Gender, Representation and the Visual Arts, ca. 1500-1900
ARH 3871 section 108H
ARH 6917 section 11DB

Fall 2013

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Office: FAC 113
Office Hours: Tuesday: 11th period (6 pm and by appointment).
Telephone: 374-4087 (home)
Class Time and Place: T 10th per. (5:10-6 pm), R 9-10th per. (4:05-5:45 pm) FAC 201

Required Texts (available at the UF Bookstore):
All other readings available on ARES https://login.ufl.edu/idp/Authn/UserPassword.
Login with your GatorLink username and password to access ARES. You will have to create an account the first time you use it.

Recommended style manual: Writing About Art (Sayre or Barnet)
See also this useful link: Writing About Art
Additional assistance with writing is available through UF’s Reading and Writing Center: http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-center/

Assignments and Grading Undergraduate Students:
100% of the final grade will result from the average of two slide quizzes (15%), one panel grade: a group presentation with individual paper (25%), one research paper 8 pages/2000-2500 words with annotated bibliography (40%), and attendance (20%). Note: Late papers are not accepted and result in a score of zero, and there are no make-up quizzes.

Assignments and Grading Graduate Students:
100% of the final grade will result from the average of two slide quizzes (15%), one panel grade: group presentation (25%), one research paper, 20 pages with annotated bibliography (40%), and attendance (20%). Note: Late papers are not accepted and result in a score of zero, and there are no make-up quizzes.

Warning:
If you do not like to attend class, do regular reading assignments, and have participation required of you, you should either not take this course or settle for a lower grade than your work might otherwise warrant.
Course Description:

This course will offer an examination of selected European works, (especially by women) from the Renaissance to the end of the nineteenth century. Our aim will be to consider ways historians can understand the gendering of pictorial practice, and interpret the practices of representing gendered subjects. Particular consideration will be given to the historical contexts, conceptions of gender and cultural attitudes towards women that conditioned their experiences and artistic practices.

Themes addressed in the course include: women's self-representation, work and leisure as they relate to notions of the public and private in art, the ways in which women have negotiated the structures of art institutions, their relationship to patronage and the art market.

Also important for this course are issues having to do with the sexual politics of looking (particularly looking at the nude). We will be exploring the ways in which women as artists and beholders have produced or assumed a range of different positions in relation to representing, looking and being represented. The aim of this course then, is not simply to substitute a "feminized" history of art for the traditionally "masculine" one, but to consider critically case studies of women as artists, beholders and subjects of art in dynamic contact with the artistic production and viewing by men.

Readings will focus on specific artists and paintings, but will also involve some theoretical inquiry into larger categories of gender, sexuality and "otherness." Issues of the gaze will figure prominently. The course will thus include materials from the fields of history, literary and film theory, gender and cultural studies. Pre-req: ARH 2051 or permission of instructor.

Objectives

This course will emphasize the development of critical thinking skills, advanced writing and research on issues (art historical and otherwise) of gender and representation. Students will also expand their visual literacy by becoming familiar with art by women (and others) in the Western tradition.

Consider:

“What makes an image an image is my perception, my embodied and interested investment in it, which lifts it out of its context to dance at the nexus of my memory and embodiment, opening the personal onto the historical, the social, the unconscious through the undulating folds of time and presence.” Amelia Jones, Self/Image
Course Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Firing the Canon

Week 3: Representing Women in the Renaissance & The Problem of the Woman Artist

Week 4: Sofonisba Anguissola, Lavinia Fontana and others

Week 5: The Subject of the Gaze

Week 6: Theorizing the Nude—Renaissance Case Studies

Week 7: 17th Century Italy: Artemisia Gentileschi

Week 8: 17th Century cont’d.

Week 9: Gender and Genre in the North: Clara Peeters, Judith Leyster, Maria Sibylla Merian and others

Week 10: Rethinking the Gaze, 20th c.; The Changing Angle of Vision, 18th c.

Week 11: The 18th Century

Week 12: Women and Portraiture cont’d. (Homecoming)

Week 13: The Revolution and New Canons of Masculinity

Week 14: Issues of Race

Week 15: Impressionism, Women and Modernity

Week 16: Conclusion

Additional information:

Class Attendance Policy
Each class will begin with a short one or two question quiz on something obvious in the reading. If you answer correctly, you get full credit for attending that day; if you answer incorrectly you receive half credit, and if you are absent you receive no attendance credit for the day. Note: Double period absences count as two. Early departures from class count as an absence. After three unexcused absences I will begin to drop your final grade one increment for every absence. Any student with five or more absences will automatically receive a D or lower for a final grade for the course.
Academic Honesty Policy:
Evidence of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic failing grade for this course, and may result in further penalties. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Familiarize yourself with the Academic Honesty Guidelines at: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/honestybrochure.php as well as the Student Honor Code regulation 6C1-4.017 at: http://regulations.ufl.edu/chapter4/4017.pdf

Grading:
A = 94-100 = 4
A- = 90-93 = 3.67
B+ = 87-89 = 3.33
B = 84-86 = 3
B- = 80-83 = 2.67
C+ = 77-79 = 2.33
C = 74-76 = 2
C- = 70-73 = 1.67
D+ = 67-69 = 1.33
D = 64-66 = 1
D- = 60-63 = .67
E = 59 and below

Services for Students with Disabilities:
If you are a student with a disability you must be registered with the Dean of Students Office for verification and determination of reasonable accommodations.

Harassment and Discrimination Policy:
The University of Florida prohibits any form of discrimination or sexual harassment among students, faculty and staff. For further information, refer to the UF Human Resources Policies website at: http://www.hr.ufl.edu/eeo/sexualharassment.htm

University Counseling Center:
The Counseling Center provides counseling and consultation services to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students and their spouses/partners. The Center offers brief counseling and therapy to help students confront personal, academic, and career concerns. The primary goal of counseling is to help students develop the personal awareness and skills necessary to overcome problems and to grow and develop in ways that will allow them to take advantage of the educational opportunities at the university. See: http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/base.asp?include=generalInfo.inc#aboutCC

Cell Phone Policy:
No pager or cell phone activity is permitted in class. Be sure to turn them off before entering the classroom.

General Education Learning Outcomes:
ARH 3871 (passed with a grade of C or better) satisfies the university's General Education Requirement for Humanities and Diversity.

ARH 3871 also satisfies 2000 words of the University Writing Requirement. To receive the E2 credit, you must turn in all assigned papers and you must pass this course with a grade of C or better.

Humanities
The humanities requirement enables students to think critically about what artists and thinkers (past and present) have to teach us about the nonmaterial qualities of human beings and human values. In courses in the humanities, students become acquainted with the enduring products -- in words, sounds, paint, stone, metal, and many other media -- in which thoughtful and gifted human beings have attempted to meet our individual and collective needs for emotional, spiritual, or intellectual fulfillment. Humanities courses address major intellectual, cultural, and aesthetic achievements. Students consider questions of ultimate meaning and study human activities, artifacts, and values in the context of the ages in which they were produced.

Diversity
Diversity courses provide instruction in the values, attitudes and norms that create cultural differences within the United States. These courses encourage students to recognize how social roles and status affect different groups and have an impact on society. These courses guide students to analyze and to evaluate their own cultural norms and values in relation to those of other cultures, and to distinguish opportunities and constraints faced by other persons and groups.

Contract:
I have read this syllabus thoroughly. I understand and agree to all the terms set forth in it.

I understand that it is my responsibility to keep track of my attendance and grades.
I understand that I can always avail myself of help and assistance from the instructor during the semester by using her posted office hours or making separate appointments, and that failing to do so in the face of some personal problem or crisis regarding the course is not the liability of the instructor.

I will abide by the Academic Honor Code passed by the Student Senate and "neither give nor receive unauthorized aid" in the preparation of any assignment or in the taking of any exam.

Date: ________________

Name (printed): ____________________________________________

Signature: ________________________________________________

UF ID number: ________________