

ARH4931

Senior Seminar: Art and War

Spring 2018

M | Period 8 - 10 (3:00–6:00 PM)

Professor Kaira M. Cabañas

University of Florida, College of Fine Arts

School of Art and Art History

Office: FAC Room 123 | Tel: 352-273-3064

Email: k.cabanass@ufl.edu

Office hours: Wednesday 10:00–11:00pm, and by appointment

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

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Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1161.

Important dates to remember:

January 30: Lecture by artist Martha Rosler

February 15: Lecture by Serge Guilbaut

February 16: Master class with Serge Guilbaut

February 26: Abstract + preliminary bibliography for final paper

April **TBA:** Miami, *The Words of Others: León Ferrari and Rhetoric in Times of War* *

April 12: Lecture by Rosalyn Deutsche

April 13: Master class with Rosalyn Deutsche

April 23: Final presentations (Extended class session)

May 1: Research paper due

Reading presentation dates will be scheduled on the first day of class. Depending on the size of the class, two (possibly three) students may be assigned to work together.

Course description: This seminar on the subject of art and war will raise core questions about how war is remembered and represented through visual art and film. With his *Disasters of War* (1810–1820) series, Francisco de Goya signaled the beginning of a new understanding of the power of art as historical testimony, what Susan Sontag in her *Regarding the Pain of Others* described thus: “With Goya, a new standard for responsiveness to suffering enters art.” Questions will be anchored in concrete case studies, beginning with the World War I and Dadaist practice, and ending with the contemporary art installation *9 Scripts from a Nation at War* (2007), which questions the individual roles constructed by war and at once probes how war impacts the classroom. Seminar readings will include key scholarship in art history and critical theory.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

This course will serve undergraduate art history majors as a capstone course drawing on their previous art history training and culminating in a substantial research paper.

Students will:

- perfect their abilities to read, write about, and discuss scholarly texts
- refine their scholarly research and writing skills
- understand major issues in Modern Art through the lens of art and war
- master the ability to discuss works of art within the discipline of art history
- produce a substantial research paper
- effectively communicate their research through a final presentation

Course requirements:

Participation (25%)

Reading presentation (10%)

Final research presentation in seminar (15%)

Research paper (50%)

Attendance is mandatory. One or two presentation(s) will be assigned during the course of the seminar.

- Readings must be completed before class; this is essential to the course.
- A printed question concerning the reading is required each week. Please print your question and bring it to class. Professor Cabañas will collect all questions at the end of class.
- To successfully participate in discussion it is incumbent upon each of you to familiarize yourself with each theorists' and artists' work.
- Completion of all assignments is necessary to pass the course.
- Please bring all weekly readings to class. This is key to reviewing the texts and the authors' arguments.
- At the end of the term students must present their research and a paper will be due (10 pages). For the final paper, please include at least 5 primary sources and 5 secondary sources. Please format footnotes and bibliography according to the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

Readings:

Readings will be placed on RESERVE and/or E-RESERVE by the Fine Arts Library. Please review the course page in ARES as a few readings will be on Hard Copy reserve at the Circulation Desk in Library West.

A few select readings will be uploaded to CANVAS.

Students may purchase books at their discretion.

Assignments:

A. Reading presentation

Over the course of the semester, each student will be responsible for a 10-15 minute presentation to launch discussion on assigned readings for that week. For these presentations, it is important to isolate authors' main points, as well as provide a select few images (when appropriate) in order to understand the critical terms, but also to test an authors' work against the actual artistic practices they engage. In some instances, it may be appropriate to provide cursory biographical background on an author. Powerpoint image captions should include the artist, title, year, media, and any other pertinent information as to the work's constitution. The discussion leader(s) should also ask other seminar members to present their weekly question so as to keep the discussion rolling.

B. Abstract and preliminary bibliography

Write a **750-word** abstract about your proposed research topic for the final paper and a preliminary bibliography of 4 published and printed sources. Please format footnotes and bibliography according to the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Format: Double-spaced, font: Times New Roman, 12 pt.

C: Final research presentation

The final presentation should be a polished draft of your final paper (see "D" below). You should present for 15 minutes, as if you were delivering a conference paper. The powerpoint should include images and relevant caption information. This is your opportunity to receive feedback from your peers as well as the instructor.

D. Research paper

The final research paper must be a well-researched and original contribution to the subject. It must also be well written. This 10-page paper must address a question related to the course. The task is to write it as if you were asked to contribute to a volume that reexamines the history of art and war, and more specifically on the importance of a single work. Keep in mind, for example, the method and scope of *Afterall's* One Work series— "a unique series of books, each of which presents a single work of art considered in detail by a single author. The focus of the series is on contemporary art and its aim is to provoke debate about significant moments in art's recent development" —but do so with an eye to the specific thematic of war and how it recorded/mediated/reenacted through a specific artist's work. Thus, I encourage you to choose a discrete object or exhibition of study around which you can delve into significant and probing research.

Format: Double-spaced, font: Times New Roman, 12 pt.
Please include images of all works discussed in the paper.

Weekly Schedule:

Week 1: Enrollment | introductions | expectations | syllabus
Monday, January 8

Week 2: HOLIDAY – NO CLASS: Monday, January 15

Week 3: Frameworks | Method
Monday, January 22

Week 4: Dada | Montage
Monday, January 29

Tuesday, January 30, 2018
ATTEND: Artist talk with Martha Rosler
TBA

Week 5: Picasso's Guernica
Monday, February 5

Week 6: Art | Cold War

6pm: Thursday, February 15, 2018
ATTEND Public lecture:
“Atomic Art around a Hot Bikini Cloud” by Serge Guilbaut
Harn Museum of Art
Chandler Auditorium

12:30-3:30pm: Friday, February 16, 2018
Master class with Serge Guilbaut
Location TBA

Week 7: Research Day
Monday, February 19

Week 8: Document and Photography | Wols
Monday, February 26

Week 9: SPRING BREAK

Monday, March 5

Week 10: Film and War

Monday, March 12

Week 11: Joseph Beuys

Monday, March 19

Week 12: Performance | Montage | Vietnam War

Monday, March 26

Week 13: Leon Ferrari and Rhetoric in Times of War

Week 14: Hiroshima after Iraq

6pm
Thursday, April 12, 2018
ATTEND Public lecture:
“Lecture on Art and War” by Rosalyn Deutsche
College of the Arts
FAB 105

12:30-3:30pm
Friday, April 13, 2018
Master class with Rosalyn Deutsche
FAC 102 (SA+AH conference room)

Week 15: Research day

Monday, April 16

Week 17: Presentations

Monday, April 23

May 1: DUE: Final research paper in electronic form by 5pm

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 one documented excused absence 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 2 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.

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. Class sessions may not be recorded.

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

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

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. Students should send correspondence using the email function within the course’s CANVAS, e-learning site.

Accommodation. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to me 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.*

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. For information on what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide at <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html> and “Misuse of Sources” on the course web site. *If you have any questions, please ask me.* An online plagiarism checker service may be used to screen papers.

Grading Scale:

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

Please note: A grade of C- (or below) will not count toward major requirements.

See the following web page for information on UF policies for assigning grade points:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

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