

ART

401

Art and Social Practice

Location: Monday CBA

All assignments, examples, and information on website.

Semester: Fall 2013

Instructor: Barbara Yontz

Contact: campus phone 845.398.4148 email byontz@stac.edu

Office Hours: MG 20 Monday 2:30-3:30, Thursday 11:15-2:15 and appointment

Books: There will be varied readings for the course but two major texts are listed below.

Art and social change : a critical reader / edited by Will Bradley and Charles Esche. 701.0309 ART

Art in action : expressive arts therapy and social change / edited by Ellen G. Levine and Stephen K. Levine ; foreword by Michelle LeBaron. 616.89 ART

This course is designed for upper level students who will expand their artistic practice into the social realm. As social practices are diverse and varied, students will examine and analyze these different types of practices, including the history and theoretical basis for each. Socially engaged art practices blur the line between art and life, emphasizing participation, dialogue, and action. We will address some of following questions; can socially engaged art do more harm than good? Are there ethical responsibilities for social art? Does socially engaged art have to do civic or public good? Can there be trans-disciplinary approaches to contemporary art making that would contribute to issues such as urban planning and sustainability?

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1.) Identify important artists whose practice includes socially engaged, public art under the genre referred to collectively as social practice;
- 2.) Demonstrate ability to thoughtfully engage in and discuss aesthetic and ethical debates about these art practices and their interpretation;
- 3.) Compare and contrast these practices and their affect with the making of art objects that are presented in galleries and museums, and explore how social practice becomes accepted as art;

4.) Analyze the communicative, political, social, economic, and cultural systems in the U.S that foster the rise of social practice;

5.) Design and propose how to use art and creative expression in the social realm through participation in a public art project that links theory with practice and applies what students have learned in class.

EVALUATION

Notes, writings, evidence of research and artistic practice will be graded.

Grading criteria will be listed on each evaluation sheet and will reflect the qualities propagated in critiques.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Sketchbook and notes—20 points

Research and writing—40 points

Artistic practice—40 points

Grading Scale:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D
100 to	94 to	89 to	86 to	82 to	79 to	76 to	72 to	69

Attendance is essential. Poor attendance will be reflected in grading. 3 classes reduces grade 1 letter, 4 classes will be recorded as failure. Being late 3 times equal 1 absence.

You are encouraged to meet with me or discuss any problems you may be experiencing in class. I expect everyone to succeed but this only happens when you do the work and make sure you are not waiting too late to get help if it is needed.

Incomplete: A grade of incomplete may be granted to students who have suffered serious personal illness or critical, emergency circumstances during the academic term, resulting in failure to complete all assignments by the end of the quarter. Please refer to the college catalog for additional information.

Classroom Conduct:

Respect for the model and other students is expected and required.

No loud talking, laughing or other disruptive behavior will be allowed

No headphones or cell phones are allowed during class time unless approved by instructor.

A variety of music will be played but only what is collectively conducive to drawing

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic Integrity, a commitment to honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility, is the foundation of the learning process. All members of the St. Thomas Aquinas College community are held to the highest standards of academic honesty. While we recognize the participatory nature of education, we take academic integrity very seriously, and the College policy on academic dishonesty details consequences that can include dismissal from the College. That policy can be found in both the Student Handbook and the College Catalog.

As a student in this class, you must demonstrate your commitment to academic integrity by submitting work which originates in your own imagination, analytical faculties, or your own knowledge, which you have done yourself, and which represents your very best efforts. When appropriate, your work should be supplemented and supported by other sources; however, you must always insure that these sources are properly cited using the recommended documentation system.

ACCOMODATIONS STATEMENT

Students requiring accommodations for a documented disability should notify the instructor before the end of the first week of class.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Faculty members at St. Thomas Aquinas College have the discretion to regulate the use of electronic devices in their classes, and students should not use such devices without the expressed consent of the professor. This policy covers cell phones, PDAs, laptop computers, or any other device the use of which might constitute a distraction to the professor or to the other students in the class, as determined by the professor. Students with documented disabilities should discuss the issue of laptop use with their professor at the beginning of the semester.

When a professor designates a time during which laptop computers may be used, they are only to be used at the discretion of the faculty member and in accordance with the mission of the college. Professors can develop specific and reasonable penalties to deal with violations of these general policies. For more extreme cases of classroom disruption, refer to the College's Disruptive Student Policy.

This course is posted on class website. The syllabus, course outline, web sites, and additional information for class are always available to you there. In the event that you miss class or lose your syllabus, please just look on the site.