Course Description
This course will explore the theories and practices of Postmodern artists through four methodological lenses: Postmodernism, Postmedium, Postcolonialism, and Posthumanism.

Course Objectives
- To understand the broad theoretical principles of our four methodological categories, as well as the contextual circumstances that spurred their development
- To apply those principles to artistic practices beginning around 1960
- To discuss issues, themes, and debates related to our four categories in relation to specific artworks and art-related events
- To synthesize class discussions and assigned readings in response to directed questions on artworks that we have not viewed in class
- To conduct individual analyses on an artist and their relation to issues brought up in class

Course Readings
All course readings will be posted on Canvas, organized by class day. There are no required textbooks for this course. Please prepare the assigned readings prior to their listed class day.

**Please note that, although there is no required textbook, you will be required to purchase or rent three films.***

Course Requirements and Grading
Course Participation – 10%
3 (3-5 page) Film Response Papers – 30% (10% each)
4 Discussion Questions + Posts – 40% (10% each)
1 (3-5 page) Exhibition Visit + Response – 20%
**Course Participation (10%)**
This course is not structured as a strict lecture. Discussion, presentation, collective analysis, and other forms of participation will be fundamental to our learning throughout the Fall session. Thus, you are required to attend and participate. I will take attendance at the beginning of each class, and you are encouraged to speak up!

**3 (3-5 page) Film Response Papers (30% - 10% each)**
You will be assigned to watch 3 documentary films outside of class. You will respond to these films using information from class discussions and readings. You will also think about the film’s approach and address how it added to your understanding of Postmodernism.

**4 Discussion Questions + Posts (40% - 10% each)**
Throughout the session, you will engage in a parallel online discussion forum. This assignment has 2 components – 3 Discussion Questions + One Response. You will come up with 3 discussions questions in response to the readings (each question MUST reference a different reading). You will then provide a 200-word response to one of your classmates' questions, again utilizing the readings (in these responses you are required to include a discussion of at least one artwork – be sure to include an image). To help facilitate this online discussion, you will be placed in groups.

**1 (3-5 page) Exhibition Visit + Response – 20%**
The Dallas Contemporary is staging two exhibitions this fall – *Shepard Fairey: Backward Forward* and *Gabrielle Goliath: Chorus*. You will visit these exhibitions and response to either Shepard Fairey’s work or that of Gabrielle Goliath considering the topics and issues we have discussed in class. More details TBA.

*** Deadlines for each assignment are listed after the course schedule***
***All Assignments will be turned in on Canvas***

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**Course Schedule**

1. **August 30** – Introduction to the Course: The Problems and Promises of PoMo!

2. **September 6** – Postmedium I (Art as Concept) – A Closer Look: Joseph Kosuth

3. **September 13** – Postmedium II (The Body as Art) – A Closer Look: Vito Acconci

4. **September 20** – No In-Person Class - Postmedium III (Institutional Critique) – A Closer Look: Hans Haacke (for this course you will complete a short discussion board post)

5. September 27th – No Class – Work on Film Response Paper #1

6. October 4th -- Postmodern Identity Politics (Feminism), A Closer Look: Cindy Sherman

7. October 11th – Postmodern Identity Politics (Racial Politics), A Closer Look: Adrien Piper

8. October 18th -- Postmodern Identity Politics (Gay Liberation Movement), A Closer Look at Robert Mapplethorpe

9. October 25th - Postmodern Identity Politics (Disability Studies + Art), A Closer Look at Diane Arbus

10. November 1st – Postcolonial Theory I (Africa) – A Closer Look: Yinka Shonibare

11. November 8th - Postcolonial Theory II (The Middle East) – A Closer Look: Mona Hatoum

12. November 15th – Postcolonial Theory III (South Asia) – A Closer Look: Shahzia Sikander
Readings: Shahzia Sikander Interview in *Islamic Art: Past, Present and Future*; Saleema Waraich, “From Lahore to New York” (only the Shahzia Sikander section); Shahzia Sikander in conversation with Homi Bhabha

1. **November 22nd – Posthumanism (Art and Technology) – A Closer Look: Nam June Paik**

2. **November 29th – Posthumanism (Back to the Body! Cyborgs and Monsters) – A Closer Look: Lee Bul**

3. **December 6th – Posthumanism (Artificial Intelligence and Rethinking ‘Art’ Once Again)**
   **Reading:** Moura, “Machines that Make Art;” Check out Leonel Moura’s Website - https://www.leonelmoura.com/

4. **December 13th – Finals Week – No Class**

**Schedule of Deadlines:**

- **Discussion Post #1: Questions** = Tuesday, September 20th at 11:59pm
- **Discussion Post #1: Response** = Friday, September 23rd at 11:59pm
- **Film Response Paper #1 - Marina Abramovic: The Artist is Present** = Friday, September 30th at 11:59pm
- **Discussion Post #2: Questions** = Tuesday, October 25th at 11:59pm
- **Discussion Post #2: Response** = Friday, October 28th at 11:59pm
- **Film Response Paper #2 - Keith Haring: Street Art Boy** = Friday, November 4th at 11:59pm
- **Discussion Post #3: Questions** = Tuesday, November 15th at 11:59pm
- **Discussion Post #3: Response** = Friday, November 18th at 11:59pm
- **Film Response Paper #3 - Kusama: Infinity OR Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry (your choice)** = Friday, December 2nd at 11:59pm
- **Discussion Post #4: Questions** = Tuesday, December 6th at 11:59pm
- **Discussion Post #4: Response** = Friday, December 9th at 11:59pm
- **Exhibition Response Paper** = Tuesday, December 13th at 11:59pm

*The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus over the course of the semester*
Course Disclaimer
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. 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.

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences
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. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation].

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.