Creative Component Colloquium
Fall 2024

starting in week 6
as part of:

IS123: Academic Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences

(Nassim AbiGharem, Dorothea von Hantelmann, Ulrike Wagner)

Course time: Mon 9:00 –12:15
Location: Factory, Performance Space
Instructor: Dorothea von Hantelmann, d.vonhantelmann@berlin.bard.edu
Office hours: Wednesdays 10:30-13:00 or by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

The Creative Component colloquium is part of the course IS123 Academic Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences. HAST students who pursue a senior thesis project including a Creative Component will change to this colloquium group from week 6 onwards. After gaining foundational skills in academic research and writing during the first five weeks of the semester, students of this particular section will be introduced to basic approaches and methods of artistic research. They will learn how to develop an artistic concept in relation to their overall research question and how to start a fruitful process of artistic research creation and reflection. Short workshop sessions and exercises, peer reviewing and productive feedback methods will be key elements of the classroom. With the participation of thesis advisors and other faculty members, the semester will end with individual draft presentations of both artistic and written components. The aim of the course is to support students in developing a solid ground for their senior thesis projects.

Peer support and productive feedback

Continuing to develop **your overall research topic, and artistic research process** is important in this course, as is developing your ability to support your **peers' research and creation process** through productive feedback. You will learn and practice assisting others with their work using a variety of feedback methods.

Assignments

1. Weekly journal entries

Students should keep a working journal for their creative and written components and upload material on Google Shared Folder on a weekly basis. Intensive reading, research on your artistic medium and on other artists' works are key in starting your research process

and refining your research question. Regular reflections on your creative process will help you structure and further develop your ideas.

Three kinds of weekly entries are required:

1. Reflection on creative process (week 7-14)
2. Annotations on two readings (week 7+8 only)
3. Annotations on artistic material from other artists (week 7+8 only)

2. Draft Presentation (written + creative component)

The draft presentation includes the presentation of both, a written and artistic/creative draft. Each student will be assigned a presentation slot. **The presentation should not be longer than 20 minutes!**

Written Draft:

You will be asked to circulate an **5-7-page piece of writing** to the members of the CC-colloquium and to your advisor. This writing selection must be circulated on the **Thursday before your presentation** so that people have time to read it. All drafts must be submitted via Google Shared Folder and be emailed to all course members. If it is circulated late, the whole presentation will be graded down one grade per day; so make sure to circulate those writing selections on time. On the day of your presentation, you should be prepared to speak about how the writing selection fits into the larger project, what your concerns are, and what you're planning to do next. This presentation shouldn't be a recap of the writing sample, as everyone will have already read it. A PowerPoint presentation is often helpful, but is not explicitly required.

Artistic Draft:

In the second part of your presentation, you will be asked to present a first draft of your creative/artistic research. **Please bring artistic material (not just an abstract idea, but a first draft of artistic work!)**. Depending on your chosen artistic medium, this can be a painting sketch, a short performance, a piece of creative writing, video snippets, sound recordings, etc.

The presentation will be followed by an intensive feedback session. Your thesis advisor will attend your presentation and might have some contributions to make or might be helpful in "filtering" the discussion and figuring how ideas from it could be beneficial for the project.

3. Submission of 7-page Thesis Excerpt: 20th of December

In accordance with the other colloquium sections taught by Ulrike Wagner and Nassim AbiGharem: As part of your written component, each student will submit a 7-page thesis excerpt to the course instructor and thesis advisor. This excerpt must be properly formatted with footnotes, include at least four secondary sources and a bibliography. You may not submit the same piece of writing that you submitted for your draft presentation. However, it is acceptable to submit a heavily revised version of your draft if it is accompanied by a letter explaining what changes you have made and why.

Attendance

Because Bard College Berlin has an intensive, student-centered and seminar-based educational model, **attendance at all sessions of courses is mandatory**.

- However, you may encounter circumstances that prevent you from attending classes for which you may be excused, meaning that the absences will not impact your grade. These circumstances include illness, religious observance, military obligation, attendance at a conference, a Bard Network event, a civic engagement initiative, a research trip or another compelling circumstance outside of your control (i.e. court appearance, visa appointment, death of a family member). Optional non-academic travel, hosting visiting family and friends, or work schedules are **not grounds** for excused absences. You will be allowed to **self-report your absences <u>one time</u>**, meaning that a notification informing your instructor about the reason for your absence before or within 24 hours of the class is sufficient. If you miss class more than once, you will need to provide your instructor with appropriate documentation in order to be excused (i.e. a doctor's note, official leave of absence).

- All **unexcused absences** will lower your final grade by one step (i.e. if your final grade is a B, you will be downgraded to a B-).

- If you are facing the unusual situation of long-term, serious medical or personal emergencies (generally lasting more than two weeks), you can request a Leave of Absence, to be approved by the Deans, the Head of Student Life or the Director of Academic Services.

- If you have any **general medical issues** or other concerns that could impact your compliance with these regulations, you need to inform your instructor during the first week of the semester. For information on disability accommodation, you should consult with Maria Anderson Long, Head of Student Life: m.andersonlong@berlin.bard.edu
  The process for applying for disability accommodation is explained in the Student Handbook with links to the forms here: http://www.berlin.bard.edu/for-students/student-handbook/policies-and-regulations/#c4206

Use of AI

The instructors of the senior thesis colloquium agree with and will enforce the following statement from the Harvard Kennedy School on the use of AI:
"It is generally acceptable to use generative AI for finding information and for solidifying your knowledge of the course content. For instance, it is fine to use AI-powered web search and to have conversations with tools like ChatGPT to help you explore ideas, refine your thinking, identify examples, and better understand the course material. However, unless otherwise specified, it is a violation of the HKS Academic Code to incorporate into your coursework text produced predominantly by generative AI — similar to copying from a book or article. For example, it would be inappropriate to simply rewrite a draft generated by AI."

Please note that computer-generated text and ideas (including anything from ChatGPT) are sources that require citation.

Grade Breakdown

Participation and Attendance **40%**
(participation includes attendance; homework: class readings, draft submissions, reading other student's drafts; contributions to discussions, exercises and feedback sessions; active collaboration with peers; communication with professors and other students)

Draft Presentation:
Written Draft Presentation **15%**
Artistic Draft Presentation **15%**

Journal entries **20%**

Submission 7-page Thesis Excerpt **10%**
This grade is concerned with the submission of the thesis excerpt, not with the actual content of the excerpt. The latter will be discussed with the written thesis advisor.

Course Schedule

Week 1-5: Humanities and Creative Component sections together
Classes in Lecture Hall

Week 1: September 2	**Introduction and Getting Started on Your Project** ***1-paragraph Project Description due in class***
Week 2: September 9	**Selections from Graff and Birkenstein, *They Say / I Say* (Fourth Ed.)**
Week 3: September 16	**Workshop 1, Learning Commons (TBC)** **Introduction to BCB Library Ressources**
Week 4: September 23	**Writing & Research** (discussion of theses by BCB alumni)
Week 5: September 30	**Workshop 2, Learning Commons (TBC)**

Creative Component / Humanities Section Division
Classes in the Factory, Performance Space

Week 6: October 7	**Introduction to Creative Research I**

Workshop:
- Bring one object, image, sound or movement to class that you find inspiring for your creative component

Homework due
- reading: Hannula, Mika (and others). 2014: *Artistic Research Methodology. Narrative, Power and the Public*. New York: Peter Lang, chapter: "Basic formula of artistic research", p. 15-19.

Week 7: October 14

Introduction to Creative Research II

Homework due:
- Journal including annotated art and readings

Workshop:
- Bring pen and paper

Artistic Research: In-class example Anri Sala

FALL BREAK (October 21 – 27)

Week 8: October 28

Career Center Workshop & Information Session (TBC)
Lecture Hall (together with Humanities section)

Week 9: November 4

Introduction to Creative Research III
Working on individual projects

Homework due:
- Journal including annotated art and readings

Workshop:
- Bring your journal material

In-class examples:
- Hito Steyerl
- Pierre Huyghe

Week 10: November 11

Draft Presentations
Working on individual projects: studio time and peer support

Homework due:
- CC journal entry

Week 11: November 18

class time: 11:15-13:30 (voluntary studio time 9:00-11:15)
Feedback round: Where do you stand and what are your questions?
Draft Presentations

	Homework due: - CC journal entry
Week 12: November 25	**class time: 11:15-13:45 (voluntary studio time 9:00-11:15)** **Feedback round: Where do you stand and what are your questions?** **Draft Presentations** Homework due: - CC journal entry
Week 13: December 2	**Draft Presentations** **Working on individual projects: studio time and peer support** Homework due: - CC journal entry
Week 14: December 9	**Draft Presentations** **Wrap up feedback round: Where do I stand and how do I proceed from there?** Homework due: - CC journal entry
Week 15: December 16	**Completion Week**
Friday, December 20	**7-Page thesis excerpt** due to instructor and advisor

Further deadlines

Declaration of your thesis title for Spring 2024 graduates on **Friday, December 6, 2024** at **3pm**. You need to complete the declaration of BA Thesis Title form. The form can be picked up from the shelf on the wall outside the Registrar's Office in the basement of P24. An electronic version of the form will also be emailed to you by the registration office. You must obtain the signatures of your supervisor and chosen second reader, before submitting the form to the Registrar's office – registrar@berlin.bard.edu – in person or electronically by the deadline above.

Submission of the final thesis for Spring 2024 graduates on **Friday, April 4, 2025** at 3pm. Guidelines for submission will be made available to you over the course of the research seminar this semester.

CC Exhibition and submission: exhibition in the factory, submission of Creative Component and written CC reflection **end of April 2024, date tbc**.