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University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025

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Fall 9-1-2022

### ARTH 391.50: Special Topics - Social Justice and Art

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**School of Visual and Media Arts**  
**Social Justice and Art (ARTH 391 Sect: 50, 74578, Fall 2022) 3 credits**  
**Active Online Art History Seminar**  
**Fall 2022, FA 302, Online w/Live Components**

Jerod Peitsmeyer, Adjunct Professor of Art History and Criticism  
303 Fine Arts Building  
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*The University of Montana acknowledges that we are in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people Today, we honor the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for the generations to come.*

**Face-to-Face and Zoom Office Hours:** (Zoom meeting arranged with email request)

9:30 -10:30a Tues Face-to-Face in 303B Fine Arts Building and/or Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://umontana.zoom.us/j/99956874620?pwd=WWs4bEdhWW9EbWs4TkZzWEY5Qkh6QT09>  
Meeting ID: 999 5687 4620  
Passcode: 169294

9:30 – 10:30a Thurs Face-to-Face in 303B Fine Arts Building and/or Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://umontana.zoom.us/j/91289918996?pwd=TGcrWGHkSFR0SWNCWHliYmhTR0NRQT09>  
Meeting ID: 912 8991 8996  
Passcode: 412031

Also, by appointment, email request.

**Course logistics:** This Active Online course will allow students to participate in live lectures/discussion groups.

- **Thursdays** : Live lecture (Zoom) 1:00p- 2:15p – Also posted to Moodle – Readings Assigned

<https://umontana.zoom.us/j/93224674836?pwd=V0h2VjQ5NTIITFdNVWR2WXJaQkZSUT09>

Meeting ID: 932 2467 4836  
Passcode : 378296

- **Tuesdays** : Seminar Discussion (Zoom) 1:00p – 2:15p Also Posted to Moodle

<https://umontana.zoom.us/j/93563035249?pwd=NUh3TUNuTjJiSG12R1ZZZGR6cVc5QT09>

Meeting ID: 935 6303 5249

Passcode: 720139

Students who cannot attend live lectures or discussions will be assigned Critical Thinking Exercises and Discussion Forum Post Assignments

**Textbook:** Protest!: A History of Social and Political Protest Graphics, Liz McQuiston, 2019

This text is free online using your net ID – [link Below](#)

<https://search-credreference-com.weblib.lib.umt.edu:2443/content/title/princetonfru?tab=contents>

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**Additional Course Material** : Instructor will supply PDFs/Links, etc to additional readings related to weekly assignments and discussion seminars

**Course description:** The arts have long stood as an active venue for important social change. Since the advent of widely distributed images and continuing in modernity both locally, nationally, and globally, art objects have played an integral role in the matriculation of activism, protest and served as cornerstones to many important movements that seek to upend and dismantle various power structures that have inculcated systemic and pervasive paradigms of injustice. This course aims to bring together students with an interest in investigating and investing in social change work through the arts.

Goals for our seminar community are threefold. We will:

- engage in discussions of readings and video viewings,
- Create meaningful writings and analysis of current movements
- engage actively in student-decided social justice projects or detailed analysis of current art components of active movements

Papers, journals, digital stories, and hands-on projects will all be included as mechanisms for our reflection and learning.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Develop improved observation and analysis of art related to social justice
- Become familiar with the historical importance and influence of social justice related art
- Utilize skills and information learned to either enact social change or write critically/analytically about current movements
- Improve communication skills through writing responses to “Critical Thinkings” Response prompts and seminar discussions
- Increase ability to discuss and react to readings/videos in a group setting

**Requirements for Course:** You are expected to participate! Students will complete **all** assignments in order to earn credit for the class. Students are expected to keep copies of all assigned work. Students will utilize Moodle/ZOOM at <http://umonline.umt.edu/> for course syllabus, lectures, assignments, other course materials, announcements, and grades.

**Assignments and Points Distribution:**

- **Thirteen Lecture Participations (or thirteen lecture response “Critical Thinkings” for those not attending live lecture):** 10 points (130 points total)
- **Thirteen Seminar Discussions: (or thirteen seminar response Forum Posts for those not attending live seminar discussion)** 20 points each (260 points total)
- **Final Assignment Proposal** (10 pts)
- **Final Assignment:** Either a Social Justice Project or Critical Analysis of a Social Justice Movement 200 points. Projects/Papers must be approved by instructor

**Grades are calculated as follows, based on all work completed:**

600-540 = A; 539-480 = B; 479-420 = C; 419–360 = D; 359 and lower F  
Students with disabilities or special needs should contact the instructor.

**Late Work Policy:** Check the due dates of assignments. Because life happens, every student gets one **LATE WORK PASS** that can be used anytime during the semester. Simply request more time and you can submit the assignment at any time prior to the close of the semester.

**Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code:** All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <https://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php>.

What is plagiarism? Plagiarism is representing another's work as one's own. It is a particularly intolerable offense in the academic community and is strictly forbidden. Students who plagiarize may fail the course and may be remanded to Academic Court for possible suspension or expulsion. (See Student Conduct Code).

Students must be very careful to acknowledge any kind of borrowing that is included in their work. This means not only borrowed wording but also ideas. Acknowledgment of whatever is not one's own original work is the proper and honest use of sources. Failure to acknowledge whatever is not one's own original work is plagiarism.

**Accommodations:** Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting the DSS office. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). For more information, please consult <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.

**The Writing and Public Speaking Center:** provides one-on-one tutoring to students at all levels and at any time in the writing process. Visit now. Visit often. We're ready when you are. [www.umt.edu/writingcenter](http://www.umt.edu/writingcenter).

**Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy:** The University of Montana is committed to advancing the mental health and wellbeing of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of support, services are available. For help, visit <https://www.umt.edu/diversity/resources/mental-health.php>

**COVID-19 policy:** The University of Montana requires masks for every course being held in a classroom, lab, or studio until otherwise informed.

**Content Advisement:** This course provides an open space for the civil exchange and critical examination of ideas. Some readings and visual material in this course will address topics that some students may find offensive and/or traumatizing. Please assist me in alerting others about potentially disturbing content as we collectively undertake the study of art history.

**Inclusion Policies:**

The University of Montana values leadership, engagement, diversity, and sustainability, because our institution is committed to respect, welcome, encourage, and celebrate the differences among us. As members of the University of Montana community, we aspire to:

- Respect the dignity and rights of all persons.
- Practice honesty, trustworthiness, and academic integrity.
- Promote justice, learning, individual success, and service.
- Act as good stewards of institutional resources.
- Respect the natural environment.

The College of the Arts and Media at the University of Montana, has chosen to actively pursue equity and access for all persons. In this charge we will be researching, planning, and implementing ways in which our culture can be more accessible, inclusive, equitable, sustainable. It is not enough to be anti-bias in principle without being equitable in action. We will implement these actions organized by a group of students, faculty, and staff across the entire College in an ongoing way.

**Staying Connected:** Please join SVMA social media to stay informed about events and happenings.

- Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/umt\\_svma/](https://www.instagram.com/umt_svma/)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UMTsvma>

**Student Art Collective:** The collective is a student –organized and student-led group that sponsors art related workshops, events, and the Annual Juried Student Art Show. Look for informational posters.

**Museums and Galleries:**

Montana Museum of Art & Culture (MMAC), <https://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum/>  
Gallery of Visual Arts (GVA), <http://www.umt.edu/art/galleries/>  
University Center Gallery, <http://www.umt.edu/uc/uc-gallery/>  
Missoula Art Museum, <https://www.missoulaartmuseum.org>

**Lecture and Discussion Topics and Assignments (Subject to change and open to class discussion ideas)**

## **Week One: 30 August and 1 September**

**Readings - (From Protest A History of Social and Political Protest Graphics)  
Begin Monday, Aug 29<sup>th</sup>**

**1500 – 1900 CE Early Developments : The Reformation and Social Comment**

- **Introduction**
- Martin Luther and the Reformation
- Jacques Callot: 'The Miseries of War'
- The French Revolution
- The Golden Age of British Satire
- Francisco Goya: 'The Disasters of War'
- French Satire and Comic Papers
- Thomas Nast Targets 'Boss' Tweed

**Live Lecture, 1 September (see above for zoom link, time, etc)**

## **Weeks Two and Three: 6, 8, 13 and 15 September**

Live Lecture - 6 September

Readings to prepare for discussion

- **2. Constructing a New Society (1900–1930)**
  - **Introduction**
  - Posada and Pre-revolutionary Mexico
  - Votes for Women: The WSPU
  - Futurism Breaks with the Past
  - Dadaism and its Graphics
  - Photomontage and Social Critique
  - The Constructivist Style

Seminar Discussion – 8 September

Live Lecture – 13 September

Readings to prepare for discussion

- **3. Fascism, The Cold War and The Bomb (1930–1960)**
  - **Introduction**
  - Ben Shahn and Social Realism
  - In the Shadow of Fascism
  - The Spanish Civil War

- 'Ban the Bomb' and CND
- The Dawn of Defiance: Civil Rights, Anti-Apartheid

Seminar Discussion – 15 September

**Week Four: 20 Septmeber**

(No in-person class on 22 September – Please use time begin Project and Paper Proposals)

Live Lecture – 20 September

Readings to be completed by 29 September

- **4. Redirection and Change (1960–1980)**
  - **Introduction**
  - Cuban Revolutionary Poster Art
  - Counter-Cultures
  - Protests Against the Vietnam War
  - The Civil Rights Movement
  - Black Power and the Black Panthers
  - Women's Liberation: The Second Wave
  - Gay Liberation and Pride
  - May '68 Riots: Atelier Populaire
  - 1970s Youth Rebellion: Punk
  - The Environmental Movement
  - International Solidarity
- **5. The AIDS Crisis and Other Global Tensions (1980–2000)**
  - **Introduction**
  - The International Peace Movement
  - Political Satire: A Rogues' Gallery
  - Internal Struggles, Divided Countries
  - The Anti-Apartheid Movement
  - Feminism: The Third Wave
  - The AIDS Crisis
  - Lesbian and Gay Activism
  - Pro-Democracy Movements
  - Anti-War Protests
  - International Solidarity: Global Struggles
  - Anti-Globalization
  - Anti-Corporate Campaigns
  - Animal Rights
  - Environmental Concerns

- Human Rights, Anti-Racism

**Weeks Five, Six and Seven: 27, 29 September and 4, 6, 11 and 13 October**

**Live Lecture, 27 September**

**Discussion Seminar 29 September (based on chapter 4 and 5)**

**Project Proposal Due (10 total points)**

**First due date: 29 September**

**Revision due date: 13 October**

**Live Lecture - 4 October**

**Readings for Seminar Discussion**

- **6. Revolutions and the Demand for Rights (2000–Present)**
  - **Introduction**
  - The War on Terror
  - 2011–14: Years of Revolution
  - Hong Kong's Umbrella Revolution
  - Russia: Pussy Riot, The Blue Noses
  - LGBT Issues
  - Black Lives Matter
  - Women's Rights
  - Eco-Disasters, Eco-Crimes
  - Political Satire: In Your Face
  - Human Rights, Social Struggles

**Seminar Discussion - 6 October**

**Live Lecture – 11 October**

**Readings for Seminar Discussion**

**Sections from [Art For An Undivided Earth: The American Indian Movement /Contemporary Indigenous Art](#)**

**(These will be distributed via pdf)**

**Seminar Discussion 13 October**

**Week Eight: 18 and 20 October**

**Live Lecture – 18 October**

## Readings for Seminar Discussion

### Sections from [Art For An Undivided Earth: The American Indian Movement Contemporary Indigenous Art](#)

(These will be distributed via pdf)

#### **Seminar Discussion 20- October**

#### **Weeks Nine, Ten and Eleven: 25 and 27 October and 1, 3, and 8 and 10 November**

**Live Lecture, 25 – October**

**Readings – TBD – Topic Feminism in Art**

**Discussion Seminar, 27 – October**

**Readings – TBD – Topic Feminism in Art**

**Live Lecture, 1 – November**

**Readings – TBD Topic LGBTQ Movements in Art**

**Discussion Seminar, 3 – November**

**Readings – TBD Topic LGBTQ Movements in Art**

**Live Lecture, 8 November**

**Readings – TBD Topic LGBTQ Movements in Art**

**Discussion Seminar – 10 – November**

**Readings – TBD Topic Racial Reckoning – Black Panthers – Civil Rights Movement – BLM**

#### **Week Twelve: 15 and 17 November**

**Live Lecture 15 – November**

**Readings – TBD Topic Racial Reckoning – Black Panthers – Civil Rights Movement – BLM**

**Discussion Seminar – 17 – November**

**Readings – TBD Topic Racial Reckoning – Black Panthers – Civil Rights Movement – BLM**

**Weeks Thirteen and Fourteen: 22 and 29 November and 1 December**

**24 November, Thanksgiving Break, No Class**

**Live Lecture 22 – November**

**Readings – Class Determined**

**Discussion Seminar –29 – November**

**Week Fifteen: 6 and 8 December**

**Presentations of Projects/Papers**

**Final Project Due 9 Decemeber (200pts)**