COURSE DESCRIPTION

3 hours. Visits to major museums, galleries, showrooms and design studios. Research on selected art topics or projects. Course includes field trip and classroom lectures.

COURSE CONTENT & SCHEDULE CHANGES

This course will immerse students in the world of international contemporary art at the Venice Biennale. Described by ARTnews as “The Olympics of the art world,” visiting this multi-venue exhibition stretching across the historic Italian city is a singular opportunity for serious students to see groundbreaking work by the world’s most important living artists and curators. Under the guidance of CVAD faculty, students will participate in readings and critical discussions exploring contemporary theoretical discourses to contextualize the work at the Venice Biennale and finally generate their own creative responses. Prior to the trip, students will meet remotely for lectures and required reading discussions that will prepare them for their experience abroad. While in Venice, students will spend an intensive amount of time visiting the Biennale exhibitions and participating in seminar-style discussions with peers and faculty. At the conclusion of the course, students will conceive of and propose a new artwork or exhibition inspired by their observations and discussions.

The course schedule reflects expected class progress in course subject matter, and is considered tentative. The schedule is subject to change in content and scope at the Instructor's discretion.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Complete and return the syllabus agreement and photography permission forms.
- Complete a checklist of things to do before the trip.
- Complete two Quote-Comment-Question worksheets for two required readings and actively participate in the group discussions.
- Create a 10-min research presentation about one artist whose work is included in the Biennale, which will be given to the class in Venice before visiting the work in person.
- Bring a sketchbook and supplies to Venice to keep a reflective journal about the experience.
- For graduate students only: Create a 10-15 min presentation that evaluates and analyzes artwork in the exhibition related to one of the curator's three thematic areas. You will give this presentation to the class after departing Venice.
- Complete a new artwork or exhibition proposal inspired by what was seen and experienced in Venice.
- Attend all classes and excursions before, during and after the trip to Venice. Actively participate in discussions and adhere to UNT’s codes of conduct.
- Complete the SPOT course evaluation.

COURSE OUTCOMES & OBJECTIVES

1. Employ professional communication skills to describe and analyze artwork observed at the Venice Biennale in a personal reflective journal.
2. Employ professional verbal communication to describe and analyze artwork observed at the Venice Biennale and relate it to assigned readings in group discussions.
3. Employ visual knowledge and professional communication skills to analyze and evaluate one of the exhibition’s themes.
4. Synthesize ideas from journaling and group discussions to propose an artwork or exhibition following your return to Denton.
ASSIGNMENT & ASSESSMENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Worth</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signed syllabus agreement forms</td>
<td>5 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Checklist of things to do before the trip</td>
<td>5 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required reading response #1</td>
<td>5 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required reading response #2</td>
<td>5 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research presentation</td>
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<td><strong>Reflective journal</strong></td>
<td>15 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>**For grads only: Research presentation and discussion about one of the</td>
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<td>exhibition’s themes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artwork or exhibition proposal</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation (on trip, in group discussions, etc)</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPOT course evaluation confirmation</td>
<td>5 points</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100 points</strong></td>
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CHALLENGING COURSE CONTENT

Content in the arts can sometimes include works, situations, actions, and language that can be personally challenging or offensive to some students on the grounds, for example, of sexual explicitness, violence, or blasphemy. As the College of Visual Arts and Design is devoted to the principle of freedom of expression, artistic and otherwise, and it is not the college’s practice to censor these works or ideas on any of these grounds. Students who might feel unduly distressed or made uncomfortable by such expressions should withdraw at the start of the term and seek another course.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Meeting times and locations will vary throughout the course. They will occur online on Zoom before and after the trip abroad, and on site at exhibition locations in Venice.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 18: Zoom meeting, 2-4pm CST
- Review the syllabus and assignments

Wednesday, May 25: Zoom meeting, 2-4pm CST
- Discuss required reading #1.1-1.4

Wednesday, June 1: Zoom meeting, 2-4pm CST
- Discuss required reading #2

Sunday, June 5: Depart for Venice
Monday, June 6: Arrive in Venice
- Onsite orientation
- Welcome Dinner

Tuesday, June 7: Venice
- Guided walking tour of Venice
- Visit Peggy Guggenheim Collection

Wednesday, June 8: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon

Thursday, June 9: Venice
- Excursion to Murano & Burano Glassblowing Factory & Museum

Friday, June 10: Venice
- Free day

Saturday, June 11: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon

Sunday, June 12: Venice
- Visit Basilica di Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari in the morning
- Visit Punta della Dogana in the afternoon

Monday, June 13: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon

Tuesday, June 14: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon

Wednesday, June 15: Venice
- Visit the Accademia Gallery in the morning
- Visit the Ca’Pesaro International Gallery of Modern Art in the afternoon

Thursday, June 16: Venice
- Excursion to Verona

Friday, June 17: Venice
- Visit the Leonardo da Vinci Museum in the morning
- Visit the Grassi Palace in the afternoon

Saturday, June 18: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon
Sunday, June 19: Venice
- Free day

Monday, June 20: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon
- Farewell dinner in the evening

Tuesday, June 21: Depart Venice

Wednesday, June 29: Zoom meeting, 2-4pm CST
- Presentation/discussion led by graduate students
- Review requirements for artwork/exhibition proposals

Wednesday, July 6: Zoom meeting, 2-4pm CST
- Presentation/discussion led by graduate students

REQUIRED TOOLS & MATERIALS
The only required materials are a dedicated sketchbook and drawing/scrapbooking tools that you can use to keep a reflective journal during the trip to Venice.

REQUIRED READINGS
In addition to these required readings, you will also conduct independent research about an assigned artist, technique or theory, and present that research to the class.

Required Readings for Discussion 1:
The Venice Biennale: Everything You Could Ever Want to Know
Statement by Biennale curator CECILIA ALEMANI
The 10 Best National Pavilions at the 2022 Venice Biennale
"SIMONE LEIGH’S SOVEREIGN TERRITORY"

Required Reading for Discussion 2:

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS
- Come to classes prepared & on time.
- Participate consistently in class discussions. Think critically. Be honest.
- Respect your peers’ opinions, beliefs, orientations, and histories.
- Challenge your classmates and push each other to do your best.
- Share your skills, experiences, and energy to strengthen the community. Give more than you take.
- Be flexible.
- Follow UNT’s codes of conduct and behave respectably at all times.

FACE COVERINGS
Be prepared to wear face coverings indoors while abroad.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
- Regular and punctual attendance is mandatory.
- One unexcused absence will be tolerated. A second unexcused absence will lower your grade by half a letter grade.
- More than three absences will require a note from a doctor or a note from the art office excusing the absence for a reason covered under UNT policy 06.039 (Student Attendance and Authorized Absences) in order to be counted as excused.
- If you are late to class, you will need to notify me at the end of the class period to replace an absence with a tardy. Three tardies will constitute an absence.
- A tardy is considered to be an arrival of 10-30 minutes after the beginning of class. If you arrive more than 30 minutes after the class begins, you will be marked absent for the day.
- Assignments that are turned in late will receive one letter grade lower per day for each class day they are late.
- COVID-19 impact on attendance:
  Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.
  If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

LATE WORK / MAKE-UP POLICY

Late work will receive a penalty of 10% deducted from the assignment's value per class day the work is late, unless the student provides proof of an acceptable mitigating circumstance: serious illness, death of a family member, or other circumstance if approved by the instructor.

GRADING

Grades will be provided regularly through the semester (after assignments are submitted, critique, etc…) and at mid-term. Note: There are no pluses and minuses given at UNT.

A = Excellent (100-90%)
B = Above Average (89-80%)
C = Average (79-70%)
D = Inferior (69-60%) [passing but not necessarily satisfying degree requirements]
F = Failure (59% or below)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

According to UNT Policy 18.1.16, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to
avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

**ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct.

**INCOMPLETE GRADES**

An Incomplete Grade ("I") is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has a justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule. In consultation with the instructor, complete a request for an Incomplete Grade. This form can be found on the department website and must be turned into the department chair prior to the last day of classes (not the exam date). Note: A grade of Incomplete is not automatically assigned to students.

**SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT & ASSAULT**

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more. UNT’s Dean of Students' website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources. UNT’s Student Advocate she can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students’ office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.