Nebraska Wesleyan University

ARH 3800 History of Contemporary Art

Catalog

2024-2025

Course Description

This seminar investigates the diversity of global visual art practices through thematic topics such as activism, nature, identity, gender, memory, spirituality, colonialism, consumerism, beauty, participation, globalization, and science. Students will examine how practices, beliefs, systems and narratives have come under critique and are challenged by visual artists as well as how alternatives to these practices, beliefs, systems and narratives proposed by visual artists can lead to transformation. Emphasis is placed on contemporary art practices, but students are encouraged to consider artwork within larger historical and cultural contexts. Course discussions introduce students to aesthetic and theoretical developments, examine significant critical debates within the art world and explore various historical, stylistics and methodological questions raised within the visual arts and art history.

Prerequisite: ARH 1040FYW Survey of Western Art History or permission of the instructor.

Archway Curriculum: Essential Connections: Speaking Instructive
Archway Curriculum: Integrative Core: Identity Thread

Course Hours

4 hours

Departments

1. Art