

AR313 Contemporary Art in Berlin

Seminar Leader: Prof. Dr. Dorothea von Hantelmann

Course Times: Fridays, 9:00 - 12:15 (with offsite visits to museums and galleries outside regular course hours)

Office Hours: Mondays 11:00 - 12:30

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Course Description

In the past 20 years Berlin has advanced to a global arts capital. In this course we will explore the contemporary arts scenes of this city. We will go to galleries and exhibitions, visit theater performances, artist studios and theoretical conferences. These visits will be framed by classroom sessions, in which we will dive deeper into individual artistic practices, discourses and theories. The aim of this course is to not only provide an insight into various contemporary art practices, but to also understand their position within a city like Berlin that largely lives from its creative industries and thus in an exemplary way shows how politics, urbanism, economy and creativity are linked in the 21st century. Our discussions of this “creativity complex” will be accompanied by a reading of several chapters of Andreas Reckwitz’ seminal book “The invention of creativity” (2017).

Week 1

07.09. 2018, Friday, 9.00 - 11.10

Introduction

Week 2

14.09.2018, Friday, 9:45 – 12.15

Exhibition visit Bode Museum

“Beyond Compare: Art from Africa in the Bode Museum”

Reading:

<https://www.smb.museum/en/exhibitions/detail/unvergleichlich-kunst-aus-afrika-im-bode-museum.html>

Week 3

21.09.2018, Friday, 9:45 – 12.15

Exhibition visit Martin Gropius Bau

“Gurlitt: Status Report”

Readings:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/27/works-hoarded-by-son-of-nazi-art-dealer-cornelius-gurlitt-to-go-on-public-display>

https://www.berlinerfestspiele.de/en/aktuell/festivals/gropiusbau/programm_mgb/gropius_bau_ausstellungen/gropius_bau_18_bestandsaufnahme_gurlitt/bestandsaufnahme_gurlitt_ausstellung/ausstellung_bestandsaufnahme_gurlitt_237335.php

Week 4

28.09.2018, Friday, 9:00 – 12:15

Artist Studio Visit (tbc)

Week 5

05.10.2018, Friday, 9:30 - 12.15

Exhibition visit DAAD gallery

Lawrence Abu Hamdan

Conversation with Ariane Beyn, DAAD gallery

Reading:

<http://lawrenceabuhamdan.com>

<https://soundcloud.com/teawithculture/lawrence-abu-hamdan>

Week 6

13.10.2018, Saturday, 12:00 - 17:00

Exhibition visits Schinkel Pavillon, Julia Stoschek Collection

Simon Denny

Arthur Jafa

Jamie Crewe

Beatrice Gibson

Week 7

19.10.2018, Friday, 9:30 - 12.30

Exhibition visit Kunstwerke

Beatriz Gonzalez

Readings:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/beatriz-gonzalez-11980/who-is-beatriz-gonzalez>

<https://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-modern/exhibition/ey-exhibition-world-goes-pop/artist-interview/beatriz-gonzalez>

Week 8

26.10.2018, Friday, 9:00- 12.15

Seminar discussion: The rise of the Creative Class

Readings:

Richard Florida, *The rise of the Creative Class* (excerpts), New York 2002

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/modeledbehavior/2012/05/23/richard-florida-is-wrong-about-creative-cities/#4cf636184a33>

<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2014/may/23/demise-creative-class-regeneration-gentrification-city-links>

29.10.2018 - 04.11.2018 Fall Break

Week 9

09.11.2018, Friday, 9:00 – 12.15

Seminar discussion: Andreas Reckwitz, *The Invention of Creativity* (1)

Reading:

Andreas Reckwitz, *The Invention of Creativity*, Hoboken, N.J.: Wiley & Sons, 2017.

Week 10

16.11.2018, Friday, 9:00 – 12.15

Seminar discussion: Andreas Reckwitz, *The Invention of Creativity* (2)

Reading:

Andreas Reckwitz, *The Invention of Creativity*, Hoboken, N.J.: Wiley & Sons, 2017.

Week 11

23.11.2018, Friday, 9:00 – 12.15

Seminar discussion: Andreas Reckwitz, *The Invention of Creativity* (2)

Reading:

Andreas Reckwitz, *The Invention of Creativity*, Hoboken, N.J.: Wiley & Sons, 2017.

Week 12

30.11.2018, Friday, 9:45 – 12.15

Exhibition visit Haus der Kulturen der Welt

„The Most Dangerous Game: The Path of the Situationist International to the Events of May 1968“

Week 13

07.12.2018, Friday, 9:45 - 12.15

Exhibition visit Hamburger Bahnhof

Week 14

14.12.2018, Friday, 9:00 – 12:15

Wrap-up session

Requirements

Attendance

Attendance at ALL classes is expected. More than one absence in the seminar (e.g. one double session) will significantly affect the grade for the course. Please also make sure you depart early in order to reach the museums and exhibition spaces in time.

If absent, a short notification via email, sent before the beginning of class, is expected. Please note that punctuality is essential. Also note that the use of smartphones and notebooks is not allowed during seminars. Students are advised to consult the Student Handbook for regulations governing periods of illness or leaves of absence.

Assessment

The course assessment consists of the overall seminar work (one presentation in addition to class participation) and two essays. See also "Grade Breakdown".

Presentation

Each student will be in charge of one oral presentation. For the presentation, students will bring to class one or more pages of written notes with questions and bullet-points intended to introduce the assigned reading and to facilitate the discussion. These notes will be handed to the instructor at the end of the class and will be part of the presentation grade.

Writing Assignments

There are two essays for this course, one mid-term essay (ca. 2000 words) and one longer final essay (ca. 3000 words). A range of prompts will be provided in advance.

The mid-term essay is due on 21th October, midnight.

The final essay is due on 20th December, midnight.

Essays should include footnotes/references, bibliography and a list of illustrations. The structure and draft of your essays can be discussed in individual tutorials.

Policy on Late Submission of Papers

All written work must be submitted electronically and on time. Please note that essays that are up to 24 hours late will be downgraded one full grade (from B+ to C+, for example). Instructors are not obliged to accept essays that are more than 24 hours late. Where an instructor agrees to accept a late essay, it must be submitted within four weeks of the deadline and cannot receive a grade of higher than C.

Thereafter, the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment.

Grade Breakdown

Seminar Grade = Attendance (preparation of texts/participation in discussions, presentation)

Seminar Grade: 50% (30% /20%)

Essay 1: 20 %

Essay 2: 30 %