

UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: ART 424-Topics in Contemporary Art

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Proposed Effective Date: Spring 2016

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COURSE INFORMATION: (please provide all information in the “current” column, and only the information changing in the “proposed” column)

change		current	proposed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Course Number(s)	Art 424	
X	Formal Title	Topics in Contemporary Art	Contemporary Art of the Non-Western World
X	Transcript Title (≤30c)	Topics in Contemporary Art	Non-Western Contemporary Art
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommended Course Preparation		
X	Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a “D” or better.	Art 321 or Art 323 or Art 328 or Art 329 or permission of instructor	Art 318 or Art 319 or Art 321 or Art 323 or Art 328 or Art 329 or Art 349. Prerequisite must be passed with a “C” or better.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Credits	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeatable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
X	Max. Total Credits	6	3 Max. Total Credits: This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grading Method(s)	X Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

The topics of this course will focus broadly on key developments in contemporary art. The course content will reflect the particular research expertise of the instructor teaching the course. Some seminars may examine current critical discourses that shape and define a cultural practice or artistic medium (e.g. theories of race, gender and sexuality, postcoloniality or poststructuralism); others may survey the contemporary art of a specific geographical region (e.g. the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, Africa and their respective diasporas). The course will be conducted as a small seminar with weekly discussions and written assignments culminating in student presentations and research papers.

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words): leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

This course examines the visual art produced by selected artists from three broad geographic regions outside the West: Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Approximately four weeks will be devoted to specific countries in each geographical area. The goal of the course is to examine the visual material produced by contemporary artists from these regions and to discern their overarching critical themes, issues, problems, complications, similarities, etc. within and across cultures. Special attention will be paid to current critical discourses that shape and define a cultural practice or artistic medium (e.g. theories of race, gender and sexuality, postcoloniality or poststructuralism). The course will be conducted as a small seminar with weekly discussions and written assignments culminating in student presentations and research papers.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:

Topic courses in our Art History and Museum Studies Concentration are presently covered by Art 329 and Art 429. This course has been taught regularly since 2010 and no longer qualifies as a topics course. It has become a valued feature of our curriculum in that it is the only art history course that focuses on the vast array of contemporary visual art produced in non-Western cultures. Since this is no longer a topics course, it can NOT be taken for repeat credits. The change in pre-requisites would allow those Visual Arts majors who have taken special topics courses as part of their art history requirements an opportunity to sign up for Art 424 without having to seek special permission from the instructor.