ARTS 4700: Capstone in Art History (3 credit hours)
Auburn University
One 3-hour meeting per week

Dr. Joyce de Vries
Office: 212 Biggin Hall
Office hours:
Phone/Voice Mail 334.844.3484
Email: devrijc@auburn.edu

Course Description:
This course serves as the capstone for the students enrolled in the B.A. Art degree with an option in art history. Students will learn historiographical and methodological issues within the field of art history, conduct research on a topic of their choice, present their research formally to the class, and prepare a final 20-25-page research paper. The course is open to art history minors as well.

Prerequisites: Senior standing; declared art history major; and completion of 18 hours of 3000 level history courses.

The class will be conducted in a seminar format, with students leading discussions and presenting their work to their peers. Students are expected to attend class, take notes, complete the assigned reading before class, actively contribute to discussions, and, in general, maintain a professional attitude in class.

Possible Texts:

Course readings outside the textbook will be on E-Reserve, accessible from the Auburn University Library Home page. Password for E-Reserve: XXXXX. You will be responsible for course materials and information that is sent electronically, so check your Auburn email account regularly.

Course Objectives:
In this course, students are expected to understand and analyze major historiographical and methodological issues within art history; conduct research on a topic of their choice; share their work through written and oral presentations; and complete a final research paper.

Course Requirements:
1. **Attendance is required.** Because of the nature of a seminar class, no unexcused classes will be allowed. Each unexcused absence will result in a 5-point deduction from your final average. **Four (4) or more unexcused absences will result in automatic failure of the course.** You should be familiar with the Auburn University attendance policy as stated in the current student handbook under Class Attendance. There are no provisions for making up missed classes. Regardless of why students have missed lecture, it is their responsibility to get notes from a fellow student. **If you have an excuse for missing class, you must submit official documentation to the professor in a timely manner, typically within one week of the missed class. If you leave in the middle of class, you will not be allowed to return to the classroom and will be marked absent for the day. Three (3) instances of arriving late or leaving early without an approved excuse will equal one absence.**
2. Graded Requirements:
Class Participation & Discussion 100
Pop Quizzes on selected Required Readings (one can be dropped) 100
Research project:
  Topic and preliminary bibliography 25
  Paper Proposal and Annotated bibliography 40
  Outline of oral presentation and draft of paper with updated annotated bibliography 60
  Oral Presentation of research (limited to 20 minutes) 75
  Final Paper (20-25 pages) 100
  TOTAL 500

--Your participation grade will reflect your level of active engagement in class lectures and discussions; it will be measured on the number of times you speak in class, the quality of your questions and comments, and your attentiveness during lecture and discussion. Sleeping or snoozing through class, working on projects for other courses, surfing the web, carrying on private conversations during lecture, and/or not paying attention to lectures or other student's comments and questions during class discussions will affect your grade adversely.
--The reading quizzes will test your understanding of the basic information and arguments of the assigned articles. There are no make-ups for missed quizzes, you can drop your lowest grade, so if you miss a quiz due to illness, that will be your dropped grade.
--The research project had four components that will allow you to hone your research, writing, and analytical skills and present your work to your peers for feedback and evaluations. **No late assignments will be accepted without compelling excuses. If you are not able to hand in an assignment on time and have an official excuse, you must contact the professor on or before the due date to make the necessary arrangements for an extension.**
**All components of the research project must be completed to receive credit for the course.**

Grading:
Your final course average will be determined on a 100-point scale (your total points/5). Unexcused absences will be deducted from the final average, not the total points.
90-100 A
80-89 B
70-79 C
60-60 D
0-59 F

Behavior and Etiquette:
In general you should avoid behavior that disturbs or distracts others in the classroom. Arrive in class on time and leave when class is over. You are not permitted to come and go during lecture. If you need to leave early for some special situation, inform me before class and sit near the back so you can exit without disturbing your classmates. If you need to arrive late to class, enter through the door at the back of the class, not the front door. When in lecture, please turn off all cell phones, pagers, digital watch alarms, and music players and refrain from behavior that may be distracting to your fellow students, including text messaging and playing computer or video games. I expect your full attention during lecture.
In class lectures & discussions, issues, values, and opinions may arise that you are not comfortable with. I expect each of you to be respectful of the views of others, whatever your private beliefs. Auburn University is a public, secular university, committed to the free exchange of ideas in an atmosphere of tolerance. You are welcome to find another class if you cannot abide by these guidelines.
Academic Ethics:
Students are governed by the Student Academic Honesty Code, Title XII of the SGA Code of Laws, published in Tiger Cub Student Handbook. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism, and to guard against it. The University clearly defines plagiarism (see SGA Constitution and Code of Laws, Title XII, Student Academic Honesty Code). Ignorance of the Honesty Code is not a defense. In brief, all work submitted must be your own. In academic writing, the sources of ideas and information that are not considered common knowledge must be cited.

In using sources in academic writing, you must:
- Quote the source exactly within quotation marks, and include all data necessary to verify the accuracy of your quotation, or
- Refer specifically and precisely to the source, and include all necessary information to verify the accuracy of your citation, or
- Paraphrase the source completely, which means to express in your own words the thoughts and ideas of another, and include all data necessary to verify the adequacy of your paraphrase; this prohibits the incorporation of phrases, clauses, and sentences from the source.

Accommodation for Disabilities:
Students who require such consideration should make an appointment to meet with me in my office by the end of the first full week of classes. Please bring your memo from the program for Students with Disabilities (PSD). If you do not have a memo, you should make an appointment with a member of the professional staff in the PSD Office in 1244 Haley Center (844.2096).

Class Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction to art history's history and methods

Week 2: Origins: Biography & Connoisseurship
Reading: Schneider Adams Chapter 6; Fernie 10-42; 103-15.

Week 3: Style and Form
Reading: Preziosi Chapter 3; Schneider Adams Chapter 2; Fernie 68-76; 127-51.

Week 4: Iconography and Semiology
Reading: Preziosi Chapter 5; Schneider Adams Chapter 3; Fernie 181-95; 237-44.

Week 5: Marxism
Reading: Schneider Adams Chapter 4; Fernie 245-53.
Due: Proposed research topic due with preliminary bibliography.

Week 6: Postmodern critical theory (Structuralism & Post-Structuralism)
Reading: Preziosi Chapter 6; Schneider Adams Chapter 7; Fernie 259-80.

Week 7: Deconstruction
Reading: Preziosi Chapter 8; Schneider Adams Chapter 8; Fernie 291-95
Due: Paper Proposal and Annotated bibliography.
Midsemester: specific date?
Week 8: Psychoanalysis
Reading: Schneider Adams Chapters 9&10

Week 9: Gender Issues
Reading: Preziosi Chapter 7; Schneider Adams Chapter 5; Femie 296-313.

Week 10: Orientalism/Othering
Reading: Preziosi Chapter 9; Femie 314-22.
Due: Outline of oral presentation and draft of paper with updated annotated bibliography

Week 11: No formal class meeting: Research time & mandatory conferences with instructor.

Week 12: Student presentations

Week 13: Student presentations

Week 14: Student presentations

Week 15: Concluding discussion of issues related to methods, research, and writing.

The final draft of the research paper is due the last day of class.