

**MID 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY ART**

**ARH 4453 | ARH 6917**

**Section 03G6 | 07CC**

Fall 2017

Monday 11:45-1:40 (period 5-6) | Wednesday 12:50-1:40 (period 6)

FAC 201

**Professor Kaira M. Cabañas**

University of Florida

College of Fine Arts

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**University Counseling & Wellness Center**

Phone: (352) 392-1575 (line open 24/7)

Web: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu>

**University Police Department**

Phone: (352) 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies

**Important dates to remember:**

September 11: DUE: Harn object description in class

September 13: Public lecture by Fernanda Pitta, Curator, Pinacoteca de São Paulo

September 27: Public lecture by Ana Magalhães, Associate Professor, MAC-USP

October 16: Exam 1 | DUE: Exhibition abstract and preliminary bibliography in class

November 8: Public lecture by Sérgio Martins, Professor, PUC-RIO

November 13: DUE: Response paper to “A Little More Blue” lecture due in class

December 4: Exam 2

December 11: DUE: Final project by 5pm

**Course description:**

This lecture course addresses key artistic practices and movements from 1940s to the 1960s.

**Course requirements:**

Exam 1 + Abstract and bibliography (25%)

Response paper to lecture from the “A Little More Blue” series (10%)

Exam 2 (25%)

Group Final Project (25%)

Individual Object Essay as part of Group Project (10%)

Attendance and participation, questions (5%)

- Readings must be completed before lectures; this is essential to the course.
- A written question concerning the reading is required each week on Monday. I will call on a few students to pose their question during each week's first session.
- Monday session will include time for questions and group discussion.

Completion of all assignments and exams is necessary to pass the course.

### **Readings:**

Readings will be placed on RESERVE or E-RESERVE by the Fine Arts Library. PDFS listed in the weekly program will be uploaded to CANVAS, e-learning, and listed with the author's surname first in the file name.

Students may purchase textbooks at their discretion. The primary volumes include:

Hal Foster et al., eds., *Art Since 1900*, vol. 2, Thames and Hudson, 2004/5;

or: 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2011. Volume 2.

C. Harrison and P. Wood, eds., *Art in Theory: 1900-2000*, Wiley, 2002.

### **Written Assignments:**

With the exception of the final group project, all written assignments must be submitted in the form of hard copies on the date they are due. All texts should be double spaced, and use 12 point Times New Roman font and 1" margins. Your name should appear on the first page.

#### **A. Object description from the Harn Museum**

Visit the Harn Museum as an individual or in a group. Write a 250-word visual description of one of the two art objects currently on view at the museum. Bring the description to class on Monday, September 11.

#### **B. Abstract and preliminary bibliography**

Write a 250-word abstract about your proposed exhibition theme and include a preliminary bibliography of 5 published and printed sources as well as 5 works of art.

#### **C. Lecture Series: A Little More Blue: Art, Nation, Exile, Brazil**

*A Little More Blue* presents a series of talks by internationally recognized Brazil-based scholars with a distinguished record of published scholarship on modern and contemporary art. You are required to attend the lectures on September 27 and November 8 at 6pm in FAB 105. Write a **500-word** response to one of the lectures.

#### **D. Group Exhibition Proposal**

1 – Group component: For the final project you are to imagine that you are asked to curate a small show at MoMA on a specific topic and/or artist (with about 15 objects). Prepare an exhibition proposal (**500 words**) in which you include the project title and

explain the rationale for the exhibition—its main theme and/or concept. You should frame the exhibition in relation to how it engages with understandings and practices of modern art. Consider, for example, how your exhibition intervenes in a particular understanding of modern art and whether it develops upon previous exhibitions that broach similar issues.

Please provide a complete object checklist.

\*Please provide a bibliography of ten printed sources (books and articles) and include a minimum of 3 exhibition catalogues that you consulted as a group in preparation for developing your final exhibition theme.

2 – Individual component: Provide a **500**-word object description, as if it were an extended label in a museum or an artist's entry in a catalogue. Why is this object important to the group exhibition? How does it relate to the overall theme of the exhibition? Include 3 bibliographic sources (printed books and/or articles) that art viewers could turn to for more information about this artist and the particular work in question.

\*Each individual in the group must write on a different object.

\* I encourage you to read and exchange comments on one another's work prior to submission.

## Weekly Schedule:

### **Week 1**

August 21: Enrollment, attendance, syllabus, requirements and expectations

August 23: Introduction

### **Week 2**

August 28: Introduction + Mourning and Memory in German Art

August 30: Antonin Artaud and His Legacy

### **Week 3**

September 4: HOLIDAY

September 6: ⇨ Visit to the Harn Museum

### **Week 4**

September 11: Clement Greenberg and the Rise of Abstract Expressionism

⇨DUE: Object description

September 13: Painting in the Wake of Abstract Expressionism

⇨ Optional:

Public lecture: “Imagining Types”

Fernanda Pitta, Senior Curator at Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo

Wednesday, September 13, 6pm, FAB 105

### **Week 5**

September 18: Jean Tinguely

September 20: Pierre Restany and Nouveaux Réalisme

### **Week 6**

September 25: Mário Pedrosa and the Rise of Concrete Art in Brazil

September 27: ATTEND LECTURE 6PM

⇨ Public lecture: “Modern Classicism”

Ana Magalhães, Associate Professor at the Museum of Contemporary Art of the University of São Paulo (MAC-USP)

Wednesday, September 27, 6pm, FAB 105

**Week 7**

October 2: Alejandro Otero, Kinetic Art and the City University

October 4: CoBrA, Art Informel, and the Décollagistes

**Week 8**

October 9: Kinetic Art continued: GRAV

October 11: REVIEW

**Week 9**

October 16: EXAM

⇒ DUE: Abstract and preliminary bibliography (counts toward exam)

October 18: Yves Klein and Cinema

**Week 10**

October 23: Neo Dada

October 25:

Happenings and Environments

**Week 11**

October 30: Happenings and Environments

November 1: Andy Warhol: The Commodity Form

**Week 12**

November 6: Andy Warhol (continued) / Minimalism

November 8: ATTEND LECTURE 6PM

⇒ Public lecture: "Between realisms"

Sérgio Martins, Professor in the History Department of the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro

Wednesday, November 8, 6pm, FAB 105

**Week 13**

November 13: Minimalism continued / Another Geometry: Gego

⇒ DUE: Response paper to one of the "A Little More Blue" lectures

⇒ In class group research

November 15: Ferreira Gullar and Neo-Concrete Art

**Week 14**

November 20: Neo-Concrete Art (continued)

November 22: HOLIDAY

**Week 15**

November 27: Fluxus

⇒ In class group research

November 29: REVIEW

**Week 16**

December 4: EXAM

December 6: ⇒ In class group research

December 11: ⇒ FINAL PROJECT DUE by 5pm;  
Each group submits one single PDF

## **COURSE POLICIES:**

Class Attendance. Attendance will be taken. Unexcused absences will adversely affect the Attendance and Participation portion of your grade as well as your performance on Assignments and Exams. Each student will be granted two documented excused absences over the course of the semester. You need to provide a note from your doctor or other appropriate individual. Among the reasons for excused absences are: Death or major illness in the immediate family; religious holiday; injury.

Please look at your calendar at the beginning of the semester to see if you have any commitments (for example, religious holidays) that conflict with classes, due dates, or exams. If you do have a conflict, contact Dr. Cabañas in advance.

If you have more than 3 unexcused absences, your final grade will drop by one letter grade. If you are late 3 days (not in class by the time attendance is taken) this will count as one absence.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Late Assignments. Late assignments will be penalized 1/3 of a letter grade for every twenty-four hours after the deadline.

### Missed Exams.

If you miss an exam without a valid excuse, you will receive a 0 for that exam. Make-up exams will be coordinated with the professor.

### Classroom demeanor.

NO SCREENS. Choose a writing notebook for taking notes during class. No use of computers or other electronic devices. Thus: no talking on cell phones, ringing or beeping, texting, Facebooking, tweeting, or emailing during class. No noisy or smelly eating. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Inappropriate behavior shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

Use of Electronic Devices. Laptops may be used during schedule “in class group research” sessions. The instructor reserves the right to ask that they be put away if they disrupt the work toward the final assignment.

*Cell phone use is not permitted, and phones’ screens should not be visible during class time.*

Recording Classroom Sessions. To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance

written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use.

Email. Each student is issued a University e-mail address (username@ufl.edu) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications.

Accommodation. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course evaluations. Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on ten criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

### **Academic Honesty:**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: 'On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.'" The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask me (the instructor, Dr. Cabañas).

UF's policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. This means that cheating and plagiarism will be penalized, and a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. During exams, personal items must be cleared from desks and chairs and placed in a bag on the floor, and phones must be turned off. For information on what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide at

<http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html>. If you have any questions, please ask me. An online plagiarism checker service may be used to screen papers.

**Grading Scale:**

<b>Letter Grade</b>	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
<b>% Equivalent</b>	93+	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	59-

See the following web page for UF policies for assigning grade points:  
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.