

ART 6933: CONTRA/DICTION, FICTION AND FRICTION GRADUATE SEMINAR IN PAINTING + DRAWING + PRINTMAKING



Tavares Strachan, *Next Time*, 2018
Mylar, matte paper, pigment, spray paint, acrylic, oil
stick, enamel, vinyl, graphite
89 1/2 x 89 1/2 x 3 1/8 in. (227.3 x 227.3 x 7.9 cm)

FALL 2021 | 3 credits | T | Period 2-4 (8:30 AM- 11:30 AM)

E-learning /canvas: announcements, weekly calendar/due dates, assignment descriptions, course materials/readings, grading, and office hours/class zoom link

Course in two parts:

Seminar – GRADhaus

Group studio critiques – GRADhaus or other locations T.B.A

blog: art6933dictionfictionfriction.blogspot.com:

a space to archive assigned individual responses to course readings and to collectively share relevant course info + resources + opportunities + creative research

Instructor:

Associate Professor, Bethany Taylor (she/her/hers)

Email: bwarp@ufl.edu

Office: FAD 221

Office hours: Virtual office hours: TH 10-11am or (or by appointment)

Graduate seminar in painting, drawing and printmaking, *Contra/Diction, Fiction and Friction*, will explore language, imaginaries, and tensions informing cultural and contemporary art practices.

The seminar is structured to dedicate equal time to reading/writing/presentation/discussion and to studio practice/group critique. The course is designed to support graduate students to articulate, challenge and redefine their individual studio practices while informed by a provocative mix of readings, film screenings, web-based research, collaborative/individual writing, presentations, focused conversations, and visiting artists. The course will encourage a proactive investigation of topics broadly related to themes and ideas presented in the course in order to inform individual research and studio practice, and will conclude with a group exhibition (*T.B.D. either virtual or physical*).

The first half of the seminar will be reserved for lectures/presentations, films, and discussions of weekly readings. The second half of the seminar will primarily be reserved for group critiques. We will develop a semester-long critique calendar the first week of class and readings will be posted and updated each week on e-learning/canvas.

OBJECTIVES:

- To develop a critical approach to, and understanding of, topics in contemporary art and aesthetics related to the course themes, *“Contra/Diction, Fiction and Friction”*.
- To develop new methodologies, lines of inquiry or strategies to inform, build upon or challenge your current research and practice.
- To develop and contribute intellectual musings and practical examples of artists’ work related to readings, peer critiques and course content by way of course blog: art6933dictionfictionfriction.blogspot.com
- To engage in a rigorous practice of creative work and inquiry successfully linking research, concept, intent, form and medium to effectively communicate to an intentional audience.
- To evaluate individual and peer work in relation to the context of class discussions and outside readings (in order to create a more engaged learning environment for all).

- To learn to engage in constructive and challenging critical discussion of artwork and to find ways to integrate relevant suggestions by others into one's studio practice/research.
- To learn to better articulate and present one's ideas and work to an audience.
- To participate with openness to aesthetic, political and cultural debates and to carefully listen and engage wholeheartedly within a diverse community of active working artists.

TOPICS / WEEKLY CALENDAR:

The course will be divided into weekly units for discussion with topics related to the course theme: **Contra/Diction, Fiction and Friction** (as well as related student interests). Readings, discussion questions, and reading response prompts for blog entries will be assigned weekly, in addition to an ongoing schedule of weekly group critiques (two-three students per week). An updated course schedule will be posted on canvas as well as on the course blog including reading assignments, due dates, visiting artists, field trips, daily course plans and group critique schedules. Please check both e-learning/canvas and the course blog several times weekly and before each seminar class for important announcements.

REQUIRED TEXT/s:

No Textbook Required. Course readings will be assigned weekly and posted on E-learning/Canvas.

GRADING:

Individual letter-grades will be recorded for weekly blog responses related to assigned readings, participation in a rigorous studio, research and critical practice, and for a collaborative research/writing project.

Grading Scale:

A 94-100 **4.0**/ **A-** 90-93 **3.67**/ **B+** 87-89 **3.33**/ **B** 83-86 **3.0**/ **B-** 80-82 **2.67**/ **C+** 77-79 **2.33**/ **C** 73-76 **2.0**/
C- 70-72 **1.67**/**D+** 67-69 **1.33**/ **D** 63-66 **1.0**/ **D-** 60-62 **.67**/ **E** 0-59

Final grades in the course will be weighted according to the following breakdown:

- 30% **Weekly blog responses to assigned readings and seminar discussions** (*prompts will be posted weekly to blog: art6933dictionfictionfriction.blogspot.com*). Responses should be thoughtful, well researched and related to your work and/or individual interests in the topics/questions presented. Your blog entry will be a start for your contributions to the discussion each week. Every student will be expected to share weekly responses as well as develop further questions for peers in discussion.
- 30% **Independent research and studio work/critique presentations/studio visits (1 w/ me and at least 2 with other faculty)**, should demonstrate a commitment to studio practice and carefully considered presentation of work created specifically during the semester long course. Artist statements should accompany the work and be posted to the class via E-learning/canvas by 5pm the day before critique. Additional **independent research** will be expected including **active participation in the Visiting Artist Program** and attendance at local, regional and virtual **exhibitions** is highly encouraged.
- 20% **Active participation in peer critiques with follow-up** by sharing suggested research and resources to your peers via the course blog.
- 20% **Collaborative writing/art manifesto** (*This is a semester long thinking/writing/presentation workshop. Project handouts will be assigned throughout the semester with specific criteria for each stage of this workshop*).

Evaluation:

- A 4.0** Extremely well-presented, thoughtfully executed, superior work, all criteria of assignment have been surpassed in a distinguished manner. In addition, student is engaged in exceptional studio and research practice, which includes active independent research, looking up artists recommended by faculty and peers, asking relevant questions about other artists' works or ideas, and being thoroughly engaged in reading assignments and individual studio work. Resulting work completed during the semester demonstrates a high level of understanding of the assignments presented, and the complex questions raised in seminar topics and discussions as well as by one's own studio work. Student demonstrates a high level of critical thinking, craftsmanship, conceptual experimentation, and a desire to learn and grow as an artist is evidenced through exemplary attendance, hard work, curiosity, openness to criticism and

- willingness to make improvements and share learning and insights with peers.
- B 3.0 Very good work overall. Most criteria of assignments were surpassed with some improvements to be made. Studio and research practice was commendable and there is an obvious effort made to adhere to and address the criteria and purposes of assignments and to relate responses/insights to course topics. Good attendance (maximum of 3 absences), participation in critique, and general conscientious work submitted is characteristic and student generally operates as a thoughtful, engaged citizen of the community. Most of the criteria of A apply, but to a lesser degree.
- C 2.0 Adequate, average, work meeting most of the assignment criteria with areas needing significant improvement. Work demonstrates a fairly good attempt at responding to the problems or topics presented, but the work lacks the engagement, effort and comprehensive understanding characteristic of a B. Poor studio and research practice are exhibited overall.
- D 1.0 Barely meets the criteria of assignments, extremely poor or unfinished work, highlighting unacceptable studio and research practice. Barely contributing to the seminar environment.
- E 0.0 Failure to meet all criteria of assignment accompanied by unacceptable studio/research practice. Not contributing to the seminar environment.

More information on UF grading policies can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#gradingpoliciestext>

ATTENDANCE POLICY/COURSE EXPECTATIONS

- **Attendance is mandatory** and students should participate the duration of the scheduled class period. A seminar course requires a vibrant community of active, reflective, productive and collaborative citizens and all are expected to be prepared, on time and ready share opinions and insights for the success of the learning environment. If an absence occurs it is the student's responsibility to follow-up and to make up all work they missed.
- **All artwork for group critique must be complete and installed before the start of the course period.** A critique should not be missed, and cannot be made-up for purposes of grading.
- **Full engagement in course blog, discussions on readings, timely completion of assignments fulfilling course criteria, cohesive verbal presentation of studio artwork and constructive criticism of peer work** is expected.
- **On-going rigorous studio practice** should be maintained outside of regularly scheduled class.
- **Writing/blog assignments** will be considered late if not posted each week by 8pm the Monday evening before our Tuesday morning seminar and will be lowered one grade for each class entries are not submitted.
- **The Visiting Artist Program** is a vital part of your graduate education and there are many opportunities to engage with national and internationally renowned artists, curators, scholars, critics and collectors invited to speak at the SA+AH, Harn Museum and in the community. **You will be expected to attend at least 2 Visiting Artist Lectures**, but are *encouraged* to attend **ALL** of the following:

VISITING ARTISTS CALENDAR FALL 2021:

Ben Vautier, Time TBA, Tuesday, September 14th, Virtual Talk: Zoom
<http://www.ben-vautier.com/>
<https://eva-vautier.com/en/art/ben-vautier/>

Philip Corner, Time TBA, Tuesday, September 21st, Virtual Talk: Zoom
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_Corner
<https://toneglow.substack.com/p/0298-philip-corner>

Ken Friedman, 6:15PM, Tuesday, September 28th, Virtual Talk: Zoom
https://monoskop.org/Ken_Friedman
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ken_Friedman

Zach Blas, 6:15PM, Tuesday, October 12th, Virtual Talk: Zoom
<https://zachblas.info/>

Glexis Novoa, 6:15PM, Tuesday, October 26th, Physical Talk: TBD

<http://glexisnovoa.com/>

Michael Mandiberg, 6:15PM, Tuesday, November 9th, Virtual Talk/Performance: Zoom

<https://www.mandiberg.com/>

<http://www.artspracticum.org/>

- You are encouraged to **seek out and attend exhibitions/performances** (in person or virtually) throughout the semester at our regional art venues, on campus or in the community. *Share with your peers any images or things you learned from/or mused about the event on the course blog.*
- You are encouraged to **seek out and apply for opportunities** (exhibitions, residencies, and other professional opportunities) **in order** to promote your work and practice. *Evidence can be posted on Canvas for participation credit (under professional opportunities assignment on canvas).*
- You are **expected to have one studio visit with me and 2 or more others with other faculty** (with at least one being from outside of your area of study). *Notes from these visits should be posted on Canvas for research/studio work credit (under studio visits assignment).*
- **Maintaining an active UF email account** that is checked regularly and linked with canvas.
- **Evaluation of the course** online at the end of semester is required.

* **UF attendance policy:** <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx#absences>

UF and SA+AH POLICIES AND RESOURCES:

ACCOMODATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students office. The Dean of Students will provide documentation to the student who will then provide this to the instructor when requesting accommodation. The Disability Resources Center <https://disability.ufl.edu> is located in 001 Reid Hall (phone (352) 392-8565)

SA+AH HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY AND HANDBOOK:

https://arts.ufl.edu/site/assets/files/37319/saah_health_and_safety_handbook_2021.pdf

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

The course will follow the University's honesty policy found on-line at: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>. Work completed for this course may not be turned in for any other class. In addition, work turned in for credit in another class may not be turned in for credit in this class.

DEMEANOR POLICY

Students must turn off cell phones, and all electronic devices during class time and respect and participate in course activities at hand.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR

Faculty, Students, Administrative and Professional staff members, and other employees [hereinafter referred to as "member(s)" of the University], who intentionally act to impair, interfere with, or obstruct the mission, purposes, order, operations, processes, and functions of the University shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by University authorities for misconduct, as set forth in the applicable rules of the Board of Regents and the University and state law governing such actions. Be advised that you can and will be dismissed from class if you engage in disruptive behavior.

UF Student Honor Code including individual academic and social responsibility can be found at:

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2020/12/Orange-Book-Web-Version-2020.pdf>

IMPORTANT COVID-19 CLASSROOM POLICIES

- Masks are expected **at all times**. Due to the surge in Covid-19 cases because of the Delta variant all people, inside UF facilities **are expected to wear approved face masks even if vaccinated**. UF also urges all people to get vaccinated <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/vaccinations/>. Recent research and guidance from the CDC state that both unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals can transmit the current Covid-19 variant to unvaccinated persons.
- Please maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals whenever possible) during class.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the studio/classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html> - stay home and self-quarantine. Please use the UF Health Screen, Test and Protect system to determine next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test. **If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.** Visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website for more information. <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect-2/>
- COVID-19 testing remains available both on and off campus. Testing locations and schedules are available at <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect-2/how/screen/#locations>. In addition, please complete the Weekly COVID-19 Symptom Screening you receive via email. This will help the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect team identify and contain any potential COVID-19 outbreaks.
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.
- Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing.
- Continue to regularly visit coronavirus.UFHealth.org and coronavirus.ufl.edu for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

UF COURSE EVALUATION

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/>.

UF POLICY FOR IN-CLASS RECORDING

“Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab/studio sessions, student presentations, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments, field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person

injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.”

UF RESOURCES FOR HEALTH/WELLNESS

University Counseling Services: 352-392-1575 <https://counseling.ufl.edu>

Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals which interfere with their academic performance. The Counseling Center provides counseling and consultation services to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students and their spouses/partners. The Center offers brief counseling and therapy to help students confront personal, academic, and career concerns. The primary goal of counseling is to help students develop the personal awareness and skills necessary to overcome problems and to grow and develop in ways that will allow them to take advantage of the educational opportunities at the university. Counseling Center Web site:

<https://umatter.ufl.edu/office/counseling-wellness-center/>

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website <https://shcc.ufl.edu>

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; <https://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center>

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, <https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu> or call 352-273-4450.