

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	Communications & The Arts
Programme:	MA in Art History and Visual Culture
FHEQ Level:	7
Course Title:	World and Global Arts
Course Code:	AVC 7111
Total Hours:	200
Timetabled Hours:	39
Guided Learning Hours:	2
Independent Learning Hours:	140
Credits:	20 UK CATS credits 10 ECTS credits 4 US credits

Course Description:

The course addresses issues that relate to the interpretation, perception and representation of the visual arts cross culturally with a focus on indigenous, peripheral, diasporic, and minoritarian expressions gathered under the definition 'World Arts'. Students are encouraged to investigate issues that relate to engaging with art from different backgrounds, and consider critically colonial/neo-colonial and decolonial contexts and the dynamic changes that these engender. A range of case studies will be examined, which may include the representations and interventions of artists and craftspeople from the Americas, Africa, Oceania in dialogue with art cultures and canons developed along the North-Atlantic axis.

Prerequisites:

MA students only

Aims and Objectives:

- To introduce students to the concepts 'world arts' and 'global arts'
- To reflect upon what counts as 'art' in different contexts
- To examine the colonial post-colonial and decolonial discourses surrounding indigenous diasporic, and minoritarian visual cultures
- To engage with the range of inter-disciplinary theories and methods for approaching and interpreting art cross-culturally
- To examine a variety of examples of art and visual expressions in context
- To analyse the representation of 'world arts' in museums and galleries
- To consider local and global issues of access and circulation of art in cosmopolitan networks

- To address the changes brought by globalization to the arts from different continents
- To provide a comparative framework for the study of art and visual cultures from different backgrounds

Programme Outcomes:

A2, A4, B1, B2, B4, B5, C4, D3

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by Registry and found at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- demonstrate critical intellectual awareness of non-western 'world' and global arts today
- provide a systematic and critically engaged approach to the representation of art in museums and galleries
- deploy sophisticated visual literacy including formal analysis
- show systematic, critical engagement with visual and material expressions
- show excellent writing skills including logical and structured narratives and arguments supported by relevant primary and secondary evidence
- demonstrate professional presentation skills including verbal visual analysis, communicated clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences

Indicative Content:

- differences and similarities between the concepts of 'world arts' and 'global arts'
- the history of research on indigenous diasporic, minoritarian and peripheral visual cultures
- a range of inter-disciplinary theories and methods for approaching and interpreting art cross-culturally
- a variety of examples of 'world and global arts' in context
- the representation of 'world arts' in museums and galleries
- perceptions and discourses on continuities and difference in world and global arts
- relationships between contemporary, ethnic, tribal, folk and indigenous arts
- the circulation of 'world arts' in the dealer critic system
- the re-evaluation of art historical canons as a result of globalization

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

The course will consist of weekly postgraduate seminars, which will follow the structure set out within the course syllabus and will serve a number of functions: seminars provide a framework for the course; address critically the relevant literature in specific areas, examine concepts, theories and case studies, and enable students to engage in group discussion and dialogue, and autonomous learning. Seminars rely upon active student participation, mediated by the course instructor. By examining and discussing issues and problems in a seminar setting, students as junior research colleagues will be able to learn from each other and resolve questions that arise in the course of the lectures and readings. Seminars will only be useful to the extent that they are prepared for and participation in discussions and debates is an essential aspect of this. All students will be required to participate. Tutorial opportunities will also be available for research supervision and other academic support.

Indicative Text(s):

- Belting, Hans, A. Buddensieg, and Peter Weibel (eds) (2013) *The Global Contemporary and the Rise of New Art Worlds*, MIT Press
- Elkins, James, (2020) *The End of Diversity in Art Historical Writing*, Boston: De Gruyter
- Green, Vivien and Christa Clarke (eds) (2020) *Migrating Objects: Arts of Africa, Oceania and the Americas in the Peggy Guggenheim Collection*, Marsilio
- Kaur, Raminder and Parul Dave-Mukherji (eds) (2014) *Arts and Aesthetics in a Globalizing World*, London: Bloomsbury
- Kelker, Nancy (2020) *Art of the Non-Western World: Asia, Africa, Oceania and the Americas*, Oxford University Press
- Lee, Shimrit. (2022) *Decolonize Museums*, New York: O/R Books
- Morphy, H. (ed) (2006) *The Anthropology of Art: A Reader* Oxford: Blackwell
- Philipsen, Lotte (2010) *Globalizing Contemporary Art*, Aarhus University Press
- Zijlmans, K. & W. Van Damme (eds). (2008) *World Art Studies: Exploring Concepts & Theories* Amsterdam: Valiz

Journals

- Critical Interventions: <https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rcin20>
- Museum Worlds: <https://www.berghahnjournals.com/view/journals/museum-worlds/museum-worlds-overview.xml>
- Third Text
- African Arts
- Southeast of Now

Web Sites

- Hyperallergic: <https://hyperallergic.com/>
- Wapatah, Center for Indigenous Visual Knowledge: <https://wapatah.com/>
- BACA (Biennial d'Art Contemporaine Autochtone): <https://www.baca.ca/en/>
- Elephant: <https://elephant.art/section/art/>

See syllabus for complete reading list

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)
Updated course description	Dept, Jan 23
Updated indicative texts and journals	Dept, Jan 23
Aims and objectives expanded to highlight issues of globalization, decolonization, and relationships between canonical and marginal art expressions	Dept, Jan 23
Change in course title	Dept, Jan 23
Revision – annual update	May 2023
Total hours updated	April 2024