ARTH 4801.002
Topics in Art History: Fashion and Dress:
Early Modern to Contemporary
Spring 2023

Course meets Mondays, 9-11:50am in ART 280

Dr. Denise Amy Baxter
Professor of Art History
Associate Dean of Professional Development
Toulouse Graduate School
she | her

Course description:
Selected topics in the history of art.

Course Content:
Introduction to dress and fashion from the early modern to the contemporary.

Prerequisites:
ART 2350, ART 2360, and ART 2370, or consent of instructor

Course objectives:
Through readings, discussions, engagements with visual and material culture, and other assignments, students will:
- Identify and analyze major theoretical and methodological issues associated with the history of fashion and dress.
- Apply theoretical and methodological models associated with the history of fashion and dress to relevant instances of visual and material culture.
- Employ the specific vocabulary associated with the history of fashion and dress.
- Develop skills in using research and reference materials, synthesizing and organizing research, and presenting materials in both oral and written forms.

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.

Required Materials:
- Daniel Purdy, ed., *The Rise of Fashion: A Reader* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2004). Referred to as Purdy in Course Schedule. This is available at the UNT Bookstore.
- The majority of readings will be available through UNT Library course reserves or directly through the UNT Libraries.
- To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to reference content through the UNT Libraries and on the Canvas Learning Management System.
Course Requirement & Student Assessment:
Assignment details will be disseminated under separate cover. See schedule of classes for due dates.

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<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Think Pieces (4 x 5%)</td>
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<td>Formal Analysis</td>
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<td>In-Class Assignments</td>
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<td>Designer Speed Dating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>55%</td>
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Late work: Extensions for work may be granted in advance at the discretion of Dr. Baxter. Work that is late for which no pre-approved extension has been granted, will receive a grade of 0. Early work is encouraged!

Attendance: Collaborative learning will be at the heart of this class. In order to collaborate, you must come to class prepared to think, to discuss, to offer and receive feedback. You may miss one class and one class only, for whatever reason. You may also miss class with an officially approved excused absence, with documentation. If you cannot attend a class due to an emergency, please do let me know. Your safety and well-being are important to me and there may be flexibility in order to support your academic success. In general, though, in missing class you will not receive any credit for in-class activities and are still required to complete all required work due for that class by the stated deadlines. Any further absences may result in the lowering of your course grade by one letter grade. See UNT Policy 06.039.

Policy on Quality of Written Work: Translating visual signs and material objects into verbal language is not an easy task. Thus, in the visual and subjective realm of art history and material culture studies, clarity of presented ideas is vital. Therefore, your written work will be evaluated in terms of proper grammar, syntax, and spelling, as well as the clear and logical presentation of ideas and argument. The medium and the message are inextricable from one another.

Student Academic Integrity: According to UNT Policy 06.003, 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. Submitting work to this class that is found to violate UNT's academic integrity policy will result in a failing grade in the class. We will discuss what constitutes plagiarism and what entails proper citation format and content as part of the course. Please note, you cannot use a paper or project from another class or from this class in another without consulting both professors.

ADA 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 (http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

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<td>C</td>
<td>70-79</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
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**Rules of Engagement:**
Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructor.

*Here are some general guidelines:*

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

*Communicating with your instructor:*

- Please let me know by which name you prefer to be addressed in this course. I prefer Dr. or Professor Baxter.
- Please communicate with me via email rather than through Canvas.
- My email address is denise.baxter@unt.edu. I commit to responding to your email within 24 hours during the week. Weekends are a different story.
- Office Hours:
  - My course office hour is Mondays, 4-5pm in ART 317 or via zoom (https://unt.zoom.us/j/81702454151).
  - I also have an office hour in my capacity as Associate Dean of the Toulouse Graduate School on Tuesdays, 9-10am in Chestnut Hall 103J or via zoom (https://unt.zoom.us/j/85249963556). You are welcome to attend either.
- Anticipate receiving feedback and grades for written assignments within a week.

**Dr. Baxter reserves the right to change this syllabus at her discretion.**
## Course Schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Do/Due:</th>
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| 1/23  | **Topics:** Course introduction  
| 1/30  | **Topics:** How to read a garment; introduction to assignments  
**Do:** Hands-on activities in the Gloria and Bruzzy Westheimer Student Research Gallery of the Texas Fashion Collection.  
*Please bring with you to class on this and every subsequent class period: a way to access & read texts online; a way to access any written assignment that was due that day; a way to take notes. This could be a laptop. This could be a phone and a notebook and a print-out of your text. It is entirely up to you.* |
| 2/6   | **Topics:** UNT Libraries: Research and Special Collections  
**Do:** Meet in Library room 130 at the start of the class period. |
| 2/13  | **Topics:** Fashion and Dress in Early Modern England  
**Due:** Formal Analysis  
Think Piece Option One  
*Please note that assignments are due, uploaded, in advance of the start of the class period. Selected students may be requested to read or expound upon their think pieces in each class period. Make sure that you have access to your text to facilitate this class participation.* |
| 2/20  | **Topics:** Research thinking, planning, and presentation  
**Due:** Research paper: Research paper topic proposal |
### 2/27 Topics: Body, body


**Do:** TFC visit

**Due:** Research paper: Group constitution and topic selection

**Think Piece Option Two**

### 3/6 Topics: The rise of fashion

**Read:** Bernard Mandeville, “Pride” from *The Fable of the Bees* (1724), in Purdy, 21-27.

**Due:** Think Piece Option Three

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**SPRING BREAK**

### 3/20 Topics: Textiles


**Do:** TFC visit

**Due:** Research paper: Thesis, proposed evidence and annotated bibliography draft

**Think Piece Option Four**
### 3/27
**Topics:** Cross cultural influence and/or appropriation


**Do:** TFC visit

**Due:** Think Piece Option Five

### 4/3
**Topics:** Politics and dress


**Due:** Research paper: Outline
Think Piece Option Six

### 4/10
**Topics:** It’s reigning men

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TFC visit</td>
<td>Research paper: Thesis, introduction, and completed annotated bibliography</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Think Piece Option Seven</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/24</td>
<td>Designer speed dating</td>
<td>Research paper: Full rough draft and peer review</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/8</td>
<td>Topics: Sumptuary regulations</td>
<td>Due: Think Piece Option Eight</td>
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**Read:**

**Due:**
- Research paper: Final draft

*You made it. Have a wonderful summer.*