I. General Education Review – Writing Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dept/Program</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Course # (i.e. ENEX 200)</th>
<th>ART 303</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Contemporary Art and Art Criticism</td>
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</table>

II. Endorsement/ Approvals

Complete the form and obtain signatures before submitting to Faculty Senate Office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please type / print name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>H. Rafael Chacon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone / Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hrafael.chacon@umontana.edu">hrafael.chacon@umontana.edu</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Chair</td>
<td>Julia Galloway</td>
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III Overview of the Course Purpose/ Description:

Provides an introduction to the subject matter and explains course content and learning goals.

This course is a continuation of Art 203, the Introduction to Art Criticism, the Department of Art primary writing course for its majors. Art 303 is a survey of artists, art works, critics and theories from the 1960s to the present. It is also an introduction to the major art movements and ideas of the Post-modern era. Special emphasis is given to first-hand experiences with art at local venues and direct engagement with contemporary art criticism. The course is taught by two regular faculty members and one adjunct. Although taught differently by each, all three use the same textbook and place similar emphasis on writing assignments with particular focus on the development of analytical and critical skills through writing.

IV Learning Outcomes:

Explain how each of the following learning outcomes will be achieved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student learning outcomes</th>
<th>The focus of the course is on modernist theory in criticism and contemporary practice. Writing assignments, whether formal or informal, short or longer papers, focus on researching and responding to the ideas of previous and/or contemporary critics or the formulation of the student’s own critical position in relation to contemporary works of art.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use writing to learn and synthesize new concepts</td>
<td>The aim is to hone critical skills and language and apply them in written and oral presentations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Formulate and express opinions and ideas in writing</td>
<td>Discussions of the nature of the audience and its reception to contemporary art is central to the course content and a part of all writing assignments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compose written documents that are appropriate for a given audience or purpose</td>
<td>All formal writing assignments receive feedback, often from peers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revise written work based on constructive feedback</td>
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Find, evaluate, and use information effectively (see [http://www.lib.umt.edu/informationliteracy/](http://www.lib.umt.edu/informationliteracy/))

| Research on contemporary artists and critics, distilling information about them, making considered value judgments, taking critical stances on ideas and works of art, and conveying that information in written and oral presentation are the central goals of the course. |

| Begin to use discipline-specific writing conventions |
| As stated explicitly in the art history and criticism area COMPETENCIES OR STUDENT-LEARNING GOALS: “The following represent the course objectives of the art history and criticism curriculum. Visual Literacy and Language: to develop knowledge of visual language and the terminology needed for the analysis and discussion of works of art.” |

| Demonstrate appropriate English language usage |
| Yes |

### V. Writing Course Requirements Check list

| Is enrollment capped at 25 students? If not, list maximum course enrollment. Explain how outcomes will be adequately met for this number of students. Justify the request for variance. | ☐ Yes ☐ NoX Enrollment is currently capped at 30. The course frequently benefits from graduate student assistance in small discussion groups (research teams) and in grading to make up for the larger number of students. |
| Are outcomes listed in the course syllabus? If not, how will students be informed of course expectations? | ☒ Yes ☐ No |
| Are expectations for Information Literacy listed in the course syllabus? If not, how will students be informed of course expectations? | ☒ Yes ☐ No |
| Are detailed requirements for all written assignments included in the course syllabus? If not how and when will students be informed of written assignments? | ☒ Yes ☐ No |
| What instructional methods will be used to teach students to write for specific audiences, purposes, and genres? | Yes, this is explicitly discussed in the course. |
| Will written assignments include an opportunity for revision? If not, then explain how students will receive and use feedback to improve their writing ability. | ☒ Yes ☐ No |

### VI. Writing Assignments:

Please describe course assignments. Students should be required to individually compose at least 16 pages of writing for assessment. At least 50% of the course grade should be based on students’ performance on writing assignments. Clear expression, quality, and accuracy of content are considered an integral part of the grade on any writing assignment.
### Formal Graded Assignments

80% of the course grade rests on formal paper writing assignments:
- Papers: 40%  200 pts. 
  (2 short papers at 100 points apiece)
- Term paper: 40%  200 pts. 
  (1 longer research paper and oral presentation)
All papers are judged on the clarity of expression and quality and accuracy of the content. All are revised for the final grade.

### Informal Ungraded Assignments

Informal writing assignments in class are used frequently to generate discussion. Writing is judged for the clarity of expression and quality and accuracy of the content.

### VII. Syllabus:

Paste syllabus below or attach and send digital copy with form. The syllabus should clearly describe how the above criteria are satisfied. For assistance on syllabus preparation see: http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/syllabus.html

Paste syllabus here.

**Art 303L.01**  
*Contemporary Art and Art Criticism*  
(CRN 73334, Pre-req: Art 203 or consent of the instructor, upper division Writing course)  
Fall 2007

**Professor Information:** Professor H. Rafael Chacón, Ph.D. Office hours: Tues., 9-11 AM and Wed., 2-4 PM, Fine Arts 202, (ext. 2735, hrafael.chacon@umontana.edu). Messages can also be left in my mailbox in the Department of Art office (FA305).

**Class Meetings:** Fine Arts 302, Wednesdays, 4:10-7 PM, unless otherwise instructed.

**STUDENT-LEARNING GOALS:**
The following represent the goals of the art history and criticism curriculum:
- Art History: to gain a comprehensive and global view of the development of history and culture; to understand that art is a manifestation of intellectual history; and to study the various methodologies used to gain that knowledge.
- Visual Literacy and Language: to develop knowledge of visual language and the terminology needed for the analysis and discussion of works of art.
- Technical Skills: to learn the range of materials and technical applications employed by artists over time.
- Critical Thinking: to gain knowledge of and competence in critically analyzing visual images, past and present, and to express their relevance to society through informed discourse, both verbal and written.
Course description: This course is an exploration of art, artists, critics, and theories from WWII to the present. The class will consider major art movements and ideas of the modern and post-modern eras, with an emphasis on contemporary art makers. It offers first-hand experiences with contemporary art, direct engagement with artists at local venues, and the latest art criticism in newspapers, journals, magazines, and other media. This 3-credit course satisfies the H and W General Education requirements. Art 203 is a pre-requisite for this class.

Course objectives and format: The course is experiential in nature and relies heavily on direct engagement with works of art in discussion. The course will always meet in our regular classroom, FA 302, but we may meet in the Gallery of Visual Arts (GVA), the University Center Gallery (UC) and/or other venues. The syllabus is only available electronically on Blackboard. It is subject to change, so please check Blackboard regularly for announcements and assignments.

Course requirements and grading policies: Since much of the course is experiential, class sessions will be impossible to reproduce. Therefore, you are expected to attend class and participate in all discussions; attendance will be taken each time we meet. All assigned course work must be completed in order to earn credit for the class. ABSOLUTELY NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT OF THE INSTRUCTOR. Students are expected to keep copies of all assigned work.

Text:
Required text: Linda Weintraub, *In the Making, Creative Options for Contemporary Art*, 2003. A copy of the textbook will be available on two-hour reserve at the Mansfield Library.


Participation: Good class participation depends on your ability to prepare in advance of the discussions. Give yourself plenty of time to read the assigned text. Read intelligently and bring your questions to class. 20 % of your grade is determined by attendance and participation in class discussion.

Attendance Policy: at least 85 % attendance and occasional participation earns a "C" and 95-100 % participation with frequent and thoughtful contribution to class discussion an "A". Attendance will always be taken at the start of class. If you are not present at roll call, you will be marked absent regardless of what time you show up. Participation may count for more of the final grade if it has been exceptionally good or
less if exceedingly poor. Improvement over the course of the quarter will be registered in the final grade.

Summary of grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20 %</td>
<td>100 pts.</td>
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<td>Papers</td>
<td>40 %</td>
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<td>Term paper</td>
<td>40 %</td>
<td>200 pts.</td>
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<td>(1 longer research paper and oral presentation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>400 pts.</td>
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Access/Special Needs/Disabilities:
Students with access concerns, special needs, learning disabilities, medical conditions, and/or physical impairments that may impede the successful completion of this course, please contact the office of Disability Services for Students (DSS) at x. 2243 (Lommasson Center 154) and speak with me as soon as possible.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at: www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

Syllabus

This syllabus is only available electronically on Blackboard. It is subject to change, so please check Blackboard regularly for announcements and assignments.

Week 1
Wednesday, August 29, 2007
Orientation
What is art?

Week 2:
Wednesday, September 5, 2007
Visit to the GVA and UC galleries to be scheduled. Please check announcements on Blackboard.
Modernism
Readings: Weintraub, Scoping the Audience, 14-119.
Paper #1 will be assigned in class.

Week 3:
Wednesday, September 12, 2007
Postmodernism
Readings: Weintraub, Sourcing Inspiration, 120-191.
Paper #1 due at the start of class. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Week 4:
Wednesday, September 19, 2007

**Week 5:**
Wednesday, September 26, 2007
Paper #1 revisions due at the start of class. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.
Paper #2 will be assigned in class.

**Week 6:**
Wednesday, October 3, 2007
Weintraub, *Choosing a Mission*, 280-351.
Paper #2 due at the start of class. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.
Term Paper will be assigned in class.

**Week 7:**
Wednesday, October 10, 2007

**Week 8:**
Wednesday, October 17, 2007
Paper #2 revisions due at the start of class. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

**Week 9:**
Wednesday, October 24, 2007

**Week 10**
Wednesday, October 31, 2007
Term papers are due at the start of class. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

**Week 11:**
Wednesday, November 7, 2007
Presentations begin.

**Week 12**
Wednesday, November 14, 2007
Term paper revisions are due at the start of class. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.
Presentations continue.

**Week 13**
Wednesday, November 21, 2007
NO CLASS, Thanksgiving

**Week 14**
Wednesday, November 28, 2007
Presentations continue.

**Week 15**
Wednesday, December 5, 2007
Presentations continue.
Finals Week,
Wednesday, December 12, 2007, 5:30-7:30 PM

If we are not done with presentations by Week 15, the class shall meet during finals week.