

Course Title: Theory of Art
Course Code: ARTH 310
Credit Hours: 3

Location: Classroom 1, Main building
Instructor: Neva Bergemann or Barry Tagrin
Email: aotm.neva@gmail.com or hisa@paros-island.com
Telephone: XXXXXXXXXXXX
Office Hour: by appointment
Office location: by appointment

SYLLABUS

Course Description:

This course aims to expose students to the ideas and beliefs of a variety of different artists to help clarify their senses of what it means to be an artist today, and to further enlighten daily studio work by enabling students to develop their own critical and theoretical points of view. The instructor and students will collaboratively investigate artists' work, artists' perceptions of their own work, and students' art. Students will sharpen verbal, analytical, and presentation skills needed for a wide variety of art-related careers.

Course Objectives:

- *Expose and present one's ideas and work.
- *Effectively write and evaluate criticism related to one's own work and those of another.
- *Discover the corporate/business side of the art world, museums and galleries.
- *Collaborate and investigate why different artists structure their vision the way they do, and in-depth explorations of artists' perceptions of their own work, through interviews, autobiographical writings, films, and music.
- *Discuss personal themes and beliefs that each student feels are central to their own art.
- *Revelation of course material and relevant themes via lectures, group readings, class discussions, student/instructor presentations, video material viewing, on-site activities, artists' presentations, local art studio visits.
- *Core topics covered by the course include: What is art?; the art market today, art and politics (historical and modern); can art be alive? / kinetic sculpture, drawing, dance, sound; performance art; art as therapy; abstract expressionism; street art; conceptual art; religious art.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the semester, students will:

- Be able to understand, critique and engage in discussions regarding the work of individual artists and art movements.
- Be able to identify the personalized concepts and theoretical viewpoints that form the artistic patterns of differing artists.
- Be able to critically examine one's own work to determine and articulate conceptual themes, archetypal structures and possible relevance to social, political and ethical issues.
- Be practicing use of the vocabulary of art as it is used in the curating field and the presentation of artistic work in galleries and museums.
- Form lasting personal impressions of the various artists by viewing them at work and listening to their own biographical and critical analysis of their life and art.
- Understand the power of image, as used to evoke psychological, philosophical, religious and existential currents central to the works.

GRADING

Grading will be primarily weighted by one's investment of time regarding research assignments, verbal/active participation, and attendance. Those who are fully engaged in the discussions will benefit most from this class, and their grades will reflect that. Students will be expected to come prepared on time with materials/assignments/research at the start of class so that the full time can be spent on discussion and learning. Grade weighting:

Attendance/Participation/discussion:	40%
Weekly research assignments and presentations:	40%
Final paper:	20%

ASSIGNMENTS AND OBJECTIVES

All assignments given are to be completed and turned in to the instructor by the dates indicated on the schedule.

Students are expected to read all assigned texts, articles, essays, internet-related materials and will be given selected artists/topics to research in depth every week. Each class period students present their research findings and give their personal opinions and thoughts on the topic being discussed. This may take the form of a short paper, an activity, a performance or a video presentation. Debates and discussions will ensue as we learn collaboratively.

Students taking this course are also required to present one thoughtful, opinion-based paper of at least eight pages, supported by visual references. The paper is to be inspired by

personal interest or a particular theme discussed in class. The topic should be supported by research and be chosen specifically by the student. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any information taken from researched material **MUST** be cited clearly and honestly.

YOUR IDEAS

Your ideas, comments, suggestions, questions are welcome.

GRADING SCALE, LATE WORK, ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP, ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) POLICIES

Students are required to abide by HISA's Academic policies first introduced and explained at the school and class orientation. The sheet is also attached here.