Class Meetings: Tuesdays from 1:00-2:00 in ART 310 or via Zoom.

Instructor: Dr. Neville McFerrin

Contact Information: neville.mcferrin@unt.edu and Canvas Inbox. I will respond to all student emails within 24 hours on weekdays; on weekends and university holidays, responses will be delayed. If emailing, please include the course number in the subject line.

Office Hours: Thursdays from 2:00-4:00 in ART 310 and by appointment. All appointments must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance.

Course Description: This course is designed to provide structure for each of the stages of the MA project prospectus writing process. Through one-on-one discussion and personalize writing goals and assignments, it aims not only to prepare the prospectus document and the colloquium presentation, but also to allow the student to explore systems for structuring writing and research as well as clarifying stages of the writing process in art historical settings.

Course Objectives: Over the course of the semester students will:

• Refine and present a research topic
• Define research methodologies associated with their MA topic
• Engage with and apply theoretical perspectives that enable analyses related to their MA topic
• Practice the process of drafting, editing, and responding to comments
• Clarify MA project aims, goals, and research questions
• Practice skills associated with graduate level writing in the discipline of art history

Recommended Text:


Course Assessments:

Weekly Meetings: 20%
Please be on time for each weekly meeting. For each week, a portion of the prospectus, an assignment related to prospectus deadlines, or assignments related to the colloquium presentation will be due in advance of this weekly meeting. This work and ideas arising from it will form the basis of conversation during the weekly meeting.

**Weekly Assignments: 20%**
Each week, the student will complete assignments designed to prepare for each of the stages of the generation and presentation of the MA prospectus. During some weeks, this assignment may include dissemination of completed work to the MA committee and to the department of art history.

**Colloquium Presentation: 10%**
The aim of the colloquium presentation is to provide a clear, engaging introduction to the planned MA project while engaging professionally with comments provided by the assembled professors.

**MA Project Prospectus: 50%**
The final output of this course is a completed, defensible MA project prospectus. After receiving comments from the MA committee and art history faculty, students are expected to revise the prospectus to generate a document that adheres to the standards of graduate level writing in the discipline of art history.

**Schedule of Assignments:**

While there is some room for negotiation on the due dates of assignments designed to scaffold the prospectus writing process, please be aware that those dates that are highlighted in yellow are dates set by the department. These dates cannot be negotiated. If students fail to meet these departmental programs, they will not be eligible to present their prospectus at the Spring 2024 colloquium, which will have a negative impact upon graduate funding and advancement in the MA program.

**Thursday, January 18:** Start up meeting

**Tuesday, January 23:** Draft of topic and initial bibliography due by email to Dr. McFerrin no later than 11:59 PM. Following the meeting, barring a need for further revision of topic, the topic will be sent to other members of the MA project committee, and the committee will meet as a whole to discuss the topic and the term.

**Tuesday, January 30:** Weekly focus—Statement of Problem

Draft of statement of problem due by Monday, January 29 at 5:00 PM.
Friday, February 2: Committee Approved Topic Circulated by Student to Art History Faculty; Email must be sent to all full-time art history faculty no later than 5:00PM.

Tuesday, February 6: Weekly focus—Methodological Statement
Draft of methodological statement due by Monday, February 5 at 5:00 PM.

Tuesday, February 13: Weekly focus—Statement of thesis
Draft of statement of thesis due by Monday, February 12 at 5:00 PM

Tuesday, February 20: Weekly focus—Introduction
Draft of introduction due by Monday, February 19 at 5:00 PM.

Tuesday, February 27: Weekly focus—First Draft
First draft of completed prospectus due by Monday, February 26 at 5:00 PM

Tuesday, March 5: Weekly focus—Committee Meeting and Draft Discussion
First draft circulated to committee between Thursday, February 29 and Sunday March 3 for meeting between Monday, March 6 and Thursday, March 7.

March 11-17: Spring Break! Use this time to undertake edits in response to committee comments.

Monday, March 18: Student submission of final draft of prospectus to project committee. Final draft must be sent via email to all committee members no later than 5 PM.

Tuesday, March 19: Weekly focus—Colloquium procedures

Monday, March 25: Project committee notifies student regarding colloquium status no later than 5:00 PM.

Tuesday, March 26: Weekly focus—Comments and Colloquium status
Draft of prospectus in response to project committee comments due by Monday, March 25 at 5:00 PM.

Monday, April 1: Student circulates final written prospectus to all full-time art history faculty via email no later than 5:00 PM.

Tuesday, April 2: Weekly focus—Colloquium presentation
First draft of PowerPoint and initial text of colloquium presentation due by Monday, April 1 at 5:00 PM.

**Tuesday, April 16:** Colloquium presentation rehearsal, pending upcoming colloquium date scheduling

**Monday, April 15 and/or Wednesday, April 17:** Colloquium; Set aside 8:00-11:00 AM CST

**Tuesday, April 23:** Weekly Focus—Colloquium comments and next steps

**Tuesday, April 30:** Weekly Focus—MA project writing process and Summer research plans and stages