



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

School of Art History, Classics & Religious Studies

ART HISTORY

ARTH 405 - Special Topic: Surrealism and Oceania

30 POINTS

TRIMESTERS 1-2 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 16 November 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 17 October 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Mid year break (complete dates): 9 June – 13 July (includes study week and exam period)

Mid-trimester break T2: 25 August to 7 September 2014

Last assessment item due: 10 October 2014

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Thursday, 10.00-11.50 am in Von Zedlitz 105.

Names and contact details

Course coordinator: Raymond Spiteri.
Old Kirk 316,
tel. 463-6769,
email: raymond.spiteri@vuw.ac.nz.

Office Hours by appointment

Communication of additional information

Art History is on level 3 (ground floor) of the Old Kirk building. Pippa Wisheart, Art History's Administrator, has her office in OK 306 (463-5800). Notices regarding the course will be posted on the board adjacent to her office. Course information will also be posted on Blackboard.

For general information about Art History see: www.victoria.ac.nz/art-history

Prescription

This course focuses on the role of Oceania in the imaginary of surrealism. It considers the surrealist interest in Oceanic art and culture, how it initially functioned to contest the authority of European culture, and its subsequent assimilation into the canon of art history.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. apply their skills of analysis to critically examine visual and textual material;
2. gather and organise relevant information and evidence from published and unpublished sources;
3. work independently to formulate, analyse and refine topics; and
4. consistently apply the conventions of academic writing and art historical research

Teaching format

This course is taught as a series of 16 2-hour seminars. Students are expected to prepare for each seminar by doing the reading, and to participate in the seminar discussion.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. give a seminar presentation, followed by a written paper, responding to an assigned question;
2. maintain a reading and research journal on the assigned topics for seminar;
3. develop a research essay proposal, and give a brief presentation on your topic;
4. submit a research essay.

Workload

The University recommends that approximately 300 hours per course, inclusive of seminars, be given to a full year, 4-course graduate programme in order to maintain satisfactory progress. Formal class time includes 32 hours of seminars, while at least 68 hours need to be devoted to reading for your seminars. Reading on and around the topic you will develop through the course will require 100 hours, with another 100 hours required for the assessment items.

Assessment

ARTH 405 is internally assessed by means of a seminar presentation, reading and research journal, research essay proposal, and research essay. More information on each item is available on Blackboard.

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Seminar presentation. 20 minute presentation on a set research topic. Assessment is based on oral presentation and written research notes for the topic. Marking criteria: formulate, analyse and refine topics; critically examine visual and textual material; clearly present research finding in the seminar context; document finding in a research journal.	20%	1,2, 4	T1, date tba, before 5 June
2	Research essay proposal and bibliography (500 words).	10%	1,2, 3, 4	Friday, 20 June

	Develop a 500 word proposal for the research essay (see 4 below) Marking criteria: identify and define a research topic; develop a research question; compile a bibliography of appropriate sources; follow academic conventions.			
3	Reading and research journal Maintain a reading and research journal during the course for each seminar that records your response to the assigned readings and course related research (minimum of 500 words per seminar). Marking criteria: demonstrate critical engagement with the course readings; document the findings of course research; timely and regular contribution to the journal.	30%	1,2	Friday, 22 August
4	Research essay (5000 words) 5000 word essay in response to the question formulated in your proposal (see 2 above). Marking criteria: formulate, analyse and refine topics; critically examine visual and textual material; present a persuasive and coherent argument; consistently apply the conventions of academic writing.	40%	1,2, 3, 4	Friday, 10 October

Group work

You will need to work with a fellow student (or students) to research the seminar topic and to coordinate the presentation of the material to the class. Effective use of group work will contribute to a better seminar presentation. It will be important to allocate sufficient time to prepare for the seminar (20 hours), and set aside time to meet to decide on an appropriate strategy to research the seminar topic. Formal assessment of the seminar presentation and written research notes will be based on the contribution of each student.

Submission and return of work

Hand your essays to your course coordinator. The course coordinator is responsible for marking all assessment. You may request a second opinion of the assessment of any piece of written work, from another lecturer in Art History. Coursework will be reviewed by an external assessor in order to ensure that academic standards at honours level are met. Your final grade for the course may be adjusted both to reflect your overall contribution to and achievement in the course and in response to the feedback from the external assessor.

Extensions and penalties

Art History has a policy that extensions will not be granted. If you have medical or other problems preventing you from meeting a deadline you must contact your tutor at the earliest opportunity. Without prior arrangements having been agreed to with the tutor, late essays will be penalised by the deduction of two percentage points for each day beyond the due date.

Course grade ranges and indicative characterisations

Pass/fail	Grade	Normal range	Midpoint	Indicative characterisation
Pass	A+	90%-100%	95	Outstanding performance
	A	85%-89%	87	Excellent performance
	A-	80%-84%	82	Excellent performance in most respects
	B+	75%-79%	77	Very good performance
	B	70%-74%	72	Good performance
	B-	65%-69%	67	Good performance overall, but some weaknesses
	C+	60%-64%	62	Satisfactory to good performance
	C	55%-59%	57	Satisfactory performance
	C-	50%-54%	52	Adequate evidence of learning
Fail	D	40%-49%	45	Poor performance overall, some evidence of learning
	E	0-39%	20	Well below the standard required
	K	Fail due to not satisfying mandatory course requirements, even though the student's numerical course mark reached the level specified for a pass, usually 50%. A student whose course mark is below 50 should be given a D (40 – 49) or E (0 – 39), regardless of whether they met the mandatory course requirements.		
Pass	P	Overall pass (for a course classified as Pass/Fail)		
Fail	F	Fail (for a Pass/Fail course)		

Set texts

The essential reading for ARTH 405 is available on Blackboard.

Recommended reading

- Clifford, James. "On Ethnographic Surrealism." *Society for Comparative Studies in Society and History* 23, no. 4 (1981): 539-564.
- Cowling, Elizabeth "L'oeil Sauvage': Oceanic Art and the Surrealists." In *Art of Northwest New Guinea: From Geelvick Bay, Humbolt Bay, and Lake Sentani*, edited by Suzanne Greub, 177-90. New York: Rizzoli, 1992.
- Peltier, Philippe. "From Oceania." In *"Primitivism" in 20th Century Art: The Affinity of the Tribal and the Modern*, edited by William Rubin, 1, 99-122. New York: Museum of Modern Art, 1984.
- Tythacott, Louise. *Surrealism and the Exotic*. London: Routledge, 2003.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz