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 three Reading Response 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 an artwork we saw in the exhibition. You will give this presentation to the class on Zoom 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 artworks we saw in the exhibition.
4. Synthesize ideas from journaling and group discussions to propose an artwork or exhibition following your return to Denton.

ASSIGNMENT & ASSESSMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Worth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signed syllabus agreement forms</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checklist of things to do before the trip</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required reading response #1</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required reading response #2</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required reading response #3</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research presentation</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflective journal</td>
<td>15 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For grads only: Research presentation and discussion about one of the artworks in the exhibition</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artwork or exhibition proposal</td>
<td>25 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation (on trip, in group discussions, etc)</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPOT course evaluation confirmation</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100 points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 (subject to change)

**Week 1: Remote Meetings**

Monday: Zoom Meeting 1-3pm
- Review the syllabus and assignments

Wednesday: Zoom Meeting 1-3pm
- Discuss required reading #1
- Discuss artists selected for research presentations

Sunday: Depart for Venice
Week 2: Abroad

Monday: Arrive in Venice
- Onsite orientation
- Welcome Dinner

Tuesday: Venice
- Guided walking tour of Venice in the morning
- Doges Palace in the afternoon

Wednesday: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning (2hrs) for required reading #2 discussion and research presentations
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon (Giardini)

Thursday: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning (2hrs) for student presentations
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon (Giardini)

Friday: Venice
- Excursion to Murano Glassblowing Factory & Museum in the morning
- Take ferry to Burano and visit the Lace Museum in the afternoon

Saturday: Venice
- Visit Peggy Guggenheim Collection in the morning
- Visit Punta della Dogana in the afternoon
- Meet for debrief discussion (1 hr) in the afternoon

Sunday: Venice
- Free day

Week 3: Abroad

Monday: Verona
- Excursion to Verona with a walking tour and a visit to the Museo Castelvecchio

Tuesday: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning (2hrs) for student presentations
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon (Arsenale)

Wednesday: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning (2hrs) for student presentations
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon (Arsenale)

Thursday: Venice
- Visit the Gallerie dell'Accademia in the morning
- Visit the Ca'Pesaro International Gallery of Modern Art in the afternoon
- Meet for debrief discussion (1 hr) in the afternoon

Friday: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning (2hrs) for student presentations
- Visit the Biennale in the afternoon (offsite exhibitions)

Saturday: Venice
- Meet for class in the morning (2hrs)
- Visit the Grassi Palace in the afternoon

Sunday: Venice
- Visit Basilica di Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari in the morning
- Meet for debrief discussion (1 hr) in the afternoon
- Farewell dinner in the evening

**Week 4: Depart Venice & Remote Meetings**

Monday: Venice
- Free day

Tuesday: Depart Venice

**Week 5: Remote Meetings**

Monday: Zoom
- Required Reading #3 discussion
- Grad research presentation
- Individual meetings about individual artworks

Wednesday: Zoom
- Grad research presentation
- Individual meetings about individual artworks

**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, and a computer or smart phone with Zoom capability.

**REQUIRED READINGS**

You will be required to fill out a Reading Response Worksheet for each of the three required readings (see Canvas for the complete list). You will use those worksheets to participate in class discussions about the readings. In addition to those required readings, you will also conduct independent research about an assigned artist, technique or theory, and present that research to the class.

**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.
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.

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_0. 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.