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.

Course Requirements and Grading
Course Participation – 10%
4 (3-page) Response Papers – 40% (10% each)
5 Discussion Questions + Posts – 50%

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 summer session. Thus, you are required to attend and participate. Each class will begin with a sign-in sheet to track attendance and you are encouraged to speak up in class (otherwise, you will be called on to contribute!).
4 (3-page) Response Papers (40% - 10% each)
We will have four documentary film screenings throughout the session. 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.

5 Discussion Questions + Posts (50%)
Each week 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 that week. You will then provide a 200-word response to one of your classmates’ questions (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.

Course Schedule

1. **July 11th – Introduction to the Course and to Postmodernism!**

2. **July 12th – Postmodern Identity Politics (Feminism)**
   **Readings:** Craig Owen, “The Discourse of Others: Feminists and Postmodernism;” Flax, “The Emergence of a Distinctively Feminist Question: The "Other" Says No;” Laura Cottingham, “The Masculine Imperative: High Modern, Postmodern”

3. **July 13th – Postmodern Identity Politics (Feminism II) – A Closer Look: Cindy Sherman**
   *Discussion Questions Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

4. **July 14th – Postmodern Identity Politics (Racial Politics)**
   *Discussion Question Responses Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

5. **July 18th – Postmodern Identity Politics (Racial Politics II) – A Closer Look: Adrien Piper**
   **Readings:** John Bowles, “Adrian Piper’s Performance of Race and the Moral Question of Racism;” John Bowles, “‘Acting like a Man:’ The Mythic Being and Black Feminism”

6. **July 19th – Postmodern Identity Politics (Gay Liberation Movement)**
*Discussion Questions Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

8. July 21st – Film Screening in ART 223 – Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures
*Discussion Questions Due Responses at 11:59pm via Canvas*

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*Response Paper One Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

10. July 26th – Postmedium II (The Body as Art) – A Closer Look: Vito Acconci

*Discussion Questions Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

12. July 28th – Film Screening in ART 223 – Marina Abramovic: The Artist is Present
*Discussion Questions Due Responses at 11:59pm via Canvas*

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13. August 1st – Postcolonial Theory I (Africa) – A Closer Look: Yinka Shonibare
*Response Paper Two Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

14. August 2nd – Postcolonial Theory II (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”

15. August 3rd – Postcolonial Theory II (The Middle East) – A Closer Look: Mona Hatoum
*Discussion Questions Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

16. August 4th – Film Screening in ART 223 – Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry
*Discussion Question Responses Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

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17. August 8th – Posthumanism (Art and Technology) – A Closer Look: Nam June Paik
*Response Paper Three Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

18. August 9th – Posthumanism (Back to the Body! Cyborgs and Monsters) – A Closer Look: Lee Bul

19. August 10th – Posthumanism (Artificial Intelligence and Rethinking ‘Art’ Once Again)
*Discussion Questions Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*
Reading: Moura, “Machines that Make Art”

20. August 11th – Film Screening in ART 223 – Kusama: Infinity
*Discussion Question Responses Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

21. August 12th – No Class, Work on Response Paper Four
*Response Paper Four Due at 11:59pm via Canvas*

*The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus over the course 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.