Western Arts&Humanities

Visual Arts

Art History

COLD WAR ART & POLITICS

AH 3642F – Fall 2021 course outline

Wadsworth Jarrell, *Revolutionary (Angela Davis),* 1971

Professor Sarah Bassnett
Contact: OWL message or email sarah.bassnett@uwo.ca
Office hours – Tuesdays 2 – 2:30 pm online via zoom
Class time: asynchronous online course

COURSE DESCRIPTION

By the time the United States and the Soviet Union emerged as superpowers after the Second World War, the utopian dreams of pre-war modernism had shattered. Artists, intellectuals, and other cultural practitioners, struggling to come to terms with the horrors of the war and the threat of nuclear annihilation, explored alternate visions. Taking a thematic approach, this course examines art and exhibitions of the Cold War (1947-1991) in Europe and North America in relation to the social and political context of the period. We consider major movements in art, alongside the issues that influenced them: abstract expressionism and individualism versus collectivism; international exhibitions and cultural diplomacy; pop art and the rise of mass consumerism; conceptual art, performance, and political movements; appropriation and the growth of corporate culture, and more. This is an asynchronous online course.

Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton (Neutral) peoples.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- explain the relation between key artistic movements of the period 1947-91 and the social and political context of the Cold War
- describe and analyze the formal properties of a range of art works using appropriate terminology and discuss artworks in relation to stylistic movements
- analyze the role of cultural diplomacy during the Cold War
- conduct research using library resources, including books and databases, and use the sources effectively in an academic essay
- articulate an argument in writing, support the argument using appropriate evidence, and address counter arguments
- participate constructively in online discussions and respond respectfully to the views of others

PREREQUISITE / ANTI-REQUISITE

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 from Art History 1640 or two of Art History 1641A/B-1648A/B, or the former VAH 1040 or two of the former VAH 1041A/B–1045A/B, or permission of the Department.

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Technical Requirements

Stable internet connection

Laptop or computer with microphone and speakers (camera optional)

For technical assistance, check the OWL Help page or contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. Phone 519-661-3800.

Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to use for OWL.

All course material will be posted to OWL: http://owl.uwo.ca. Any changes will be announced on the OWL site.

The last day to drop this course without academic penalty is **November 12, 2021**.

ASSESSMENTS

DUE DATES & GRADING

Assignment	Due date	Grading
Participation	Weekly	10%
Quizzes on readings	Weekly	10%
Written assignments based on lectures	Oct 10 @ 5 pm Nov 21 @ 5 pm	15% x 2 = 30%
Interpretive label presentation	Dec 1 @ 5 pm	15%
Research essay	Dec 8 @ 5 pm	35%

PARTICIPATION 10% (weekly)
The participation portion of your grade will be based your contributions to online discussions and activities. Please note that even though the course is asynchronous, there is a weekly schedule. You are expected to complete course work on a weekly basis, and this includes contributions to online discussions. We will use VoiceThread for our discussions.

QUIZZES ON READINGS – 10% (weekly)
Quizzes on the assigned readings are in OWL. Most weeks, there is one reading and one quiz; however, there are two readings with two quizzes for week 4. Each quiz has five questions. Use these quizzes to help guide your reading and for some feedback on how well you are understanding the material. Any quiz that is not completed on time (within the week it is assigned) will receive a grade of 0. If a student has academic accommodation for more than one week, the missed quiz will be given the average grade of the completed quizzes.

RESEARCH PROJECT – interpretive label presentation 15%, and final essay 35%
For this assignment, select one of the questions from the supplied list. This will be the basis for your interpretive label and your final essay.

Interpretive label presentation
Select one artwork by the artist you are researching for your final essay. Write a 150-word interpretive label for the work. Your didactic should include all the relevant identifying information (artist, title, date, materials, collection), and it should help viewers engage with the artwork. In your presentation, explain your choice of artwork, read your interpretive label, and discuss what you focused on and why. Presentations should be approximately 5-10 minutes. Create and narrate your presentation using power point or another presentation software, and upload your presentation to VoiceThread.

Essay:
Your final essay should be approximately 8 pages / 2000 words. Select one of the questions from the supplied list and address it in your final essay. Your thesis will be your answer to the question. If you would like to propose your own question, you are required to send it to me for approval by October 27. You should use at least five published sources for your research. Include a bibliography at the end of your paper. Your bibliography may include books, journal articles, and exhibition catalogues. (Reputable websites can be used, but they do not count towards the five sources). Include any images that are important for your argument. Submit the research essay as a Word document or PDF in the Assignments section of OWL.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS 15% x 2 + 30%
There are two written assignments based on the weekly lecture videos. They are comprised of short answer and essay questions based on the weekly learning outcomes. You will have approximately one week to complete them, in addition to the other work assigned for that week. In the rare case where a student has academic accommodation for more than one week, the value of the missed mid-term assignment will be reweighted to the final assignment. In the case of a missed final assignment, where a student has academic accommodation for more than one week, a make-up assignment will be provided.

POLICIES ON LATE OR MISSED ASSESSMENTS
Extensions, granted for valid reasons, must be negotiated before assignments are due. Late assignments will be penalized by 5% each day. Exceptions to the late penalties are outlined below under academic consideration.

Academic Consideration:
The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by extenuating circumstances, including short-term illness or injury. Reasonable academic consideration is a cooperative process between the University, the student, and academic staff. All participants in the process must act in good faith, and fulfil their respective obligations, if it is to succeed.

Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements, may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

a. Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form, provided that the conditions for submission are met;
b. For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or
c. For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration, in order to be eligible for academic consideration.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- Are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;
- Are encouraged to make appropriate decisions, based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (e.g., upset stomach) or upsets (e.g., argument with a friend) are not normally an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;
- **Must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence;
- **Are advised that all necessary documentation, forms, etc. are to be submitted to academic counselling within two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities**
- Late assessments without a self-reported absence or appropriate documentation will be subject to a late penalty of 5% per day

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less. The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

a. Students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April, and one self-reported absence between May and August;
b. The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30pm;
c. The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48-hour period, should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (e.g., write a test, submit a paper) during that time;
d. The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30am on the day following the last day of classes each semester, regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;
e. Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations
f. Self-reporting may not be used for assessments (e.g., midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course;
g. Students must be in touch with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed.
h. Late assessments with a self-reported absence should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last absence

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All work for the course MUST be entirely your own. All sources that you use for your assignments must be accurately cited. If you have doubts about how and when to cite sources, it is better to err on the side of caution. Consult the academic integrity lesson on OWL and / or consult with me before assignment due dates. All course work must be completed specifically for this course. Submitting the same work for credit in more than one course is considered cheating. Plagiarism and cheating are very serious academic offences and they will be dealt with strictly. Plagiarism includes:

1. Quoting verbatim or almost verbatim from any source, including all electronic sources, without acknowledgement;
2. Adopting someone else's line of thought, argument, or supporting evidence without acknowledgement;
3. Submitting someone else's work, in any form, without acknowledgement;
4. Knowingly representing another person's idea as one's own.

For information concerning Western's Plagiarism and Academic Offences (Scholastic Offences) policies see: www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html#

All assignments are subject to review through plagiarism detection software. The University uses Turnitin.com for this purpose. Turnitin is an anti-plagiarism tool that screens assignments against a database of the Internet, e-journals, e-books, and a range of other scanned material, including other assignments for this course. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system.

CITATION STYLE

The Chicago Manual of Style, Humanities format, is the standard style for art history. Use this style to cite your sources for your research paper and other assignments. Please refer to the guide in OWL and the Library website for examples: http://www.lib.uwo.ca/services/styleguides.html.

POLICIES & CONDUCT

Student Conduct
Students will conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/code_of_conduct.pdf

I am committed to fostering a class environment that is comfortable for all students, especially those from marginalized or underrepresented backgrounds. These core values include using preferred gender pronouns and human-centred language, which convey respect for people's diverse experiences. We do not always have to agree with one another; however, everyone is expected to show respect for the views of other people. Behaviour that is disruptive or discriminatory will not be tolerated.

Academic Sanctions
In instances of non-payment of prescribed tuition and other fees, the University shall seal the academic record. When an academic record is sealed, the student will not be able to: a) view grades; b) register in future courses; c) receive transcripts or a degree diploma; d) obtain admission or readmission. The above prohibitions shall be in force until such time as indebtedness to the University, including payment of fee for removal of the seal, has been cleared to the satisfaction of the University.
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&Keywords=academic%20sanctions&SubHeadingID=169&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_169

Additional Course Material Request Policy
For online courses the material may be presented in a variety of ways at the instructor's discretion. Requests for additional material can only be made in cases necessitating academic accommodation. If a student requires Academic Accommodation for the course material, they can contact Western's Academic Support & Engagement department. http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/

Academic Accommodation
For Western's complete Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities see http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg118.html. Please talk to me during the first few weeks of the course if you require accommodation in course requirements or scheduling due to a disability. Please visit the Student Development Centre for assistance with a disability. Students who want to request academic accommodation must register with the Centre, meet with a counselor, and provide appropriate documentation of a disability. See http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/ for more information.

Religious Accommodation
Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

Professionalism & Privacy

In addition to following the Student Code of Conduct Western students are expected to adhere to the following expectations of professional conduct:

☒ Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations

☒ All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared

☒ Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission

☒ Permitted recordings are not to be distributed

☒ Students will be expected to uphold academic integrity standards

☒ All recorded sessions will remain within the course site or unlisted if streamed

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement
Course material is copyrighted and using this material for any purposes other than your own education contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings. Do not post course material on any websites or platforms.

RESOURCES

Office Hours / Email
Office hours will be held on Zoom. Please see me during my office hours if you are having difficulty with any aspect of the course, including readings or assignments. If you cannot make it during office hours, arrange an appointment or contact me by email. I will make every effort to reply to email within one to two business days. As I have other professional and personal responsibilities, I typically respond to email Monday through Friday during normal business hours.

Support Services
There are numerous support services designed to assist students with the challenges of university. Please see the Student Development Centre web site for a description of the full array of services: http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/.
Learning Skills Services offers one-on-one assistance with academic issues: http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/learning/.
Other services include Student Health Services http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html, the Registrar's Office http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/ and the Ombuds Office -- http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/.

Health and Wellness
Western offers a variety of counselling services and several mental health resources for students. If you or a friend are feeling overwhelmed, confused or unsure of your mental health state, please don't ignore it. There are steps you can take to help yourself or help others. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre. Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at http://www.health.uwo.ca/.

If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health Support at Western http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. For immediate help in the event of a crisis call 519.661.3030 (during class hours) or 519.433.2023 after class hours and on weekends.

Gender Neutral Bathrooms:
There are two gender neutral bathrooms in the JLVAC. One is located in the Artlab and is open only during Artlab hours. A second single stall gender neutral bathroom can be found on the third floor of the JLVAC. Here is the full list of inclusive washrooms at UWO: http://www.uwo.ca/equity/doc/inclusive_washrooms.pdf.
Please contact the Media Lab Technician, Jennifer Slauenwhite (jslauen@uwo.ca), for card access to the elevator and stairs if you need the 3rd floor gender neutral/accessible washroom for the academic year.

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VISUAL ARTS Art History/Museum and Curatorial studies Grade Descriptors

90-100 (Outstanding, A+) The writing shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated synthesis and analysis of the theoretical and conceptual dimensions of the topic are demonstrated. Mastery of complex material and ideas is immediately evident. The topic is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background research is exemplary. Regarding research, all major secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted and proper citation has been used.

80-89 (Excellent, A) The writing shows originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Writing is probing through the use of comments and/or questions, and is clearly focused and logically organized. The quality of writing immediately engages the reader. Mastery of complex materials and ideas is demonstrated. The writing is of appropriate length, and demonstrates mastery of techniques so that results are meaningful and not simplistic. Regarding research, a majority of the secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted and proper citation has been used.

75-79 (Very Good, B+) The writing shows above average analysis, critical thinking and independent thought. Written claims are supported by ample evidence and the components of the topic are well-researched and presented. The work is addressed in reasonable depth and/or breadth and covers material appropriate to the course. Written analysis is organized around focal points and the development of the argument is easily followed. The writer demonstrates an above average ability to write in an intelligible style and to condense material meaningfully and with a concern for priorities of that material. Regarding research, a representative selection of secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted and proper citation has been used.

70-74 (Good, B) The writing shows a satisfactory attempt at analysis and critical thinking. Written claims are supported by reasonable evidence. The work is addressed in some depth and/or breadth, with references to the appropriate literature and course material. Written analysis is organized around focal points. The text is generally well written and well argued. Regarding research, a somewhat limited selection of secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted and proper citation has been used.

60-69 (Competent, C) The writing demonstrates adequate engagement with the topic. The writing is on topic and is a reasonable response to material covered in the course, but goes no further. Written facts are stated accurately; the quality of writing is sufficiently intelligible with enough elaboration and enough connections made between ideas to permit a reader to understand the point of the text. Regarding research, an insufficient number of secondary sources pertaining to the topic has been consulted but proper citation has been used.

50-59 (Marginal, D) The writing shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The writing is a less than adequate summary of sources and/or is considerably off-topic. Written facts are stated inaccurately or ambiguously; the writing style is difficult to follow; there is insufficient elaboration to permit reader's comprehension of relations among ideas; little judgment is shown in selecting detail for inclusion in the text. Regarding research, few secondary sources pertaining to the topic have been consulted; proper citation may or may not have been used.

Below 50 (Unacceptable, F) The writing demonstrates a failure to comprehend the topic. Written material is disorganized and unintelligible. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Regarding research, secondary sources pertaining to the topic have not been consulted and proper citation has not been used.