

Course Number

ART-HIST 460

Course Title

Studies in 20th & 21st Century Art: Mellon Foundation John E Sawyer Seminar: Black Art in Anti-Black Worlds: Africa and the Black Diaspora

Quarter/Year

Spring 2021

Day/Time

T 2-5

Instructor

Madison & Jones

Degree/Distro Fulfillment

Course Description

"[Anti-Blackness is] a theoretical framework that illuminates society's inability to recognize our humanity — the disdain, disregard and disgust for our existence."

*--kihana miraya ross
NYT, 4 June 2020*

As the world begins to boldly name and directly address white supremacy in many sectors, the recognition of anti-Blackness as a primary pillar of that social terror becomes more widely understood. This graduate seminar explores how Black art navigates social and aesthetic agency and autonomy in worlds founded on the denigration of Black people and the realities we make. From questions of the legibility of Black Bodies, to the use of sonic innovations, to the politics of linguistic and textual choices, Black art making asserts Black truths in spite of the persistence of social abjection. By creating performance scores in response to readings and prompts from a group of international artist/scholars, students employ embodied strategies as visceral theory-making and art-building. In addition, students will have opportunities to build community with each other as they practice written and oral collegial commentaries.

Image: Toyin Ojih Odutola
All These Garlands Prove Nothing VI
2012, pen ink and marker on paper



Required Textbooks

Assessments

Contact.

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