
Class Facilitation:	20%
Assignment 1:	20%
Assignment 2:	20%
<u>Assignment 3:</u>	<u>25%</u>
Total:	100%

General Course Policies:

1. Syllabi and other relevant course information will be posted online.
2. Late Assignments: Students are expected to complete all assignments on time. Assignments are considered late after the start of class the day they are due. Extensions will be given *only* upon official notification from the student's faculty advisor documenting serious health and bereavement reasons. All other late essays are subject to a 10% penalty per day.
3. Attendance of lectures is required and will be monitored.
 - a. Students are expected to attend all class sessions and be prepared for and participate in all lectures, discussions, and/or critiques.
 - b. Students who miss less than 3 classes are not required to seek accommodations for their absences from either the lecture. For subsequent absences students will need to seek accommodations.
 - c. Under Western's regulations, if a student misses 15% of their classes, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, they can be debarred from participation in final tests, evaluations and/or critiques.
 - d. If a student is consistently absent from a three-hour class for one hour, they will exceed the 15% cut off.
 - e. It is the student's responsibility to notify me that you are tardy; otherwise the student may be marked absent.
4. If assigned, online participation is mandatory and assessed (see Assignments below for more details).
5. Emails:
 - a. Assignments will not be accepted through email.
 - b. Grades will not be discussed through email.
 - c. Be sure to keep emails brief and to the point and use standard formatting. Do not use short form or abbreviated expressions.
 - d. Be sure to identify your name and contact information in the email.
 - e. I will make every effort to reply to your email within one to two business days.
 - i. As I have other professional and personal responsibilities I typically respond to email Monday through Friday during normal "business hours."
 - ii. By all means, if you have not heard from me within two business days, do email me again.
 - f. Only your assigned Western email will be used for communication in this class.
 - i. If your Western email is not your primary email address, please have your Western email forwarded to your primary address, whether it is Gmail, Outlook, etc.
 - ii. For general instructions on how to set up email forwarding, see http://www.uwo.ca/its/email/account/email_forwarding.html
6. At times students may be required to attend relevant lectures and/or technical demonstrations. Failure to attend an important demonstration or lecture without due cause will result in the student researching the technical information for themselves.
7. Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and 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 the Department of Visual Arts' and Western's policies regarding plagiarism. For information concerning Western's Plagiarism and Academic Offenses (Scholastic Offences) policies see <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017>.

8. Electronic Devices: You may use a computer in class to take notes. All other activities (e.g. checking email or social media sites, etc.) are discouraged, as this can be distracting to your fellow students and myself.
 - a. Students should turn off all cell phones and similar electronic devices while in the classroom, as ringing and/or vibrating phones are extremely bothersome and distracting.
 - b. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination.
 - c. Unless I provide it, you do not have my permission to use electronic devices to record (sound or video) my lectures, nor to live stream or blog my lectures. Aside from intellectual property concerns, such activities can be distracting and disruptive to foster a participatory learning environment.
9. Accommodation for Medical Illness: "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 Counseling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department."
 - a. Accommodation for missed assignments totaling less than 10%, due to medical reasons, may be arranged with the instructor as long as the student contacts the instructor no later than the day after the assignment is due.
 - b. This accommodation policy excludes the course's attendance and participation marks. The instructor will NOT make considerations on attendance and participation marks, whether totaling more than 10% or less than 10%, unless the student has arranged accommodation through their Dean's Office.
 - c. For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html
 - i. For downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC); see Medical Documentation heading
10. Mental Health: "Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help."
11. Disabled Student Policy: For Western's Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities see <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017> "In its efforts to accommodate disabilities appropriately, the approach adopted by the University is collaborative, involving the student requesting the accommodation, the instructor, department (or school or program where applicable), and/or Faculty which provides the accommodation, and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in the Student Development Centre which coordinates the request for and provision of accommodation."
12. Student Absences on Religious Holy Days: For purposes of this policy "the University has approved a list of dates which are recognized religious holidays which require members of those religions to be absent from the University; this list is updated annually and is available at departmental, Deans' and Faculty advising Offices." For Western's Policy on Religious Holidays see <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017>

13. All students will conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the Code of Student Conduct and treat all members of the Western community with respect (<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017>)
14. Enrollment in the course constitutes an agreement to participate in class (both in the classroom and online) and to take complete all assignments.

Participation, Current Topics Assignments, Papers:

Class Participation:

Class Participation is vital to this class. Participation also includes reading each day's assigned texts, asking insightful questions, and contributing to class in a positive way. Therefore, you will be required to read for each class. You are expected to have read all assigned materials prior to each class period and to be prepared to participate in any class discussions. Likewise, we will begin each class addressing a few **headlines** relating to events or news that have occurred since our last meeting, with regards to race and gender studies. This brief discussion is meant to inspire a recognition and application of theory to contemporary events and culture.

No single portion (attendance, discussion questions, etc.) determines your overall participation grade.

Class Facilitation:

During the semester two students will be responsible for guiding class discussion. You will be required to work together to review the readings and devise a strategy for guiding the class through class discussion and analysis of the material. You can do this through activities, micro discussions, extra materials and forth. This provides an opportunity to expand the content of the course's readings and thematic. Related to this, all course participants are required to participate and this engagement will be reflected in your overall participation grade.

Facilitators must email me 24 hours in advance indicating what their plan is for the following class.

Papers:

Each of you will write three papers. All the texts on the syllabus are available for use in any assignment, but no text may be substantively employed in more than one assignment. Please use Chicago Manual of Style to document your research (formatting: 1" page margins, doubled-spaced, and standard script at 10 to 12 point font).

Assignment 1: Terminology: Choose a term of importance relating to the class's topic (i.e. "other," critical race theory, intersectionality, docility, domesticity, post-colonial, etc.) and analyze how it is employed across two more disciplines.

Due: Oct. 17

Assignment 2: Book review: each of you will write a short book review (approximately 2000 words) on a text related to the course. **Due: Nov 14**

Assignment 3: Open research topics. **Due: Dec. 5**

Planned Course Outline:

(I reserve the right to make changes to this outline throughout the term. Should a change involve rescheduling a test or an assignment, you will be given at least one in advance.)

A full list of the weekly reading assignments can be found on Owl