What is a period room? Many art museums have them: installations of decorative arts and material culture of particular historical period. The Louvre, the Met, and the Victoria and Albert and others have Chinese, Rococo, Neoclassical, Victorian, and Modern rooms, furnished to present individual objects in an educationally “correct” context, or as representations of a particular architect or designer’s work, such as Frank Lloyd Wright. In recent years museums and contemporary artists like Ann Agee, Fred Wilson, and Mark Dion have reconsidered the meaning and purpose of these “constructions” with critical installations, reinstallations, photography, and virtual reality projects. This seminar will examine issues of museology, interpretation, and authenticity through case studies, theoretical readings, and fieldwork on the period room phenomenon from the early twentieth century until today.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
If you attend each class meeting and engage with the content of the lectures, do the required reading, work conscientiously on your research assignment, and participate in field trips and discussions, the end of the semester you should:

-- become familiar with important issues, writings, and noteworthy examples in the history of the period room.

--acquire visual and spatial literacy: the ability to critically “read” and understand the significance of the designed world.

--develop critical research, writing, and presentation skills, using library and online resources.
COURSE WEBSITE
The professor will maintain a Canvas course website. This is an important source of information and you should check it regularly. Look for announcements on Canvas, as well as the syllabus, assignments, class handouts, the attendance roster, calendar, and gradebook. Texts, references, and auxiliary materials will be available in Canvas as indicated in the syllabus. We will be using the Canvas course website, which can be accessed with your EUID. This is an important source of information and you should check it regularly. I will post announcements here, as well as the syllabus, assignments, the attendance roster, calendar, and gradebook.

COURSE EVALUATION
Your grade will be determined by the following criteria:

- Participation and Attendance: 20%
- Exam #1 (online): 15%
- Exam #2 (online): 15%
- In-Class Presentations: 20%
- Research Project: 30%

COURSE SCHEDULE

January 16  
Introduction: What is a Period Room?

Module I  
First Period Rooms 1870-1940

January 23  
Open Air Museums, Historic Houses, and Historic Preservation

Ada Louise Huxtable, “Preserving Noo Yawk’s Landmarks” NY 1975 (Canvas)
Herbert Gans, “Preserving Everyone’s Noo Yawk” NYT 1975 (Canvas)
Vagnone, Ryan, and Cothren “The Anarchist Guide to Historic House Museums” (Canvas)
Paul-Matthew Smith, “Ridiculous Extremes” (Canvas)
Kristen Marie Barry, “Buildings as Artifacts: Heritage, Patriotism, and the Constructed Landscape” (Canvas)

January 30  
The Antiques Trade, the Gilded Age, and Roaring Twenties

John Harris, Moving Rooms: The Trade in Architectural Salvages, chs. 5-7 (Canvas)
Anne-Marie Schauf and Teresa Morales, “Dealing in Interiors: how Duveen Brothers and Maison Carlihan shaped an 18th century French Salon in 1920s New York (Canvas)

February 6  
Museums and the Period Room: Europe and the United States

R.T.H. Halsey and Elizabeth Tower, The Homes of our Ancestors: As Shown in the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, pp. xxi-xxvi and 118-137 (Canvas)
Morrison H. Hecksher, “The American Wing Rooms in the Metropolitan Museum of Art” (Canvas)

Dianne H. Pilgrim, “Inherited from the Past: The American Period Room” (Canvas)

Neil Harris, “Period Rooms and the American Art Museum” (Canvas)


**Student Presentations**

**February 13**  
*Interior Decorating, Department Stores, and the Modern Period Room*  
TBA

**February 20**  
*Gesamtkunstwerk: Vienna Secession, Art Nouveau, and Frank Lloyd Wright*  
TBA

**February 27**  
*Field Trip: Bush Presidential Library and Dallas Museum of Art*  
Darrin Brooks “Political Decorating and Branding” (Canvas)  
Benjamin Hufbauer, “Presidential Temples: How Memorials and Libraries Shape Public Memory” (Canvas)

**March 5**  
*Essay Exam*

**March 12**  
*Spring Break*

**March 19**  
*The “Modern” Period Room*


Cranbrook Time Machine: Twentieth Century Period Rooms  

**Student Presentations**

**March 26**  
*Installation Art*

Michael Fried, “Art and Objecthood” 1967 (Canvas)  
Allan Kaprow, “Essay on the Blurring of Art and Life”  
Ilya Kabakov, “On the Total Installation” (Canvas)  
Claire Bishop “But is it Installation Art? 2005 (Canvas)

**April 2**  
*Reinterpreting Period Rooms: Maryland, Brooklyn, Minneapolis*
Rita Reif, “Brooklyn Museum, a Transformation of Seven Period Rooms” 1984 (Canvas)

Eve M. Kahn, The Period Room as Reconstruction Site, New York Times, February 11, 2016 (Canvas)


Julia Lichtbau, “Period Rooms” in The Common: A Modern Sense of Place, December 5, 2015 (Canvas)


Wendy Moonan, “Visiting History in Period Rooms” September 1 2006, (Canvas)

Podcast: The Memory Palace, Gallery 742

V. Golding Uncomfortable Truths: The Shadow of Slave Trading on Contemporary Art and Design 2007 (Canvas)

Student Presentations

April 9

Contemporary Art and the Period Room
Carol Ward, “Thinking Outside the Lines: Contemporary Art in Historic Settings”

Jennifer Way “The House Whitfield Lovell Built: Materializing Ethnicity in Spaces of Art Display” (Canvas)


Marchetti


April 16

EXAM #2 (online)
Field Trip: The Perilous Texas Adventures of Mark Dion Amon Carter Museum of American Art

April 23

research presentations

April 30

research presentations
COURSE POLICIES

Attendance: Your success in this lecture course will depend on your exam grades but also in part, upon your attendance and active engagement. You are expected to be in class at every assigned meeting, including field trips. An attendance sign-up sheet will be circulated. Be on time for class; arrivals later than 10 minutes after roll is taken may be counted as an absence.

Sometimes an illness, emergency, or other circumstances may cause you to miss class. Absence will only be excused in the case of serious medical or family problems. To be excused for an absence please notify your TA before class or immediately afterwards and provide proper documentation.

More than two unexcused absences will result in a reduced grade. Each absence beyond two will result in a reduction of your final earned grade. 5 points of your total score will be deducted from your final grade for each absence after two absences. For example, 3 absences = 5 points deducted from your total points. A final course grade of 90 (A) will become an 85 (B). If you experience serious personal or academic problems that interfere with your attendance please let me know before it wrecks your grade.

If you miss class, try to borrow a classmate’s notes. The instructor and teaching assistant will not assume responsibility for providing class notes to you.

Field Trips: Experiencing and learning about architecture and design outside of the classroom is an essential and required aspect of this course.

Late or Missing Assignments: All assignments must be completed to pass the course, and submitted on the due dates, in person or through previously arranged electronic submission. Students will only be permitted to turn in late projects in the case of religious holiday observance or medical or family emergencies. Computer, disk, or printer malfunction are not valid excuses. Back up your work at all times. Late assignments will be penalized, with a drop of ½ letter grade (ex. A to A-) per day, including weekend days. Incompletes will be awarded only in instances of medical or severe family emergencies, or other unusual situations beyond the student’s control. Documentation will be required.

Electronic Citizenship: As many students have reported to me, the use of music players, email, or video games during class is distracting to those around you. Please turn off your cell phones when you sit down. Laptop computers may be used only for note-taking; any student found browsing the internet, instant messaging, or browsing Facebook (etc.) will be subsequently and permanently banned from using his or her laptop in this class. Students who use cell phones or gadgets for non-class related activities will be marked absent and asked to leave for the remainder of that class.

Electronic mail has become the preferred method of communication in the personal, academic and professional lives of many people. In this course, I will often use email to send messages to students regarding announcements, assignments, and answers to questions. I am receptive to email messages from students; however, I prefer to meet with students in person after class or by appointment.. I encourage every student to take advantage of this opportunity to meet with me one on one. This is the ideal, appropriate
time to ask for clarification about course material and policies, or to get help with your research project.

When that is not possible, feel free to email me, but you must allow at least 24 hours for my reply. If you are writing to notify me that you will not be in class, I expect to receive the email before class begins. Because email often takes the place of face-to-face communication, please maintain the same level of courtesy and respect in electronic communications that you would in conversation. Do not write something in an email that you would not feel comfortable saying in person.

**Syllabus Changes:** The syllabus is a reliable outline for the semester’s work, but readings and assignments may be changed at any time at the discretion of the instructor.

**Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences.**
Students in this class have the right to expect that their fellow students are upholding the academic integrity of this University. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense because it undermines the bonds of trust and honesty between members of the community and defrauds those who may eventually depend on our knowledge and 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.

Plagiarism is the most common form of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism can be a difficult concept to define; however simply put, plagiarism is using other people’s ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information. It is important to note that that at the university we are continually exposed to other’s idea. We read ideas and words in textbooks, hear them in lectures, discuss them in class, and incorporate them into our own writing. You must always keep in mind that you must give credit where credit is due.

Plagiarism can occur in many forms and media. Although most commonly associated with writing, all types of scholarly work, including interior design projects, music, scientific data and analysis, and electronic publications can be plagiarized. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, and receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any other means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

To avoid plagiarism you must give credit (for example, in a footnote) whenever you use:
- another person’s idea, opinion, or theory;
- any facts, statistics, graphics, visual images (i.e.: drawings, videos, etc.) that are not common knowledge.
- quotations of another person’s spoken or written words; or
- paraphrase of another person’s spoken or written words

Students who are in violation of the university’s plagiarism policy may be subject to the following:
- disciplinary probation
- receive a failing grade or zero score for the test, assignment, or the course
- creation of a disciplinary record which may impact their future
- suspension or expulsion

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism or academic dishonesty, or have difficulty addressing source material in your papers, please consult with the instructor.

**ADA Accommodation Statement.** UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of 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 accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

**Emergency Notification & Procedures.** UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

**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.

**Student Evaluation Administration Dates.** Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

**Sexual Assault Prevention.** UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648.

**American Disabilities Act:** The College of Visual Arts and Design is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the College will make...
reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course.

If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) and to inform me of your need for an accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to me no later than the first week of classes for students registered with the ODA as of the beginning of the current semester. If you register with the ODA after the first week of classes, your accommodation requests will be considered after this deadline.

Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union. You also may call the ODA at 940.565.4323.

Course Risk Factor: According to University Policy, this course is classified as a category one course. Students enrolled in this course will not be exposed to any significant hazards and are not likely to suffer any bodily injury. Students will be informed of any potential health hazards or potential bodily injury connected with the use of any materials and/or processes and will be instructed how to proceed without danger to themselves or others.

Building Emergency Procedures: In case of emergency (alarm will sound), please follow the building evacuation plans posted on each floor of your building and proceed to the nearest parking lot. In case of tornado (campus sirens will sound) or other weather related threat, please go to the nearest hallway or room on your floor without exterior windows and remain there until an all clear signal is sounded. Follow the instructions of your teachers and act accordingly.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Students in this course are subject to the University of North Texas code of student rights and responsibilities. By taking this course, you agree to refrain from any and all forms of physical and/or verbal abuse, harassment, threats, or intimidation towards students, faculty, staff or others associated with course delivery or instruction. Cases of harassment, threats or abuse will be reported to University authorities. See www.unt.edu/csrr for further information.

Student Behavior in the Classroom: 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 Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities 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 www.unt.edu/csrr

Counseling Services: Both the University and I sincerely care about your well-being. There are significant resources to help you manage personal challenges during your studies. UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the issue or its severity.
Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental wellbeing:

1. Student Health and Wellness
   Center 1800 Chestnut St.,
   Denton, (940)-565-2333
   M-Th: 8:00am-5:00pm
   [https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center#programs](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center#programs)

2. Counseling and Testing Services*
   801 N. Texas Blvd, Denton, TX
   76210 Suite 140
   (940)-565-2741
   M-F: 8:00am-5:00pm
   [https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)

3. UNT CARE Team*
   (940) 565-2648
   [careteam@unt.edu](mailto:careteam@unt.edu)
   [https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)

4. Psychiatric Services (940)
   940) 565-2333
   [https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)

5. Individual Counseling*
   (940) 369-8773
   [https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/individual-counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/individual-counseling)

*Services are free of charge to University Students

If at any time you are feeling alone or in jeopardy of self-harm, reach out to the following:

- NATL Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255
- Denton County MHMR Crisis Line: 800-762-0157
- Denton County Friends of the Family Crisis Line: (940)-382-7273
- UNT Mental Health Emergency Contacts:
  - During Office Hours (M-F 8am-5pm): (940)-565-2741
After Hour Calls: (940)-565-2741
• Crisis Text Line: Text CONNECT to 741741
• Live Chat: http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
Please sign this declaration of understanding and agreement with the above syllabus provisions and risk factor.

I __________________________ (print) acknowledge that I have read the course syllabus. I understand the course structure, grading and attendance policies as well as the risk factor rating. I hereby agree to the syllabus and its provisions.

________________________________________________________________________
Course number and section Risk Rating

________________________________________________________________________
Student phone #, e-mail address (print) Signature Date

________________________________________________________________________
Faculty Name Signature Date