Art, Culture and Society  
SOC 3108A  
Professor: Dr Hope MacLean  
Fall 2013

Class Schedule:  
Monday 10:00-11:30  
Wednesday 8:30-10:00  
Louis Pasteur (LPR) 155

Professor’s Office Hours:  
Wednesday, 10:15-11:30

Office:  
Social Sciences Building (FSS) 10056

Telephone/Voicemail:  
(819) 459-2636

Email:  
hmaclean@uottawa.ca

Teach Assistant:  
To be determined

Please ask questions about the course content and your work in class or in person at the office. The instructor will only respond to emails that are urgent business. Use email wisely.

Course Description

Analysis of historical transformations and connections between the artistic, cultural and socio-economic spheres. Study of the socio-historical and esthetic impact of concrete cultural expressions, including music, paintings, cinema, novels, theatre, poetry, etc.

Prerequisites: 18 credits in Soc or 54 university credits

Course Objectives:

1. To gain an understanding of why people make art, and some of the social, cultural, and biological functions art serves.
2. To examine art styles, aesthetics, and theories of art from selected cultures, and to compare them to western art theories.
3. To consider the benefits and/or disadvantages of commodification of art within the global marketplace.
4. To develop a framework for understanding the social structure of art production.
**Course Evaluation:**

This course is based on lectures, films, and discussion. You may be asked to discuss particular readings in class. Class attendance is necessary to successfully complete this course. Films are part of course content, and you will be responsible for knowing the content. Evaluation will be based on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Test (October 7)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research paper (due Nov 13)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation in Group Presentation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination:</td>
<td>45% (in scheduled exam period)</td>
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**Mid-term test:** A combination of multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions on material covered in weeks 1-5.

**Final examination:** Will be similar and cover material from weeks 6 onward.

**Research Paper and Presentations:** A 6-page paper, applying course concepts to a topic of art in contemporary society. Students are encouraged to conduct research which may include personal communication with one person (no more), according to research guidelines provided by the professor, or doing observation in a public social setting. Social settings might include museums, galleries, craft shows, theatres, or concerts.

You are encouraged to communicate with a person in your own circle of acquaintances. Personal communication could be with a fellow student, family or friends, or a person with knowledge of the topic in their professional capacity. You should not communicate with people under the age of 18 for this project. You may identify the person by role (a friend, a dancer etc) but do not identify them by name, verbally or in writing, unless they agree to waive anonymity by signing a consent form.

Students MUST refer to assigned course materials in their analysis, both oral and written. For example, a paper on body decoration could consider Anderson's discussion of the aesthetics of body decoration among the San and/or Inuit. A paper on the role of the artist could consider Becker's formulation of artist types.

- An outline of topics will be given in advance and students may sign up for a group.
- Groups will divide up research and do a presentation on their topic in-class. (5 minutes per person).
- Time will be given during class to discuss the group's presentation.
- Papers will be the student’s individual work and responsibility.

Schedule for Presentations may vary, based partly on the number of students signed up for each group. Due to time constraints, please do not plan on showing Youtube videos.
Criteria for Papers

Your paper should be typed and double-spaced, in 12 point font, and no longer than 6 pages of text. It may have an additional page for footnotes and references. Please include a title page with your student number and course number, date and name of professor. Staple in upper left corner, and do not use plastic or other covers.

Assignments may be handed in at the Sociology/Anthropology office (10th Floor, FSS Building) where they will be date-stamped. There is a drop box for after hours. The building is closed on weekends. Do not place essays under office doors. Do not send essays as email attachments.

Extensions and Late penalties: Extensions are granted only in cases of genuine need, such as illness. In all cases, you must inform the professor on or before the day that the test or assignment is due. Otherwise a penalty of 2% per day will be assessed.

Policy on Language Quality and Late Submissions

Marking will be based on criteria which may include (depending on type of question): factual accuracy; clarity of argument; ability to organize information and support with appropriate facts; originality of thought; ability to synthesize theory and draw conclusions. Ability to write clearly and correctly is expected.

You will be judged on your writing abilities. It is recommended to take the appropriate measures to avoid mistakes such as spelling, syntax, punctuation, inappropriate use of terms, etc. You may be penalized up to 15%, to the professor’s discretion.

Late submissions are not tolerated. Exceptions are made only for illness or other serious situations deemed as such by the professor. There will be a penalty for late submissions. University regulations require all absences from exams and all late submissions due to illness to be supported by a medical certificate.

Absence for any other serious reason must be justified in writing, to the academic assistants of the Faculty, within five business days following the date of the exam or submission of an assignment. The Faculty reserves the right to accept or refuse the reason. Reasons such as travel, jobs, or any misreading of the examination timetable are not acceptable.

A Note about the Course Outline

The course outline includes a guide to scheduled topics and readings. Circumstances may arise that change the topic of the day and the pace of the course. It is your responsibility to do the required readings and attend the class. If you are unable to attend class, please arrange with your colleagues to acquire material on films or other course content. Some films are brought in from other universities and will only be shown once.
**Required Readings:** (available at University Bookstore and on reserve at library)

Anderson, Richard  

Becker, Howard.  


Additional Required Readings may be purchased in a coursepack, available at Laurier Office Mart, 226 Laurier Ave E, (613) 233-0635; www.lomonline.ca; print@lomonline.ca. Books (or excerpts from them) will also be available on reserve, where possible. Journals are available electronically through the library.

**Optional Readings:** * on reserve in library

Tanner, Jeremy (ed)  
2003  *The Sociology of Art: A Reader.* London: Routledge. (available as ebook at library). Reading from Durkheim (also in coursepack).

*Kellogg, Rhoda  

*Alexandra Howson  

*Schiller, Paul H.  

*Waterman, Richard A.  
Schedule of Topics and Assignments

**Week 1**
Sept 4
Introductory Business. The Course Outline, assignments, readings.

**Week 2**
Sept 9 Doing Research on art: Huichol art and shamanism


Sept 11 The Biological and Psychological Origins of Art: Is there a biological basis to the making of art?

Readings: Klopfer, Peter

Ehmann, James, "An Elephant that Draws Pictures." *Reader's Digest*.


Haviland, William
- European cave painting and entoptic imagery, pp. 233-239.
- San rock art and entoptic images, pp. 683-690.

**Week 3**
Sept 16 biology (cont)
Discussion of Student Presentations and Research Papers
Students will sign up for a group and date for presentation

Sept 18 Art and Social Structures: Is social structure reflected in art?
Group presentation planning meeting


**Week 4**
Sept 23 Case Study: Hunter/gatherers: San of Africa
Reading: Calliope’s Sisters, Introduction, Ch 1 San
Sept 25  Case Study: The Inuit  
Reading: Calliope's Sisters, Ch 2 Inuit;  

**Week 5**  
Sept 30  Ethnic and Tourist Arts, Australian Aborigines  

Readings: Graburn, Nelson  

Graburn, Nelson  

Calliope’s Sisters, Ch 3 Australian Aborigine (pp. 78-85 only)  

Oct 2  Ethnic Identity and Art in Canada  
Student Presentations: Ethnic and Tourist Arts  

**Week 6**  
Oct 7  Midterm Test  

Oct 9  Art and The Spiritual  
Case Study: The Navajo  
Reading: Calliope's Sisters, Ch 5 Navajo  

**STUDY WEEK**  Oct 14-20  No class  

**Week 7**  
Oct 21  Africa and the West  
Case Study: Yoruba  
Reading: Calliope's Sisters, Ch 6 Yoruba  

Oct 23  Africa (continued)  
Student Presentations: African Influences on Western Arts (eg. music and dance such as rap, hip-hop)  


**Week 8**  
Oct 28  Case Study: India  
Reading: Calliope’s Sisters, Ch 8 India  

Oct 30  Case Study: Japan
Reading: Calliope’s Sisters, Ch 9 Japan

**Week 9**
Nov 4 Student Presentations: Yoga, Martial Arts, Art as Therapy (eg. music or art therapy, martial arts, eastern arts)

Nov 6 Western Art
Reading: Calliope’s Sisters, Ch. 10 "Western Aesthetics", Ch 11 "Introduction", Ch 15 "Western Aesthetics in Cross-Cultural Perspective"

**Week 10**
Nov 11 Student Presentations: Art and the Body (eg. Body Decoration, fashion)

Nov 13 Western art: History and Structure of the Art World
Research Papers due

Reading: Becker, Ch 1 "Art Worlds and Collective Activity"


**Week 11**
Nov 18 Groups and Individuals in the Art World
Student Presentations: Role of Museums, Galleries, Connoisseurs, Critics

Reading: Becker Ch 4 "Distributing Art Works"; Ch 5 "Aesthetics, Aestheticians, and Critics"

Nov 20 Student Presentations: Artists and Craftspeople
Student Presentations: Gender and Feminist Approaches to Art

Reading: Becker Ch 8 "Integrated Professionals, Mavericks, Folk Artists and Naive Artists", Ch 9 "Arts and Crafts"


**Week 12**
Nov 25 Change in the Art World, New Technologies
Student Presentations: Change in the Art World (eg. new technologies, internet, video games)

Reading: Becker, Ch 6 "Art and the State", Ch 10 "Change in Art Worlds", Ch 11 "Reputation"

Nov 27 Student Presentations: Hybrid Arts and Globalization
Reading: Calliope’s Sisters, Ch 12 "Comparative Aesthetics", ch 13 "Culturally Significant Meaning"

**Week 13 Dec 2 Review**
Final date to hand in all term work

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**RESOURCES FOR YOU**

The goal of the Mentoring Centre is to help students with their academic and social well-being during their time at the University of Ottawa. Regardless of where students stand academically, or how far along they are in completing their degree, the Mentoring Centre is there to help them continue on the path to success.

A student may choose to visit the Mentoring Centre for very different reasons: talking to older peers to gain insight into programs and services offered by the University, or to simply brush up on study skills (time management, note-taking, exam preparation, etc.).

In sum, at the Mentoring Centre, you can discuss all things academic and everything about life on campus with mentors who are social science students themselves and trained to answer all your questions.

**ACADEMIC WRITING HELP CENTRE** - [http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/writing/](http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/writing/)
The Academic Writing Help Centre provides free, individualized help and advice for writing academic assignments. With the help of our advisors, you learn to correct your errors, to write well independently, to improve your critical analysis and to sharpen your argumentation skills—everything you need to master the official language of your choice.

**CAREER SERVICES** - [http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/careers/](http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/careers/)
This unit provides an array of career-development services and resources designed to help students identify and put forward the critical skills they need to enter the work force.

**COUNSELLING-SERVICE** - [http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/personnel](http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/personnel)
There are many reasons to call on the Counseling Service, including:
- personal counselling
- career counseling
- study skills counseling

**ACCESS SERVICE** - [http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/acces/](http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/acces/)
The University has always strived to meet the needs of individuals with learning disabilities or with other temporary or permanent functional disabilities (hearing/visual impairments, sustained health issues, mental health problems), and the campus community works collaboratively so that you can develop and maintain your autonomy, as well as reach your full potential throughout your studies. You can call on a wide range of services and resources, all provided with expertise, professionalism and confidentiality.

If barriers are preventing you from integrating into university life and you need adaptive measures to progress (physical setting, arrangements for exams, learning strategies, etc.), contact the Access Service right away:
- in person at the University Centre, Room 339
- online at [http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/access/registration/](http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/access/registration/)
- by phone at 613-562-5976
Deadlines for submitting requests for adaptive measures during exams

- midterms, tests, deferred exams: seven business days before the exam, test or other written evaluation (excluding the day of the exam itself).
- final exams:
  - November 15 for the fall session
  - March 15 for the winter session
  - Seven business days before the date of the exam for the spring/summer session (excluding the day of the exam itself).

These centres strive to meet all sorts of student needs.

BE AWARE OF ACADEMIC FRAUD

Academic fraud consists of dishonest and wrongful acts on exams, tests or assignments, resulting in flawed grades and assessments. The University does not tolerate academic fraud, and anyone found guilty of this behaviour is liable to severe penalties.

Here are some examples of academic fraud:

- Plagiarizing or cheating in any way;
- Presenting falsified research data;
- Submitting an assignment of which you are not the sole author;
- Presenting the same work from another course without written permission from the professors concerned.

With the development of the Internet these past years, it has become much easier to detect plagiarism. Indeed, given the powerful tools now at their disposal, your professors can, by typing a few simple words, readily trace the exact source of a text on the Web.

For more information on fraud and how to avoid it, you can refer to the Faculty web page, which offers tips to help you with your studies and the writing process for university-level projects at the following address: http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/undergraduate/student-life-academic-resources.
You can also refer to the Faculty web page for information on plagiarism in university assignments: http://web5.uottawa.ca/mcs-smc/academicintegrity/home.php.

Persons who commit or try to commit academic fraud, or who are accomplices in fraud, will be penalized. Here are some of the possible sanctions:

- a grade of F for the assignment or course in question;
- the imposition of three to 30 more credits as a condition of graduation;
- suspension or expulsion from their faculty.

To consult the regulation, go to: http://www.uottawa.ca/governance/regulations.html#r72