

California University of Pennsylvania
Guidelines for New Course Proposals
University Course Syllabus
Approved: 2/4/13

Department of Art and Design

A. Protocol

Course Name: Critical Writing in Art
Course Number: ART 388
Credits: 3
Prerequisites: None
Maximum Class Size (face-to-face): 22
Maximum Class Size (online): N/A
(Choose which one is appropriate or both if applicable)

B. Objectives of the Course:

Students will be able to:

1. think critically, reflect on and assess art and design.
2. evaluate various forms of visual art and design.
3. construct and enrich their own personal theory of art and design based on research from current visual art and design: history, art criticism and aesthetics.
4. recognize and apply knowledge of developmental visual thinking and learning as it relates to making and 'reading' visual art and design for audiences of all ages and visual backgrounds.

C. Catalog Description:

This writing intensive course for Art and Design students prepares them for life as a professional artist or designer. Through analysis, deconstruction and personal investigation, students will develop necessary skills in writing about art and design.

D. Outline of the Course:

Through lecture, discussion, and multiple forms of examples, demonstration, and practice, the course content will cover the following essential issues:

1. Written responses to relevant contemporary visual art and design issues.
2. Visual art and design assessment strategies
3. Advocating and educating public awareness of the imperative value of visual art and design
4. How to deconstruct: art production; historical art context; critical and aesthetic response
5. Grant writing for the visual arts and design

E. Teaching Methodology:

Traditional Classroom Methodology

Students will learn from: teacher-led discussions, small and large group work, individual research using brick-and-mortar and internet-based library/research resources, hands-on experiences in art and design processes, and time permitting, site visits to visual art and design resources such as (but not limited to): museums, galleries, places of public art, etc.

Online Methodology

N/A

F. Text

No single text. This course will utilize a variety of diverse written resources such as, but not limited to: Art Education Research Studies; the Art Bulletin; Journal of Education and the Arts; the Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts; Artforum; CMYK; PRINT; etc.

G. Assessment Activities:

Traditional Classroom Assessment

Students will be assessed using exams, quizzes, homework assignments, individual and group assignments.

Students will be required to write a 20-page report during the semester. They will submit thesis statements, paper outlines, and full-length drafts of the paper prior to formulating their final report. At each stage of the writing process, the students will receive feedback from the instructor and they will have the opportunity to revise their work.

H. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities:

- Reserve the right to decide when to self-identify and when to request accommodations.
- Will register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) each semester to receive accommodations.
- Might be required to communicate with faculty for accommodations, which specifically involve the faculty.
- Will present the OSD Accommodation Approval Notice to faculty when requesting accommodations that involve the faculty.

Requests for approval for reasonable accommodations should be directed to the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Approved accommodations will be recorded on the OSD Accommodation Approval notice and provided to the student. Students are expected to adhere to OSD procedures for self-identifying, providing documentation and requesting accommodations in a timely manner.

Contact Information:

- Location: Azorsky Hall – Room 105
- Phone: (724) 938-5781
- Fax: (724) 938-4599
- Email: osdmail@calu.edu
- Web Site: <http://www.calu.edu/current-students/student-services/disability/index.htm>

I. Supportive Instructional Materials, e.g. library materials, web sites, etc.

Examples such as but not limited to hard and digital sources of current and relevant discipline-respected visual art and/or design journals, current texts, and multi-media.

J. Proposed Instructors:

Any qualified faculty member from the Department of Art and Design

K. Rationale for the Course:

This course will formally add a unique critical assessment piece to the body of knowledge needed in creative academic visual art and design programs.

L. Specialized Equipment or Supplies Needed:

No specialized equipment is necessary.

M. Answer the following questions using complete sentences:

1. Does the course require additional human resources? (Please explain)
This course will not require additional human resources.
2. Does the course require additional physical resources? (Please explain)
No additional physical resources are necessary for this course.
3. Does the course change the requirements in any particular major?
(Please explain)
All Art Education students in the Art and Design Department along with all students majoring in Art and in Fine Arts will be required to take this course as well as those wanting to teach workshops.
4. Does the course replace an existing course in your program? (If so, list the course)
This course does not replace an existing course.
5. How often will the course be taught?
This course will be taught every semester.
6. Does the course duplicate an existing course in another Department or College? (If the possibility exists, indicate course discipline, number, and name)
This course does not replace an existing course in any other department.

N. If the proposed course includes substantial material that is traditionally taught in another discipline, you must request a statement of support from the department chair that houses that discipline.

This course does not include materials used in another discipline.

- O. Please identify if you are proposing to have this course considered as a menu course for General Education. If yes, justify and demonstrate the reasons based on the categories for General Education. The General Education Committee must consider and approve the course proposal before consideration by the UCC.

Yes. We have applied to make this course Upper Division Writing Intensive.

1. To prepare students with a broad and basic foundation of written and spoken dialogue involving current ideas and products in visual art and design.
2. To develop students' basic essential knowledge about how to effectively advocate for the visual arts and design through developing community connections and awareness of regional advocacy resources such as museums, art collaboratives, art foundations, galleries, and school districts.
3. To develop students' essential writing ability on art through critical thought, reflection, and assessment of art and design of different mediums, processes, technologies and media platforms.
4. To prepare students to appropriately choose, administer, and evaluate various forms of visual art and design critical deconstruction and assessment.
5. To develop students' abilities to constantly update and maximize the sources and resources or technology in the pursuit of research and reflection in art and design.
6. To enable art students to broaden a personal philosophy of art and design based on research from current visual art and design: history, art criticism and aesthetics.
7. To apply knowledge of developmental visual thinking and learning as it relates to making and 'reading' visual art and design for audiences of all ages and visual backgrounds.

- P. Provide Approval Form (electronically).