

# Living Creatively



Images: Juan Guzmán, *Frida with Two Birds*, c. 1940s / Photograph of Sonia Delaunay (right) and a model wearing designs by Sonia Delaunay, c. 1924 / Mikhail Kaufman, *Photograph of Aleksandr Rodchenko wearing a worker's suit of his own design*, likely 1924

## ARH 4931: Art History Seminar

School of Art + Art History, College of the Arts, University of Florida

Fall 2021

Credits: 3

Thursdays

Periods 8–10: 3:00–6:00pm FAC 102

### INSTRUCTOR

Professor Rachel Silveri

### Email & Office Phone

[rsilveri@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:rsilveri@arts.ufl.edu)  
352-273-3053

### Office

FAC 119B

### Office Hours

Tuesdays 3:00-5:00pm

### Course Description

This is a seminar about living creatively. Focusing on the early twentieth-century avant-gardes of Europe and North America, its premise is that a number of artists regarded their own everyday lives—their bodies, identities, and relationships—as a type of plastic material to remake, develop, and creatively stylize. The class will consider how to theorize, discuss, and analyze such experimental life practices, looking at various case studies. With any luck, our study of these artists will help prompt an investigation of our own everyday lives, informing how we might ourselves learn to live otherwise.

### Course Objectives & Goals

As the capstone senior seminar for art history undergraduates, this course provides an in-depth discussion of a selected field of art and is offered by members of the art history faculty on a rotating basis. Students will gain experience analyzing art historical writings through class

presentations and reading responses; they will author an in-depth research paper and give a conference-style presentation of their research at the end of the semester.

The course will strengthen students' abilities to:

- Identify, describe, and interpret works of art and related materials about art's cultural, historical, and political contexts
- Conduct a thorough program of research that identifies and assesses high caliber primary and secondary sources
- Understand and survey the state of the scholarly literature on a topic
- Use methodological approaches current in the scholarship
- Produce written analysis of works of art in their historical or cultural context
- Formulate oral analysis of works of art in their historical or cultural context

### **COVID-19 Classroom Guidelines**

In response to COVID-19, the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this link for details on where to get your shot, including options that do not require an appointment: <https://coronavirus.uflhealth.org/vaccinations/vaccine-availability/>. Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine somewhere off-campus and/or outside of Gainesville can still receive their second dose on campus.
- You are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within campus buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.
  - Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
  - Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.
- If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email [covid@shcc.ufl.edu](mailto:covid@shcc.ufl.edu)) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the [UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website](#) for more information.
  - 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.
  - 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.

- Continue to regularly visit [coronavirus.UFHealth.org](https://coronavirus.UFHealth.org) and [coronavirus.ufl.edu](https://coronavirus.ufl.edu) for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

### **Course Requirements & Grading**

Active Seminar Participation	10%
Seminar Reading Presentations (2 total)	20%
Weekly Response Papers (10 total)	20%
Final Paper Abstract & Bibliography	10%
Final Paper Presentation	10%
Final Paper	30%

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

Any grade of C- or below will not count toward major or general education requirements.

For more information on UF's grading policies and assigning grade points, see:

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

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>% Equivalency</b>	<b>GPA Equivalency</b>
A	94 and above	4.00
A-	90 to 93	3.67
B+	87 to 89	3.33
B	83 to 86	3.00
B-	80 to 82	2.67
C+	77 to 79	2.33
C	73 to 76	2.00
C-	70 to 72	1.67
D+	67 to 69	1.33
D	63 to 66	1.00
D-	60 to 62	0.67
E, I, NG, WF	59 and below	0.00

### **Readings**

All assigned readings will be available either on reserve at the Architecture & Fine Arts Library or made available online through the Canvas e-Learning Course Website. All readings must be completed before each class. Please bring hard copies of the readings to class with you.

### **Attendance, Participation, Due Dates**

Students are expected to **attend every seminar**. Attendance will be taken at the start of every class.

**Except in extenuating circumstances, more than one unexcused absence will affect your final course grade.** The instructor may opt to drop your final grade a half-step for every unexcused

absence (B to B-, B- to C, etc.). Students are expected to arrive to class on time. **Unexcused late arrivals and early departures of 15 minutes or more will count as an absence.**

Any absences that are incurred as a consequence of illness, religious observance, or family emergency will be excused; please simply inform the instructor and, in the case of illness, provide a doctor's note.

**Active participation** is required for this course and will be factored into your final grade. Active participation means being engaged during seminar, coming to class having completed all the readings and being prepared to discuss them (consulting images, identifying puzzling aspects of the texts, highlighting passages for analysis, raising questions for discussion), and being respectful of the comments made by your peers. Efforts are made to encourage ALL students to participate.

Students are expected to **turn in all assignments on time**. Late assignments will be penalized 1/3 of a letter grade for every twenty-four hours past their due date (i.e. from an A to an A-). Any extensions or late work due to an excused absence must be coordinated with the instructor.

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

## **Assignments**

### Weekly Presentations

In order to facilitate discussion, many of the assigned readings will be presented in-class by seminar participants. The goal of such presentations is to unpack the main arguments and critical stakes of the readings; relate them to other texts, issues, or works already discussed; and raise questions about them for discussion. Other presentations might focus on artworks related to the readings. Presentations should be 10-15 minutes in length. Students should expect to make two of these presentations throughout the semester.

### Response Papers

Throughout the semester, students will be responsible for short, weekly response papers. For every class with assigned readings, students will be expected to turn in a 1-page response summarizing the text(s) (The page count is per class, not per text, i.e. if there are three readings assigned, you should summarize them together in a 1-page response). Your response should briefly state the main argument of each reading, its methodology (*how* the argument is made, *how* the author arrives at their claims), and the materials (texts, artworks, theories) that it examines.

### Final Project Abstract & Bibliography

In advance of their final projects, students will prepare an abstract of 500 words outlining the scope of their topic and the issues/materials to be examined. They will also include a preliminary bibliography of at least ten scholarly texts.

### Final Project Presentation

Students will present a polished, conference-style presentation of their final project to the class, complete with a PowerPoint of related images. Presentations should be 20 minutes in length.

### Final Project

The final research paper should be 15 pages in length and demonstrate significant research, original argumentation, clearly defined critical stakes, and mastery of the related secondary literature. It should also incorporate feedback and suggestions from the final project presentation. Plagiarism, in part or in full, will be grounds for failing the course.

Students should discuss their final paper topics with the instructor in advance.

All assignments must be in Times New Roman 12-point font, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins. Please number the pages. Any citations must be done in Chicago-style.

Chicago Manual of Style Guide: [https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html)

## Course Policies

### Email

Announcements about the class will be sent out over email. Please check your UF email regularly. If you send the professor or teaching assistants any emails, please do so from your official UF account and practice email etiquette and courtesy when messaging (write a clear subject line, include a salutation and closing, address your instructor as “Professor” or “Dr.,” etc.). For more information on email etiquette, see the guide from *Inside Higher Education*:

<https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2015/04/16/advice-students-so-they-dont-sound-silly-emails-essay>

### Disability Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

## School of Art + Art History Mission and Values

### *Mission Statement:*

The School of Art + Art History nurtures a culture of critical inquiry in our scholarly and creative work. Our educational mission is to empower each student with knowledge, skills, and insight to engage thoughtfully with our changing world.

### *Values Statement:*

We believe in community and transformation. We aspire to be courageous, generous, and engaged.

- **Community:** We foster a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community through mutual respect and acceptance.
- **Transformation:** We pursue positive transformation and impact through education, research, and creative works.
- **Courage:** We ask challenging questions, take risks, and strive for excellence.

- **Generosity:** We assume the best in others and enable a culture where everyone can flourish.
- **Engagement:** We believe the diverse contributions of art, design, and scholarship are critical to our community and beyond.

### **Diversity**

It is our intent that we explore the content of this course in a way that is respectful of diversity—including gender identity, sexuality, ability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, nationality, religion, and culture. It is also our intent to present content that explores diverse points of view, which might be challenging. Maintaining a respectful environment will be both our responsibility and yours. It is our intent that students from all backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength, and benefit. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated.

### **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/>.

### **University of Florida Student Honor Code**

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.’*”

In addition to The Honor Pledge, students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the Student Honor and Conduct Codes, both of which are available in full here: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

UF’s policies regarding academic honesty, the Honor Code, and the Conduct Code will be strictly enforced. This means that **cheating and plagiarism will be penalized with a failing grade, and a report will be filed with the Office of the Dean of Students.**

An online service that checks for plagiarism may be used to screen papers.

### **Campus Resources: Health and Wellness**

**U Matter, We Care:** If you are in distress or have a friend who is, please contact “U Matter, We Care” so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Email: [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu)

Phone: 352-392-1575

Website: <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/>

**Counseling and Wellness Center:**

Address: 3190 Radio Road, Gainesville, FL 32611

Phone: 352-392-1575  
Website: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), at the Student Health Care Center:

Phone: 352-392-1161  
Website: [http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/sexual\\_violence](http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/sexual_violence)

### **Campus Resources: Academic**

The Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall and 339 Library West, offers help with brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers, as well as online tutoring.

Phone: 352-846-1138  
Website: <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Teaching Center, SW Broward Hall, for tutoring and strengthening study skills.

Email: [teaching-center@ufl.edu](mailto:teaching-center@ufl.edu)  
Phone: 352-392-6420  
Website: <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Harn Museum of Art, 3259 Hull Road, excellent collection on campus with more than 10,000 works of art; offers free student memberships that include admission to 75+ museums nationwide, invitations to museum events, and more.

Phone: 352-392-9826  
Website: <http://harn.ufl.edu/>

### **Important Dates to Remember**

Monday, October 18, by 11:59am	Final Paper Abstract & Bibliography Due
Thursday, November 18, in class	Final Presentations (Day 1/2)
Thursday, December 2, in class	Final Presentations (Day 2/2)
Friday, December 10 at 11:59pm	Final Papers Due

### **Schedule**

The schedule may change slightly during the semester in response to the needs of the class, though dates for exams and papers will not change.

**Week 1: Thursday, August 26**  
**To the Seminar! Overview + Introductions**

**Week 2: Thursday, September 2**  
**Theorizing the Everyday**

**Week 3: Thursday, September 9**

**Arts of Living: Ethics and Techniques of the Self**

**Week 4: Thursday, September 16**  
**Critique**

**Week 5: Thursday, September 23**  
**Dandyism and Its Legacies**

**Week 6: Thursday, September 30**  
**The Modern Woman / La Femme moderne / Die Neue Frau**

**Week 7: Thursday, October 7**  
**The New Negro: Black Self-Fashioning in and around the Harlem Renaissance**

**Week 8: Thursday, October 14**  
**Modern Lovers**

**Monday, October 18 by 11:59am**

**Final Paper Abstracts & Bibliographies Due**

**Week 9: Thursday, October 21**  
**Artists as Workers, Producers, Employees**

**Week 10: Thursday, October 28**  
**The Objects of Everyday Life**

**Week 11: Thursday, November 4**  
**Fashion — Clothing — Dress**

**Week 12: Thursday, November 11**  
**No Class (Holiday — Veterans Day)**

**Week 13: Thursday, November 18**  
**Final Presentations**

**Week 14: Thursday, November 25**  
**No Class (Holiday — Thanksgiving Break)**



**Week 15: Thursday, December 2**  
**Final Presentations**

**📅 Friday, December 10 by 11:59pm**      **Final Papers Due**