## Northwestern University Department of

## Art History.

Course Number	Course Title		
AH 460	Studies in Contemporary Art: Art Historical Fictions		
Quarter/Year	Day/Time	Instructor	Distro Fulfillment
Fall 2021	R 2-5	Thompson	



**Course Description** 

This course examines art work that engages the fictional and looks too at art historical discourses as kinds of fictions. Special attention will be paid to these practices in the African diaspora. More broadly, the class explores art historical, literary, and historical methodologies that offer new interpretations of the past through critical fabulation and the fictional. Students will read the work of Saidiya Hartman, Coco Fusco, Hannah Crafts, and Katherine McKittrick.

[Caption: Lorraine O'Grady, *Mlle Bourgeoise Noire*, 1980]

## Required Textbooks

Katherine McKittrick, *Dear Science and Other Stories*. (Duke University Press, 2020), 978-1478011040. Saidiya Hartman, *Wayward Lives: Beautiful Experiments*. (W. W. Norton & Company, 2019), 978-0393285673.



## Assessments

Students are responsible for weekly coauthored response papers, copresentations of weekly readings, and a final research paper or fiction-inspired project.

> art-history@northwestern.edu www.arthistory.northwestern.edu