Instructor: Bill Nieberding Ph.D.
E-mail: william.nieberding@sfasu.edu
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 11-1
Phone: 936-468-6467

Catalogue Course Description: 3 semester hours

Course Description: Investigations of contemporary issues in Art Education

Course Objectives:
Contemporary Issues in Art Education: This course explores at the graduate level contemporary concepts and issues essential to a 21st Century art education in the classroom, community and/or museum settings. Topics on contemporary art education theories may include: critical race theory, visual culture in art education, multicultural art education, differentiated learning, integrated curriculum, contemporary art as it relates to art education, and technology in art education.

Required Textbooks:
No required textbook.

Program Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, graduate students will be able to analyze writing on contemporary issues, and utilize the concepts as they relate to their own research, artistic practice, and classroom practice.

Student Learning Outcomes
The objectives for this course, as with the intended learning outcomes, conform to the College of Art’s conceptual framework:

Higher Order Thinking: Understand, apply, and encourage higher-order thinking, including critical analysis and problem solving, in the context of products and processes in the fine arts across the curriculum. Emphasis is placed on the development of visual concepts and skills for communicating individual ideas, thoughts, and feelings through materials and media. The schoolteacher understands and knows how to apply basic art elements and principles; recognizes and knows how to use a variety of art materials and tools; understands and appreciates artworks of past and contemporary cultures; and applies critical evaluation skills to the artworks of students and major artists and to the environment. The teacher knows how to promote students’ knowledge in these areas and their ability to apply this knowledge in a variety of contexts. The educational professional further understands that art products tend to reflect the times and societies from which they arise and is capable of identifying, understanding and applying research in art and art education for expanding understanding of their own and other cultures.
Participation

The student is expected to participate in all in-person and online activities. Class participation is an integral part of learning. Students must read all assignments and be prepared to contribute to any chats, discussion forums and other class activities.

Important Student Responsibilities & Course Policies

1. D2L All course information will be posted on the D2L course website, it is your responsibility to retrieve and refer to the files. Please inform the instructor if you have any difficulties posting or retrieving any files.

2. Attendance Absences may negatively affect your grade. All absences require an email to the instructor explaining the reason for the absence, preferably before the class meeting. In order for an absence to be excused, a student must provide appropriate documentation (i.e., a medical excuse from your doctor) and/or have the instructor’s approval (i.e., family emergencies, funerals.) For each unexcused absences after one, students will lose 5 points from their final course grade. Multiple excused absences may also affect your final grade and must be discussed with instructor. A student can fail this course due to poor attendance. It is the student’s responsibility to meet with the course instructor to discuss unavoidable extended periods of absence.

3. Guidelines for Class Discussions: Students are expected and encouraged to share ideas and thoughts in an open forum. All student contributions will be acknowledged and responded to respectfully and thoughtfully by the instructor and classmates. Students are expected to use appropriate terms and language within all course discussion. Divergent beliefs and worldviews are encouraged and may be shared. Respect for these differences will be maintained within the classroom.

4. Late Assignments: Assignment grades are reduced by 10% for every weekday an assignment has not been handed in after the assigned due date. Late written assignments must be posted to the D2L website. Written assignments cannot be handed in as email attachments unless a student has received the instructor’s prior approval. Late projects or anything that cannot be submitted electronically can be handed in at the beginning of class on scheduled class days, or during office hours.

5. Email: Email is used as a means of communicating with students about the course. Email will be sent through D2L. It is the student’s responsibility to check D2L e-mail or forward emails to an account that he/she checks regularly.
Students with Disabilities

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)

Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members must promote the components of academic integrity in their instruction, and course syllabi are required to provide information about penalties for cheating and plagiarism as well as the appeal process. (Much of this information will be provided through internet links.)

Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assignment; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to: (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy and the appeals process at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp and http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_appeals_students.asp
**Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4**

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This policy applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at [https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp](https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp) or call the office at 936-468-2703.

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Student Evaluation**

To meet the course goals listed above, students will be assessed on their knowledge (specific criteria for each assignment will be provided prior to evaluation) in the following forms:

- Topic 1 summaries and connections paper: 10%
- Topic 2 summaries and connections paper: 10%
- Topic 3 summaries and connections paper: 10%
- Topic 4 summaries and connections paper: 10%
- Topic 5 summaries and connections paper: 10%
- Art-making project: 15%
- Contemporary art lesson: 15%
- Final Paper: 20%

**An absence does not excuse a student from turning in work.** Work due in the last two weeks of the semester will NOT be accepted late. Projects and assignments are due on the announced date, either before or during class. If you are going to be absent on this date, you may contact me to make special arrangements for turning in work.

**Attendance, punctuality, and quality of class participation are of great importance to your grade.** Quality participation includes actively taking part in class discussions and activities, completing written and studio assignments, asking questions, offering thoughtful insights, responding to comments of others.
Grade scale:
A  100-90%
B  89-80%
C  79-70%
D  69-60%
F  59-0%

Course Overview
Week 1 – Introduction, structure of the class, cover syllabus. Art & Politics
Week 2 – contemporary art and education
Week 3 – contemporary art and education
Week 4 – visual culture and art education
Week 5 – visual culture and art education
Week 6 – material culture and art education
Week 7 - critical race theory, education and art
Week 8 – critical race theory, education and art
Week 9 – art and integrated curriculum
Week 10 – art and integrated curriculum
Week 11 – student-chosen topic and art education
Week 12 – student-chosen topic and art education
Week 13 – Work on final paper and artwork
Week 14 – Work on final paper and artwork
Week 15 – Finals week- course wrap-up and final discussions

* Instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus to accommodate overall class success