northwestern university DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

Quarter/Year Course Number Day/Time Instructor

Winter 2021 ART-HIST 391 F 1-3:50 Caticha

Course Title Degree/Distro Fulfillment

Art Historical Methods Seminar Methods



This seminar provides an introduction to art historical research methods for undergraduates, particularly those interested in writing an honors thesis. The seminar will survey the history of art history with a focus on recent debates and interventions within the field (e.g. feminist, critical race theory, and decolonial approaches). The seminar will also provide students with concrete tools to develop, research, and write a piece of original art historical scholarship. What does it mean to ask an original art historical research question? What is historiography and how it is critical for mapping out and developing an original thesis statement and argument? How does one effectively analyze and implement primary sources? What constitutes "evidence," and how is the dominant perception of "evidence" shaped by art history's origins?

Required Textbooks

Kimberley Drew, *This Is What I Know About Art* (Penguin Random House, 2020). ISBN 9780593095188/

Assessments

Attendance and participation. A final historiographic research paper on a subject of the student's choosing, with periodic submissions of a proposal, draft, and annotated bibliography.