

**Western University
Department of Visual Arts
VAS2275B
Art Now! II**

Term/Session: Winter 2018
Time Thursday 7:00 pm-10:00 pm
Location NCB 113
Professor Colin Carney ccarney@uwo.ca
Office Hours Tuesday and Thursday 11:30 - 12:30pm, VAC 241B

Course Description/Objectives

Art Now will facilitate a broader understanding of the scope of the contemporary art world through selected readings and guest talks with artists, curators and other professionals in the field of visual art. The term will encompass a balanced focus on practice, criticism and public engagement within contemporary art. This course will expose students to a variety of current issues which inform the directions of new work in various art vocations. Art Now! will also help develop the written abilities of students to further enhance their critical observations and experiences of it.

Learning Outcomes:

Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

A broad knowledge of key critical and theoretical frameworks that pertain to the topics discussed over the term and an ability to engage with/analyze contemporary work and writing which operate within them.

Knowledge of Methodologies

Discursive/theoretical vocabularies that are utilized in debates within the field, and a demonstration of their knowledge in the field through the deployment of the vocabulary in oral and written engagement with course assignments.

Communication Skills

The ability to orally communicate information, arguments, and analyses accurately and reliably to a range of audiences.

Autonomy and Professional Capacity

An understanding of a range of opportunities for artists within and beyond the academic setting, and an awareness of the routes that must be taken to make advancements toward professional practice.

Course Requirements/ Evaluation:

-Students are expected to attend all class sessions and be prepared for and participate in all lectures, discussions and/or critiques. Under University regulations, if a student misses 15% of their classes, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, they can be debarred from participation in final tests, evaluations and/or critiques. If a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for one hour, they will exceed the 15% cut off.

-Students are expected to complete all assignments on time. Failure to complete assignments without prior arrangements with the instructor will result in a failing grade. With prior discussion, students may hand in late work with a 2% per day deduction from the assignment. Extensions will be given upon official notification from the student's faculty advisor due to documented serious health and bereavement reasons.

-Evaluation of major course works will be balanced between critical writing skills and the demonstration of informed and well developed insights about selected topics in contemporary art.

Evaluation Breakdown:

15% Journal Entries
20% Formal Essay #1
25% Formal Essay #2
40% Zine Project