



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

School of Art History, Classics and Religious Studies

ART HISTORY

ARTH 405: Special Topic: Surrealism & Oceania

30 POINTS

Trimester 1 & 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 29 February to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 29 February to 16 October 2016

Easter break: 24–30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break 1/3: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Mid-year break: 30 June to 8 July 2016

Mid-trimester break 2/3: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Last assessment item due: 21 October 2016

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

All seminars are in Old Kirk OK319

Monday 14:10 – 16:00

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 situated on Level 3 (ground floor) of the Old Kirk building.

Pippa Wisheart, Art History's Administrator, has her office in OK 306 (ext. 5800). Notices regarding the course will be posted on Blackboard (please make sure your email address on Blackboard is correct).

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 gather and organise relevant information and evidence from published and unpublished sources;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 17 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 responding to an assigned topic;
2. maintain and submit a reading journal on nominated seminar topics;
3. develop a research essay proposal, and give a short presentation on your topic;
4. submit a research essay.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

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 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
<p>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 findings in a research journal.</p>	20%	1,2, 4	date tba
<p>2 Reading journal Maintain a reading journal for each seminar during T1 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.</p>	30%	1,2	Friday, 3 June
<p>3 Research essay proposal and bibliography (500 words). 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.</p>	10%	1,2, 3, 4	Friday, 17 June
<p>4 Research essay (5000 words) 5000-word essay in response to the question formulated in your proposal (see 3 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.</p>	40%	1,2, 3, 4	Friday, 21 October

Submission and return of work

Please hand in all written work to the 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

Extensions for written work are possible if you are having serious difficulties completing your work. To receive a short extension contact the course coordinator by email before the 5 pm deadline. For extensions longer than 7 days you will have to provide written justification (e.g., a medical certificate, death notice, or letter from a counsellor, etc.).

Extensions for seminar presentations will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and with appropriate written documentation. You need to contact the course coordinator before the presentation time (preferably the day before) to discuss your options.

Penalties

Penalties will apply for late work. 5% will be deducted for work submitted more than 72 hours late; a further 2.5% will be deducted for each subsequent day. Work submitted more than 10 days late will not be marked; the work must still be submitted to meet mandatory course requirements.

Set texts

The essential reading for ARTH 405 is available on Blackboard.

Recommended reading

- James Clifford, "On Ethnographic Surrealism," *Society for Comparative Studies in Society and History* 23, no. 4 (1981): 539-564.
- Elizabeth Cowling, "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 (New York: Rizzoli, 1992), 177-90.
- Philippe Peltier, "From Oceania," in *"Primitivism" in 20th Century Art: The Affinity of the Tribal and the Modern*, edited by William Rubin (New York: Museum of Modern Art, 1984), 1:99-122.
- Louise Tythacott, *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

The student feedback from 2015 did not identify any major shortcomings with the course. In an effort to make the course more intellectually stimulating and relevant, I have introduced a new seminar on primitivism as an idea, and rearranged the sequence of seminars.

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
- 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
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- 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
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Taping of Lectures

All students in the School of Art History, Classics and Religious Studies are welcome to use their own audio-tapes to record lectures. If you want to do this, please see your lecturer, tutor or the relevant programme administrator and complete a disclaimer form, which advises of copyright and other relevant issues.