

Western University
Department of Visual Arts

I acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Neutral peoples, on lands connected to several Treaties including Treaty 6 London Township, Treaty 7 Sombra Township, Treaty 21 Longwoods and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. This place continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples who are recognized as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors to society.

AH1642B

Art and Visual Culture: Baroque to Contemporary

Winter 2021

Professor: C. Sprengler
Email: csprengl@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistants
TBC

Course Description

This course introduces students to the complex relationships between visual culture and historical events, social movements, and political forces from the 17th century to the present. We will take a chronological approach that emphasizes the cultural contexts of the artistic practices surveyed and considers how certain intellectual contexts gave rise to specific conceptions of power and uses of history. As such, we will also pay close attention to the philosophical, religious, political and scientific forces that led to significant cultural shifts and shaped the character of artistic periods.

Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to help students develop the following:

- knowledge about artistic and visual cultural production within a series of diverse historical contexts
- understanding of the issues and debates pertaining to the study of art and visual culture

- familiarity with the terminology, stylistic classifications and methodologies employed in the study of art and visual culture
- the ability to communicate in written form the knowledge acquired about art and visual culture in relation to questions of history and power

Evaluation

Project: 30%

Date: February 12, 2021

Forum Posts: 30%

Due: Various (weekly schedule)

Final (“Take Home”) Exam: 40%

Date: Scheduled during the April examination period.

General Course Policies

1. Late Assignments: Students are expected to complete all assignments on time. Extensions will be given *only* upon official notification from the student’s faculty advisor documenting bereavement or serious health issues. All other late assignments are subject to a 10% penalty per day.
2. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. For information concerning UWO’s Plagiarism and Academic Offenses (Scholastic Offences) consult the Western Academic Calendar.
3. Emails:
 - a. Assignments will not be accepted through email.
 - b. Be sure to keep emails brief and to the point and use standard formatting.
 - c. Be sure to identify your name and contact information in the email.
 - d. I will make every effort to reply to your email within two business days.
4. I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus throughout the term. Should a change be required, you will be given prior notice.
5. All students will conduct themselves online in a manner consistent with the Code of Student Conduct and treat all members of the University community with respect.