# Methods and Approaches to the Interpretation of Art and Art History

082:506

Tuesdays 1:00-3:40

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This graduate seminar is an introduction to the historiography of art history and to the range of methods and theories in the interpretation of art and its history from the foundation of the discipline to the present.

**Requirements:**

1. Participation in all seminar meetings.
2. Serving as Leader of two seminar meetings.

You may but are not required to provide images to focus the discussion and should use the other participants’ questions as a guide.

1. 6 critical response papers, no longer than 2 pages each, due in seminar meeting.

These responses should include a thoughtful reflection on the reading/s and its/their most valuable point or issue. What is the question to which the author(s) attempt to respond or the problem they try to solve? What are the potential limitations or challenges of framing a study through this lens?

The paper in which you are least satisfied will not be factored into your final grade.

1. Two substantive questions concerning the readings, to be submitted on Sakai by midnight on Mondays, except for seminar leaders.
2. An expanded (5-pages) version of one of your critical response papers, on which you will give a brief oral summary on December 13 and submit on December 15.

**Useful surveys of art historical methods and writing include:**

-Michael Hatt and Charlotte Klonk, *Art History. A critical introduction to its methods*

(Manchester and New York, 2006).

*-Art History and Its Methods*, ed. Eric Fernie (London: Phaidon, 1995).

*-The Art of Art History: A Critical Anthology*, ed. Donald Preziosi(Oxford: Oxford

University Press, 1998)

*-Critical Terms for Art History*, eds. Robert Nelson and Richard Schiff (Chicago:

University of Chicago Press, 1996; second edition, 2003).

Chris Murray ed., *Key Writers of Art: From Antiquity to the Nineteenth Century*

(Abingdon and New York: Routledge: 2003)

Chris Murray ed., *Key Writers on Art: The Twentieth Century* (Abingdon and New York: Routledge 2003)

Margaret Iversen and Stephen Melville, *Writing Art History. Disciplinary Departures*,

(Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010).

All readings listed on the syllabus are available under resources on Sakai.