

Modern and Contemporary Art from Latin America

ARH 3678 (Section: 07CG) | GRAD 6917 | FALL 2019

M | Period 5 – 6 (11:45 AM – 1:40 PM) | FAC 201

W | Period 5 (11:45 AM – 12:35 PM) | FAC 201

International Scholars Program (ISP): This course fulfills one of the curriculum requirements of the ISP. Learn more about the graduation medallion and diploma here: <https://internationalcenter.ufl.edu/global-learning/international-scholars-program>

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.cabanas@ufl.edu

Office hours: Wednesday 1:00pm–2:00pm, and by appointment

Important dates to remember:

August 23, 5pm: Email jpg favorite work of art with artist, title, year, medium.

September 2: Holiday – No class

October 14: Exam 1

November 6 or 7: Guest artist lecture: Felipe Meres

November 11: Holiday – No class

November 13: TBA

November 14, 6PM: Lecture by Luis Pérez–Oramas, Harn Museum of Art (required)

November 15, 11AM–1PM: Master class with Luis Pérez–Oramas (required)

November 15, 7–9PM: Opening of *Accumulate, Classify, Preserve, Display: Archivo Roberto Obregón* at University Gallery (optional)

November 25: Response paper to lecture due

November 27: Holiday – No class

December 4: Exam 2

December 11: Final Group Project due online to e-portfolio

Course description:

This 3000 level lecture course will look at artworks produced in the more than 20 countries that make up Latin America. The illustrated lectures will take students from the Southern Cone nations of South America, up through Central America and the Caribbean, to Mexico to the north. It will cover styles from the modernisms of the early 20th century to the installation art found in global biennials at the beginning of the 21st century.

Course objectives:

- Examine, compare and contrast, common themes/topics across cultures within and beyond Latin America
- Develop direct observation and examinations skills
- Expand cross-cultural research skills
- Develop openness to other cultural perspectives
- Provide an overview of the works, artists, and themes central to the history of art in Latin American in the 20th and 21st century
- Learn and critically engage the key concepts and issues in modern and contemporary art

Course requirements:

Exam 1 + Abstract and bibliography (25%)

Response paper to Artist lecture (Meres) or HESCAH lecture (Oramas) (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 Wednesday. I will call on a few students to pose their question during each week's Wednesday discussion of a single artist and related reading.
- 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.

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

- Jacqueline Barnitz and Patrick Frank, *Twentieth Century Art of Latin America*. Revised and Expanded Edition, Austin: University of Texas Press, 2015. (reserve)
[*For 2001 edition: Please note different pagination.]
- Patrick Frank, ed. *Readings in Latin American Modern Art*, New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2004. (multi-user e-book, linked to e-reserves for course)

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. 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. Please format footnotes and bibliography according to the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

B. Artist lecture and Art Historian lecture

Write a 500-word response to one of the lectures.

C. Online Exhibition Concept (Group Component)

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 and contemporary art from Latin America. Consider, for example, how your exhibition intervenes in a particular understanding of 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 –Exhibition highlights (Individual component): Provide the image reproduction of the work and a **500-word** object description (either written or filmed as a video), 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. If you provide a video, include this bibliographic information on the page with a reproduction of the work

The complete online exhibition portfolio should include the following components:

1. Exhibition title
2. Exhibition concept (500 words; A)
3. Exhibition checklist (15 works; B)
4. Exhibition highlights (C)
5. Further reading (This is the ten printed sources; see A)
6. Curators’ profiles (Each of you should include an image of yourself and a short biographical statement of 100 words)

Weekly Schedule of Topics

Week 1 |

August 21: **Introduction | Enrollment | Syllabus**

Week 2 |

August 26: **Academies, Travelers and Emergent Modernism**

August 28: **Discussion: Issues and Framing of the Field**

Week 3 |

September 2: **HOLIDAY – No class**

September 4: **Almeida Junior**

Week 4 |

September 9: **Modernism & the Avant-Gardes: South America**

September 11: **Tarsila do Amaral & Joaquín Torres-García**

Week 5 |

September 16: **Modernism & the Avant-Gardes: Mexico**

September 18: **Diego Rivera**

Week 6 |

September 23: **Clinical-Artistic Tableaux**

September 25: **Wilfredo Lam**

Week 7 |

September 30: **Surrealism**

October 2: **Frida Kahlo**

Week 8 |

October 7: **Indigenism**

October 9: **Exam Review**

Week 9 |

October 14: **Exam 1**

October 16: **Group work toward Final Project**

Week 10 |

October 21: **The Concrete and Kinetic**

October 23: **Lygia Clark & Hélio Oiticica**

Week 11 |

October 28: **New Figuration, Pop & New Media**

October 30: **Groupe de Recherche d'Art Visuel: GRAV**

Week 12 |

November 4: **Conceptualism**

November 6 or 7: **Guest lecture by artist Felipe Meres**

Week 13 |

November 11: **HOLIDAY – No class**

November 13: **TBA**

Case study: Roberto Obregón

November 14, 6PM: LECTURE “Roberto Obregón: Achroma Vanitas”

Luis Pérez-Oramas, Independent Scholar and Director Instituto Roesler
Chandler Auditorium, Harn Museum of Art

ALSO VISIT THE EXHIBITION AT THE HARN:

Accumulate, Classify, Preserve, Display: Archivo Roberto Obregón

November 15, 11AM–1PM: MASTER CLASS with Luis Pérez-Oramas

Location TBA *

Week 14 |

November 18: **Roberto Obregón (continued) | Group Work on Final Project**

November 20: **Performance: Ana Mendieta**

Week 15 |

November 25: **Contemporary Art Cartographies | Group Work on Final Project**

November 27: **HOLIDAY – No class**

Week 16 |

December 2: **Performance (continued) | Review for Exam**

December 4: **Exam 2**

December 11: **Final Group Project due online. Send me the link 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. Excuse notes should be submitted via email on the day of your absence or submitted as hard copy the day you resume class.

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 professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-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. 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>.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Academic Resources:

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Connections Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://career.ufl.edu/>

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Health and Wellness:

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.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu> or (352) 392-157

University Police Department: (352) 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies

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