Spring 2023
ART 5900.705: Special Problems
Colloquium

Class Meetings: Tuesdays from 2:00-2:50

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: Wednesdays from 1:00-3:00 PM in Art 206 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:
ISBN: 978-0205886999

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 2023 colloquium, which may have an impact upon graduate funding and advancement in the MA program.

Tuesday, January 17: Start up meeting

Tuesday, January 24: Draft of topic to Dr. McFerrin. Following the meeting, barring a need for further revision of topic, the topic will be sent to other members of the MA project committee.

Tuesday, January 31: Discussion of MA committee comments on topic; draft of statement of problem due.

Friday, February 3: Committee Approved Topic Circulated by Student to Art History Faculty
Tuesday, February 7: Draft of methodological statement due

Tuesday, February 15: Draft of statement of thesis due

Tuesday, February 21: Draft of introduction due

Tuesday, February 28: First draft of completed prospectus due

Tuesday, March 7: Second draft of completed prospectus due

**Monday, March 20: Submission of Final Draft of Prospectus to MA Project Committee**

Tuesday, March 21: Initial discussion of colloquium procedures

**Monday, March 27: MA Committee Notifies Student of Colloquium Status**

Tuesday, March 28: Discussion of MA committee comments; potential meeting with full committee

**Monday, April 3: Participating Students Circulate Written Prospectus to All Full-Time Art History Faculty Via Email**

Tuesday, April 4: First draft of colloquium presentation due

Tuesday, April 11: Colloquium presentation rehearsal

**Thursday, April 13: Colloquium; Set aside 8:00-11:00 AM CST**

Tuesday, April 18: Discussion of comments from colloquium participants and committee

Tuesday, April 25: Discussion of summer research plans and stages

Tuesday, May 2: Discussion of MA project writing process