**Course Objectives:** Contemporary Issues is a course concerned with art from approximately 1960 until the present. The objective is to acquaint students with key concepts and critical theories related to contemporary art. Students will also become informed about the work of contemporary artists and global venues that display contemporary art.

**Required Texts:** The required texts for this course are Brandon Taylor, *Contemporary Art* (1st edition, 2004), *After Modern Art 1945-2000* (1st edition, 2000), and Sarah Thornton, *Seven Days in the Art World* (2008). The books are available at the UT Tyler bookstore. Students are encouraged to purchase their own textbooks as the library does not always have copies of current editions.

**Course Website:** This course will utilize Blackboard. Instructions for paper assignments and other pertinent information will be posted on Blackboard. Students should check the website before each class for any new information.

**Method of Evaluation:** Your grade for the course will depend upon your participation in class, presentations, and writing assignments. There will be no exams. Final grades for this course will be determined according to the following percentages:

**Undergraduates:**
- Participation and preparedness = 10%
- Weekly presentations = 10%
- Paper Topic = 10%
- Bibliography = 10%
- Formal Analysis = 10%
- Final Paper = 30%
- Final Presentation = 20%

**Graduates:**
- Participation and preparedness = 10%
- Weekly presentations = 10%
- Paper Topic = 5%
- Bibliography = 5%
- Formal Analysis = 10%
- Final Paper = 35%
- Final Presentation = 25%

*Participation and preparedness:* Participation and preparedness is 10% of your final grade. Students are expected to participate in class discussions and demonstrate an understanding of assigned readings. I welcome questions from students and class discussion is integral to learning in this course. Non-participation will result in pop quizzes which will be integrated into the participation grade.

*Weekly presentations:* Weekly presentations constitute 10% of your final grade. Each week students will give an informal presentation on a contemporary artist related to the assigned reading. Specific instructions will be distributed in advance.

*Final paper:*
- **Undergraduates:** One 10-page term paper constitutes 30% of your final grade.
- **Graduates:** One 15-page term paper constitutes 35% of your final grade.

*Undergraduates and Graduates:* Specific instructions will be addressed in advance of the due dates. Students will be required to turn in a term paper topic, a bibliography, and a formal analysis in preparation for writing the term paper. Papers must be turned in on time – LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Plagiarized papers earn the student a “F” as the FINAL COURSE GRADE. (See “Plagiarism and Cheating” section below.)
Final presentation: Undergraduate students will deliver a 10-minute lecture about their research topic. Graduate students will give a 15-minute presentation about their research topic. Specific instructions will be distributed in advance.

Extra Credit: There will be no extra credit for this class.

The Grading System: The letters A, B, C, D are used to indicate passing work: A indicates achievement of outstanding quality; B indicates achievement of high quality; C indicates achievement of acceptable quality; D indicates achievement that is minimally passing, but at less than acceptable quality; F indicates that the student’s work was not of passing quality at the time of un-enrollment from the course and that the student must repeat the course in order to receive credit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-98</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89-87</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79-77</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>69-67</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 and below</td>
<td>F</td>
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Please remember: Professors do not give grades; a student earns them.

Plagiarism and Cheating: Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING ON ANY ASSIGNMENT OR EXAMINATION RESULTS IN AN AUTOMATIC “F” IN THE COURSE. Students who cheat or plagiarize will automatically fail the class and will be turned over to David R. Hill, Director of Residence Life and Judicial Affairs. Please consult A Student Guide to Conduct and Discipline at UT Tyler (available in the Office of Student Affairs) for university regulations regarding academic dishonesty: “3.22 Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.”

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required and students will sign in each class period. If a student wishes to do well in this course, then they must regularly attend class. Each student is allowed 2 unexcused absences. At the third absence, 5 points are deducted from the final grade. Every absence thereafter results in an additional point deducted from the final grade. For example, if a student has a 100 at the end of the semester and misses 3 classes, the final grade is 95; 4 absences = 94; 5 absences = 93; etc. Absences may be excused only if the students provide documentation for their absence (i.e. a funeral notice, doctor’s note, etc.).

Miscellaneous: On occasion, I may ask students to write practice formal analyses or compare and contrast essays in class. If successfully completed, such assignments will affect a student’s grade positively.

Computer/iPad Use: ONLY students with a documented disability may use a computer to take notes during class.

Texting/Cell Phone Use: Texting, talking on the cell phone is not permitted in class. If a student is caught text messaging, one warning will be issued to the entire class. Every offense thereafter, the student will be asked to put the cell phone away. The student will be allowed to remain in class, but will be counted absent for that day. Remember that more than two unexcused absences adversely affect the final grade.

Students Rights and Responsibilities: To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: http://www2.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php
**Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies:** Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at [http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar](http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar). Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract. The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

**State-Mandated Course Drop Policy:** Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

**Disability Services:** In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

**Student Absence due to Religious Observance:** Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

**Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities:** If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

**Social Security and FERPA Statement:** It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.
Emergency Exits and Evacuation: Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Technical proficiency: The student will develop and assemble a technically proficient body of art work that demonstrates technical proficiency within his or her chosen concentration (2D or 3D), as well as general proficiency in the greater arena of all mediums.
2. Conceptually proficiency: The student will develop and assemble a conceptually proficient body of art work that demonstrates conceptual proficiency within his or her chosen concentration (2D or 3D), as well as general proficiency in the greater arena of all mediums.
3. Historical context: The student will develop an understanding of how his or her work relates to art history.
4. Contemporary trends: The student will develop an understanding of how his or her work relates to current trends in contemporary art.
5. Written analysis: The student will engage in written critical analysis of their artwork.
6. Verbal analysis: The student will engage in critical verbal analysis of their artwork.

SYLLABUS AND READINGS:
- ASSIGNED READINGS MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO CLASS LECTURE.
- THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE.
- LECTURES ARE THE PROPERTY OF THE INSTRUCTOR AND MAY NOT BE RECORDED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.
- REQUIRED DUE DATES ARE IN RED.
- HOLIDAYS AND OTHER IMPORTANT DATES ARE IN PURPLE.

Week 1: Jan. 13 Introduction

Week 2: Jan. 20 NO CLASS – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Week 3: Jan. 27 CENSUS DATE (12th CLASS DAY) DEADLINE FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS, SCHEDULE CHANGES, AND SECTION CHANGES
Hopkins, Ch. 1-2, Presentations

Week 4: Feb. 3 Hopkins, Ch. 3-4, Presentations

Week 5: Feb. 10 Hopkins, Ch. 5; Presentations

Week 6: Feb. 17 Hopkins, Ch. 6; Taylor, Preface, Ch.1-2; Presentations

Week 7: Feb. 24 Hopkins, Ch. 7; Taylor, Ch. 3-4; Presentations

Week 8: March 3 Hopkins, Ch. 8; Taylor, Ch. 5-6; Presentations

March 10-14 SPRING BREAK

Week 9: March 17 Taylor, Ch. 7-8; Presentations

Week 10: March 24 March 26 Sarah Thornton, Seven Days in the Art World, xi-73; PresentationsLAST DAY TO WITHDRAW FROM ONE OR MORE COURSES
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Author, Title, Pages</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 11:</td>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Sarah Thornton, <em>Seven Days in the Art World</em>, 75-179</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>April 7</td>
<td>Sarah Thornton, <em>Seven Days in the Art World</em>, 183-200</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>Week 13:</td>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>Sarah Thornton, <em>Seven Days in the Art World</em>, 200-256</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>Week 14:</td>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>Paper Presentations</td>
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<td>Week 15:</td>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>Paper Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16:</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td><strong>FINAL PAPER DUE IN MAIN OFFICE BY 5PM</strong></td>
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