

ARTS3110

ART HISTORY: ACTIVISM, EMPATHY, & JUSTICE

3 Credit Hours // Tuesdays + Thursdays - Helen Center E101 // 12:30 – 1:45 // Spring 2023

Instructor: Karen Gergely **Email:** gergely1@graceland.edu **Office:** Helen 214

Student Hours // MW 1-2PM – noon, TR 11 – 12:30 *and by appointment*



Hank Willis Thomas's design for The Embrace in Boston

The New York–based artist's sculpture is called *The Embrace*, and it features pairs of arms and hands that appear to clasp one another. Thomas has previously said that the work is inspired by images of protesters walking arm-in-arm during civil rights movement–era marches. In a statement, Thomas said, "Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King are monumental examples of the capacity of love to shape society. I can only hope *The Embrace* can be a reminder and a call to action to each of us to never forget what they've taught us."

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Theme-based art history course that explores topics such as activism, empathy, justice, disability, mental illness, feminism, sexuality, queer art, social and civic engagement, labor, and race throughout art history to the present. GE3A Liberal Learning-Arts

note: we'll be talking about some really tough subject matter. Please be considerate of others in the class. Find ways to connect these works and themes to what you are interested in or experiences you've had.

MAJOR TOPICS // COURSE STRUCTURE

The semester will be broken down into several topics that we will cover in mini one to two-week sessions. Each session will be a combination of films, readings, writing, discussion, and debate. I am excited to be engaging in open, educated dialogue this semester with you!

Big Ideas include, but are not limited to:

GENDER // RACE // POLITICS // ETHICS + ART – PURE AND SIMPLE // CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT- MATTER, TODAY + IN THE PAST // ARTIST PERFORMING EXTREME ACTIONS // ARTISTS AS USERS // APPROPRIATION // MUSEUMS ETHICS AND RISKS // WHO HAS THE RIGHT TO TELL WHOSE STORY // ARTISTS + GENTRIFICATION // WHO CAN CLAIM AUTHORSHIP // THE ECONOMICS OF ART // ART AND THE USE OF ANIMALS // + MORE!

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Students in this course will...

- Gain a broad understanding of the historical and contemporary development of the visual arts through a wide range of artworks.
- Build a basic art history vocabulary and conduct “close looking” visual and formal analysis on a variety of works of art and cultural artifacts using that vocabulary.
- Discuss works of art in their appropriate contexts: aesthetic, historical, archaeological, philosophical, social, economic, political, etc.
- Demonstrate an ability to critically analyze a variety of texts in order to complete class assignments and develop close analysis skills of text and objects in conjunction with each other.
- Make connections between artistic movements and other disciplines/events.
- understand a diverse range of human activities, creations, and media that enable us to understand and enjoy the experiences of our senses and to sharpen our aesthetic appreciation in both classic and contemporary artistic works

- acquire a deeper appreciation for the arts, enhance understanding of artistic theory, or provide an experience in a specific medium or genre.
- Students will develop a vocabulary to discuss ethics and morals with regard to the visual arts.
- expand their ability to think, read, and write critically and creatively within the field of aesthetics and art criticism and demonstrate these skills.
- thoughtfully consider the ideas of authorship, institutional ethics, appropriation, and the economics of art as it pertains to contemporary society and be able to apply this reasoning to a larger global scale. Promote critical thought regarding how visual sources influence people in contemporary society.

Art and Society

- Explore the ways in which art mirrors and shapes contemporary society
- Promote an awareness of the ideas and concepts that structure the contemporary art world, along with a sense of the range of possibilities open to artists of this generation.
- Foster connections between past and present

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Each student is expected to:

1. Meet all requirements // complete each of the assigned projects to the best of their ability.
2. Participate in class discussions and activities.
5. Submit each of the requirements completed and on time.
6. Have an active and regular presence on Brightspace.
7. Attend all classes.
8. Respect for all opinions.
9. Respect + compassion in class discussions.

REQUIRED TEXTS

There is no text to purchase for this class this semester.

There will be many readings, resources, and short films provided to you via Brightspace. These readings will fuel our discussions and assignments. Please feel free to download these texts to read in paper form or use them as an online source.

GRADING POLICY & GRADING CRITERIA

This class requires significant work and participation both in and outside of class. Plan on spending a minimum of 3 hours outside of class each week to meet the independence requirements for this course. Fulfillment of this requirement is essential to the success of each individual. Grades are also based on the student's commitment to:

60% Weekly assignments + reflections

15 % midterm

15 % final

10% Participation

A = 90 – 100

The student's work is of exceptional quality; this work is the result of an excellent understanding of the issues raised in the course or by the assignment and in the quality of work produced. A grade in the A range indicates a student who thinks independently, creates her own challenges and far exceeds the requirements.

B = 80 – 89

The student's work is above average. This work is of high quality; it may be given to the work of a student who has shown significant growth in the course, or it may be given to the work of a student who has potential but is not producing at her maximum level.

C = 70 – 79

The student's work has met the requirements of the course and has demonstrated adequate skill, imagination and understanding, with growth potential. All students are expected to achieve at least a C in each course.

D = 60 – 69

The student has shown some ability but does not meet all the requirements or demonstrate adequate skills, imagination, or understanding, or has completed an insufficient amount of work. Students need to earn a minimum of a D- to receive credit for the course.

Failing = below 60

The student has failed the course.

LATE WORK

After the first 2 weeks of classes, **assignment portals will be closed on their due date.**

Please prepare to have work in before the deadline. We will use class assignments due that day to fuel our discussions.

You can turn in 2 late assignments within a WEEK of the due date throughout the semester. Communicate promptly with me about this when it happens. These 2 assignments will NOT accrue a late grade.

No late work will be accepted after the last Friday of classes before finals.

All this being said, if you have a documented emergency and communicate with me and the Dean of Students, I will find a way to work with you. Please stay in contact if this happens. Please don't ghost the class and ask to make up all work at the end of the semester with no prior effort.

GRADE DISPUTES

If you disagree with the grade you have received on an assignment, do not approach me immediately after class. Take a few days to reread your answer and my comments, and then submit a document where you **state in writing** why your grade should be changed. Keep in mind that your appeal does not guarantee a higher grade; I will re-grade your paper from scratch, thus you risk receiving a lower mark as well.

EMAIL

I will do my best to respond to emails within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours if sent on the weekend. I check email relatively regularly but do not expect immediate responses. It's your responsibility to catch up if you miss class. I recommend keeping in contact with classmates to get quick feedback about missed content. Do this before emailing me and asking "What did I miss, or Did I miss anything important?"

ATTENDANCE

University Policy on Class Attendance: <http://www.graceland.edu/catalog/class-attendance.cfm>

Students are expected to attend classes regularly, be punctual, and complete all work whether present or not. Whenever possible, the opportunity for making up coursework missed as a result of an excused absence is to be worked out between the instructor and the student upon the student's initiative.

Excused absences include the following: 1. The student has contacted the faculty member before the absence due to a University-sponsored activity. 2. The student has contacted the

faculty member before the absence and the faculty member concurs that the absence is unavoidable and legitimate. 3. For Lamoni students, the Dean of Students (or faculty member) determines that the student has missed classes/assignments due to factors beyond the student's control (i.e. illness, family misfortune, etc.) and the faculty member concurs. 4. For non-Lamoni students, the faculty member makes the determination and, when appropriate, the Dean of School, or his or her designate, concurs that the absence was unavoidable and legitimate.

All other absences are considered unexcused, in which case the instructor is not obligated to provide an opportunity for making up coursework for credit.

In addition to the university attendance policy, I will follow the following:

Class attendance is mandatory, and attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class.

3 unexcused absences may reduce the final course grade by 1 letter grade

4 unexcused absences may reduce the final course grade by 2 letter grades

5 unexcused absences may reduce the final course grade by 3 letter grades

6 or more unexcused absences may result in a failing course grade

If you have a legitimate excused absence, as deemed excused by the university policy stated, you will be able to make up work if notified within 24 hours of absence. Most important thing: COMMUNICATE. I'll work with you – just keep me in the loop!

ACTIVITY + LEARNING TIME

This is a 3-credit course meeting 2.5 hours per week. Students will be expected to spend additional time outside of class time working on assignments.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Classroom instruction: 28 classes at 75 mins | 49 hours |
| Research and writing assignments | 56 hours |
| Artists talks/workshops/exhibitions/field trips | 8 hours |
| TOTAL | 113 hours |

CLASS CONDUCT & POLICIES

Please be curious and professional with your cell phone usage during class. Burying your head in your device for whatever reason while others are talking, the instructor is lecturing, group work is being conducted, and while time is allotted for focused work is rude and unacceptable. If you are using your cellphone or working on work for another class, expect

to be called on to answer questions and your participation grade to be lowered. Unacceptable and rude cell phone usage may result in an overall lowering of participation assessment.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

Each member of our classroom community will be valued and respected. We're all coming from different backgrounds and have different life experiences, so sometimes we might have blind spots when it comes to how our words or actions will impact others. While I don't expect anyone to be perfect in this regard, I do expect everyone to make a good faith effort to show respect to all and to be open to learning about the experiences and perspectives of others. Racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, ableist and any other discriminatory language will not be tolerated.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY // Plagiarism will NOT be tolerated.

Students and faculty are subject to all relevant Graceland academic policies. These policies may be found at:

<https://www.graceland.edu/academics/academic-catalogs/undergraduate-catalog/academic-policies-and-procedures/>

SUPPORT SERVICES

<https://www.graceland.edu/student-life/support-services/disability-services/>

Academic Support Center + Disability Support Services

- Nancy Hoffman
- Student Disability Services Coordinator- Lamoni Campus
- Newcom Student Union, Room 39
- Ph: 641-784-5486
- Email: sds-info@graceland.edu
- Request services: <https://www.graceland.edu/student-life/support-services/disability-services/accommodations-request/>

Graceland University is committed to full compliance with the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As part of the implementation of this law, the university will continue to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities so that they can participate fully in the university's educational programs and activities. Although Graceland is not required by law to change the fundamental nature or essential curricular components of its programs in order to accommodate the needs of disabled students, the university will provide reasonable academic accommodations.

Students with physical disabilities are encouraged to contact Student Disability Services during the first week of class attendance or as early as possible. The office will work with the course instructor and the student to arrange for reasonable accommodations. Students are required at their own expense to provide documentation verifying disability.

The general definition of a student with a disability is any person who has “a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of such person’s activities, and any person who has a history of, or is regarded as having such an impairment.”

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus and/or calendar may be adjusted or altered during the semester to accommodate the needs of the students and the learning goals for the course. Announcements about any changes will be made in class and posted to Brightspace. It is your responsibility to stay abreast of any changes or corrections.

FINAL EXAM

Our Final Exam is Tue 1-2:45 PM (4/25/2023)

<http://www.graceland.edu/catalog/final-examinations.cfm>

All classes will meet during final examination week for a meaningful, educational experience, i.e., examination, presentations, discussion, lecture, etc. Scheduled examination times will be published in each course syllabus and the Schedule of Classes.

Students having more than two final examinations on a single day, as evidenced by the Final Examination Schedule, should be permitted to reschedule their examinations so as not to exceed two examinations on a single day. However, rescheduling will not be permitted for the first two exams on a single day based on the final exam schedule. The rescheduling needs to be determined before the last day of classes for the semester. If arrangements cannot be made on an informal basis, the Dean of Faculty will initiate a request for the student to be granted relief from having to take more than two exams on a single day. Travel arrangements are not justification for requesting changes in the final examination schedules.

Arts3840 interdisciplinary studio sp 2022

3 Credit Hours

Mondays + Wednesdays

Helen Center E209 @ 2:00 – 3:45pm

Instructor: Karen Gergely

Email: gergely1@graceland.edu Office: Helen 214 Office phone: 641-784-5327

Student Hours:

Image: Mickalene Thomas *I Just Wanna Be With You*



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Focuses on generating interdisciplinary theories, practices and works within a studio-based format. The course allows for collaborative learning opportunities for students working in different disciplines to approach themes and develop personal bodies of work. May be repeated for credit. Additional fee required. Prerequisites: ARTS1210 and ARTS1220.

STATEMENT FROM THE INSTRUCTOR

Art courses should not merely be about completing assignments. This class in particular will allow you to lean into mediums and concepts that you already know and those not yet explored. While this course has objectives and deadlines which must be met, we are going to work together to meet those objectives in a way that allows you to explore your interests. Because this is an upper-division open studio course, think about using this course as a means to embrace an exploratory mindset and give yourself the time to try, fail, thrive, and push new boundaries.

While working on individual goals this semester, we will also be benefiting from being in a community of makers, thinkers, and friends. We are all here for each other this semester (and always) so we will work on effective communication and explore different critique styles.

We will have some shared readings/podcasts/videos this semester, some of which will be provided and some of which will be student sourced and shared. Consider this semester as a free exchange of ideas between artists and makers. If you find something that might benefit another classmate – I'll encourage you to share, and I'll promise to do the same!

COURSE OVERVIEW

After our first week of meetings, we will set a critique, discussion schedule together to meet the needs of the class. Evaluation of work should happen informally on a regular basis and formally as a class and in small groups throughout the semester. Once we set our schedule together this calendar and the one on brightspace will be updated.

(Schedule subject to change to meet the needs of the class/student. Changes will be announced in class and updated on Brightspace)

Week 1 SET UP

M 1/10

W 1/12

WEEK 2

M 1/17 NO CLASSES MLK jr day

W 1/19 Proposals due

WEEK 3

M 1/24

W 1/26

WEEK 4

M 1/31 Studio log 1st quarter due

W 2/2

WEEK 5

M 2/7

W 2/9

WEEK 6

M 2/14

W 2/16

WEEK 7

M 2/21

W 2/23

WEEK 8

M 2/28 Studio log 2nd quarter due

W 3/2

WEEK 9 SPRING BREAK WEEK. NO CLASSES

M 3/7

W 3/9

WEEK 10

M 3/14

W 3/16

WEEK 11

M 3/21

W 3/23

WEEK 12

M 3/28 Studio log 3rd quarter due

W 3/30

WEEK 13

M 4/4

W 4/6

WEEK 14

M 4/11

W 4/13

R 1/14 Scholars Showcase 8am – 5pm – NO CLASSES

WEEK 15

M 4/18

W 4/20

FINALS WEEK

Mon, 3:00 PM - 4:45 PM 4/25/2022

Studio log 4th quarter due

Learning Objectives + Outcomes

Student Will:

- Gain growth in critical and conceptual engagement and critique is expected; students will discuss technical, conceptual, and aesthetic issues in the field of contemporary art.
- Engage in creative exploration, goal setting, and follow through
- Embrace ideas if artistic risk-taking
- Foster self-discipline

— enhance critique skills

Social Contract + Expectations

Please come to class prepared and on time. Be respectful. Be bold - you will be graded on effort and process - as well as outcome.

Materials + Fees

There is NO required text for this course!

Each student can opt into a lab fee for this course so that I can purchase materials tax free + shipping free.

Estimates of Learning Time

This course will require 3.5 hours of weekly class instruction with an additional 3 hour of self-managed work time per project.

Activity + Learning Time

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Classroom instruction: 28 classes at 105 mins | 49 hours |
| Outside assignments about 3-4.5 hours a week | 66 hours |
| TOTAL | 115 hours |

Grade Evaluation

25 % Written Elements: Proposal, vision board (this is your “sketchbook” component), midterm and final evaluation, artist statement + talk

10 % Studio log

65 % Studio production (creating the work – experiments and completed works). Includes active participation in individual and group critiques of your work and your classmate’s work.

Policy on resubmission of assignments

As long as the student has turned in the assignment on time, they may choose to redo that assignment for a reevaluation of their grade until the final week of classes. This also refers to scheduled critiques.

Grading Scale

A = 90 to 100

B = 80 to 89

C = 70 to 79

D = 60 to 69 F = 0 to 50

ATTENDANCE

Because our learning community depends on everyone being present and engaged, you're expected to be in class. That being said, I understand that sometimes things come up and you can't make it to class. Because of this, you are allowed two unexcused absences before your grade is affected. University sponsored events, like traveling for a sport or participating in a choir performance, DO NOT count as unexcused absences. Your unexcused absences are for when you're sick, something important comes up, or you're just having a really bad day. Your third unexcused absence will cost you a letter grade, and every absence beyond that will cost you an additional letter grade. If you experience extenuating circumstances and have to be absent more than those two times, just talk to me and we can make an exception to the policy as long as that conversation happens in advance or immediately after the additional absences.

Commitment to Diversity

Each member of our classroom community will be valued and respected. We're all coming from different backgrounds and have different life experiences, so sometimes we might have blind spots when it comes to how our words or actions will impact others. While I don't expect anyone to be perfect in this regard, I do expect everyone to make a good faith effort to show respect to all and to be open to learning about the experiences and perspectives of others. Racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, ableist and any other discriminatory language will not be tolerated.

SAFETY POLICIES

- A cloth or other approved mask must be worn at all times while attending class. You will not be permitted to enter class without one, and you must wear it correctly (fitting tightly and covering both your nose and mouth) for the duration of the class.
- Err on the side of caution in your estimates of distance.

- *Once class is over, you must sanitize your desk/workspace by wiping it down with the available spray bottles and paper towels that are kept in the classroom.*

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism will NOT be tolerated.

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Graceland University Academic Integrity Procedures found in the Student Handbook. <http://www.graceland.edu/catalog/academic-integrity-policy.cfm>

Be especially careful when using the Internet for research. Not all Internet sources are equally reliable; some are just plain wrong. Also, since you can download text, it becomes very easy to inadvertently plagiarize. If you use an Internet source, you must cite the exact URL in your paper and include with it the last date that you successfully accessed the site.

Academic integrity is a highly valued principle that undergirds all facets of academic life at Graceland University. Adherence to principles of honesty is a requisite for preparing students as competent responsible persons. Students admitted to the university are expected to uphold standards of academic integrity, i.e. the avoidance of fraud, plagiarism and cheating in any form.

1. **FRAUD.** *Fraud is the act of deceit or misrepresentation. The following list describes ways to avoid the most common forms of fraud.*
 - A. *Do not alter or falsify or misrepresent an academic document.*
 - B. *Do not help someone alter or falsify an academic document.*
 - C. *Do not communicate false information whether oral, written, electronic or nonverbal.*
 - D. *Do not forge signatures.*
2. **PLAGIARISM.** *Plagiarism is representing someone else's work as your own. The following list describes ways to avoid the most common forms of plagiarism.*
 - A. *Set off all direct quotations within quotation marks or within the text in a block quote form. To fail to indicate direct quotations by one of these two methods is to commit plagiarism even if the failure is accidental and even if you give the source of the quotation. In a speech you must also indicate the beginning, ending and source of all direct quotations to the audience.*
 - B. *If you derive an idea from another source, cite the source unless the idea is common knowledge, that is, unless people familiar with the subject you are discussing are aware of the idea.*
 - C. *Cite the source of paraphrased material and avoid excessive paraphrasing. Too much paraphrasing minimizes your contribution.*
 - D. *Submit papers that consist substantially of your own work. Do not buy, borrow or use complete, or nearly complete, papers from any source, electronic or otherwise.*
3. **CHEATING.** *The following list describes ways to avoid the most common forms of cheating.*
 - A. *Do not give assistance to, or receive assistance from, another person, or use unauthorized notes, books, etc., when an examination or assignment is supposed to be your own work.*

- B. Do not falsify research results or violate codes for the treatment of human or animal subjects.
- C. Do not violate the policies of proctors, preceptors or supervisors.
- D. Do not use an electronic copy of another person's work as the starting point of your own work without the instructor's permission.
- E. On collaborative works, include the names of all participants on any copies that are submitted for evaluation.

An instructor may assign a grade of "F" for the course in cases of fraud, plagiarism and/or cheating. When an "F" grade is assigned, the student may not drop the course. All cases of fraud, plagiarism and/or cheating will be reported to the respective dean or division chair, and dean of faculty. Violation of the academic integrity policy may have additional consequences including sanctions or dismissal from a program or from Graceland University.

STUDENT RESOURCES

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Graceland University is committed to full compliance with the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations should complete an Accommodations Request at <https://www.graceland.edu/academics/accommodation-request-fordisabilities>. After an accommodations request is completed, it is the student's responsibility to submit documentation to the Student Disability Services office. Documentation can be submitted in person by visiting the SDS office, located in the Student Success Studio, Rm 12, lower level of the F.M. Smith Library, by emailing SDS-Info@graceland.edu, or faxing information to 641-784-5299. Documentation guidelines can be found at <https://www.graceland.edu/academics/student-success-studio> in the Student Disability Services section. In order to provide appropriate academic accommodations in a timely manner, students are encouraged to complete the Accommodations Request form as early in the term as possible.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE, HARASSMENT, AND SURVIVOR SUPPORT

Graceland is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic and dating violence and gender-based stalking. If you wish to speak to someone confidentially about any of these issues, you can contact the personal counselor, Deborah Denman White Eye, who you may see free of charge. You can contact her by phone at 641-784-5463 or by email at ddw1@graceland.edu

BASIC NEEDS

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. Furthermore, please notify me if you are comfortable doing so. This will enable me to provide any resources that I may possess and/or help in any other way I can.

Students and faculty are subject to all relevant Graceland academic policies. These policies may be found at: <http://www.graceland.edu/catalog/academicpolicies-procedures.cfm> for undergraduate courses and <http://www.graceland.edu/grad-catalog/academic-policies-procedures.cfm> for graduate courses.