northwestern university DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

Quarter/YearCourse NumberDay/TimeInstructorWinter 2019ART-HIST 391F 1:00-3:50LevinCourse TitleDegree/Distro FulfillmentUndergraduate Methods SeminarMajor Requirement



In this seminar, designed for undergraduate art history majors, we will consider the history of art and architecture, and explore the range of approaches that define the discipline today. Through a series of short writing exercises, we will examine ways of writing about works of art from different critical perspectives, including biography, iconography, formalism, social history, as well as feminist and post-colonial theories. This course will address the historical context in which these options emerged and the stakes and implications of choosing a particular approach.

Image: Théodore Géricault, 1819, The Raft of the Medusa

Required Textbooks

Michael Hatt and Charlotte Klonk, Art History: A Critical Introduction to its Methods (Manchester University Press, 2006).ISBN 9780719069598. Additional readings posted on Canvas.

Assessments

Class participation, weekly responses, and a series of writing assignments.