

Quarter/Year

Fall 2019

Course Number

ART-HIST 390

Day/Time

F 2-5

Instructor

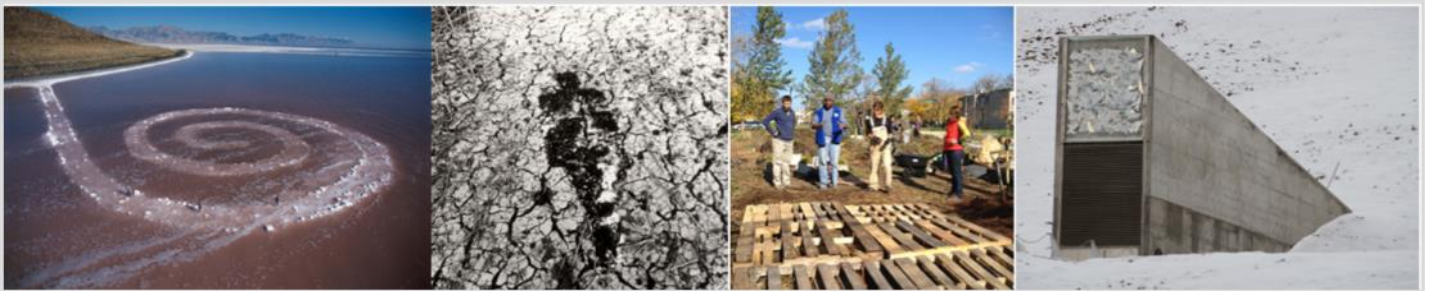
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Course Title

Undergraduate Seminar: Art, Ecology, and Politics

Degree/Distro Fulfillment

Required undergrad seminar



This course studies art that is motivated by ecological concerns, exploring how artists and activists have adapted artistic strategies to address environmental issues over the past 50 years. Themes to be addressed may include sustainability, materiality, labor, and recycling; how artists collaborate with natural processes; how art can address crises such as industrial toxins and global warming; and the place of human ecologies and political struggles in relation to gender, race, poverty, territory and indigeneity. The class will look broadly at environmental art but will focus specifically on one or two neighborhoods as case studies in the Chicago area; another case study will be the region around Carbondale in southern Illinois. There will thus be several field trips outside of class hours. In particular, a required field trip to Carbondale (with travel costs and accommodations covered) will be held from the afternoon of Thursday, October 24 to the evening of Sunday, October 27. Students must be available for this trip in order to take the class.

Required Textbooks

Course PDFs

Assessments

Short writing exercises, 20%; a final research project of 10-12pp, 40%; active participation in discussion and group projects, 40%