SDNY ARTH 3311
Art Down Under: From the Dreamtime to the Present
CAPA SYDNEY PROGRAM

Course Description
This course provides an insight into many of the major movements and accomplishments that have occurred in Australian art. Each topic will look at specific works of art and the historical and sociological context in which they were produced. The influence of international art movements on Australian art will be examined. The major ideas and issues regarding Aboriginal art will be introduced, focusing on the themes of tradition, identity and place. The course also investigates the influence and contribution to Australian art of feminism and multiculturalism. By exploring different approaches to Australian art students will gain a greater understanding of Australian society and culture and how it reveals itself through art.

Course Aims
- To understand the major movements and debates that occurred in Australian art since colonisation by the Europeans.
- To develop skills of visual analysis and awareness over a range of artistic medium.

Requirements and Prerequisites
There are no pre-requisites for this class.

Learning Outcomes
a. Students will be able to recognize, describe, and interpret examples of the impact of globalization in the urban environment from their examination of relevant artistic works and through their exploration and analysis of the institutions of their host city.

b. Students will be able to reflect on the differences and similarities within their student community and between their home and host environments and be able to describe and interpret these through their visual analysis.
c. Students will be able to understand concepts of, and implications of, the realities of power, privilege, and inequality in urban environments as well as develop a greater appreciation of cultural differences and respond accordingly.

d. Students will be able to demonstrate independence & creativity, goal orientation, the ability to give and receive criticism, and flexibility through the development of their visual analysis.

e. Students will be able to confidently and critically analyse art works.

**Developmental Outcomes**

Students should demonstrate: responsibility & accountability, independence & interdependence, goal orientation, self-confidence, resilience, appreciation of differences.

**Class methodology**

This course is a lecture course in which class participation and discussion is encouraged. The course has compulsory readings and students will be given copies of these readings at the commencement of the course. In addition to these readings students will be supplied with a bibliography of useful texts. Students are expected to make use of local libraries and come to class prepared to discuss the topic assigned. They are also expected to demonstrate at a reasonably sophisticated level, both orally and in written form, their visual awareness of and personal responses to a range of Australian art.

**Field Components**

CAPA provides the unique opportunity to learn about the city through direct, guided experience. Participation in field activities for this course is required. You will actively explore the Global City in which you are currently living. Furthermore, you will have the chance to collect useful information that will be an invaluable resource for the essays/papers/projects assigned in this course.

The assigned field component(s) are:

- The Australian Gallery at the Art Gallery of New South Wales
- Colonial architecture in Macquarie Street
- The Museum of Contemporary Art

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in co-curricular program activities, among which the following are suggested: Museum of Sydney and The Brett Whitely Studio.

**Assessment & Grading**

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<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>SLOs Assessed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>a,b,e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Class Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>a,b,c,d,e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Research Papers</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>a,b,c,d,e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Virtual Exhibition</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>a,b,c,d,e</td>
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### Exam

30%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTOR</th>
<th>ALPHA</th>
<th>NUMERIC</th>
<th>GPA</th>
<th>REQUIREMENT/EXPECTATION</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding (High Distinction)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>93+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Maximum grade: In addition to description for grade “A-“, the student shows detailed understanding of materials about which he or she can show independent analytical ability. This means the ability to question an issue from different perspectives and evaluate responses in an objective manner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent (Distinction)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 92</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>Student shows understanding of literature beyond the textbook/class hand-outs/class notes, and the work shows a high level of independent thought, presents informed and insightful discussion and demonstrates a well-developed capacity for evaluation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good (High Credit)</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Shows evidence of a capacity to generalise from the taught content, or the material in literature, or from class lectures in an informed manner. Also, the work demonstrates a capacity to integrate personal reflection into the discussion and an appreciation of a range of different perspectives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good (Credit)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 – 86</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>The work is well organised and contains coherent or logical argumentation and presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good (Credit)</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 82</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Student shows understanding of literature beyond the textbook and/or notes, and, there is evidence of additional reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average (Good Pass)</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a capacity to integrate research into the discussion and a critical appreciation of a range of theoretical perspectives. Also, the work demonstrates a clear understanding of the question and its theoretical implications and demonstrates evidence of additional reading.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Adequate  
(Pass)  
C  
73 – 76  
2.0  
Shows clear understanding and some insight into the material in the textbook and notes, but not beyond. A deficiency in understanding the material may be compensated by evidence of independent thought and effort related to the subject matter.

Below Average  
(Borderline  
Pass)  
C-  
70-72  
1.7  
Shows some understanding of the material in the textbook and notes. A deficiency in any of the above may be compensated by evidence of independent thought related to the subject matter.

Inadequate  
(Borderline  
Fail)  
D+  
67 – 69  
1.3  
Fails to show a clear understanding or much insight into the material in the textbook and notes

Poor  
(Fail)  
D  
60 – 66  
0.7 – 1.0  
Besides the above for D+, student has not shown interest or engagement in the class work or study.

Poor  
(Fail)  
F  
<60  
0  
Shows little or no understanding of any of the material

Incomplete  
I  
Please see CAPA policy in the Academic Handbook.

1. Participation (10%)

The participation mark is based on a student’s preparation for class and their input into group discussion in all classes (excluding the class of their presentation - for which a separate mark is given). The student will need to demonstrate that they have read and thought about the set material for each week. Participation in class discussion will be marked on the constructiveness of their input to the class discussion and debate. Please review the following table as a guide:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A range</td>
<td><strong>Excellent:</strong> consistent contributor; offers original analysis and comments; always has ideas on topics of the readings; takes care not to dominate discussion.</td>
<td>Obviously has completed all readings; intelligently uses resultant understanding to formulate comments and questions for the discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td><strong>Very Good:</strong> frequent, willing, and able contributor; generally offers thoughtful comments based on the readings.</td>
<td>Has done most of the readings; provides competent analysis of the readings and applies insights from class appropriately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B / B-</td>
<td><strong>Satisfactory:</strong> frequent contributor; basic grasp of key concepts but little original insight; comments/questions are of a general nature.</td>
<td>Displays familiarity with some readings and related concepts but tends not to analyse them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C range</td>
<td><strong>Poor:</strong> sporadic contributor; comments/questions betray lack of understanding of key concepts; often digresses in unhelpful ways.</td>
<td>Displays familiarity with few readings; rarely demonstrates analytical thought.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D / F</td>
<td><strong>Very Poor:</strong> rarely speaks; merely quotes text or repeats own comments or those of others.</td>
<td>Little to no apparent familiarity with assigned material or application to relevant discussion.</td>
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2. **Class Presentation (20%)**

During the first week of class, students will be asked to choose a topic from one of the weeks. They will be required to give a 15-20-minute presentation, which will be given during the class period scheduled for the chosen topic. Depending on the class numbers students may give individual presentations or a team presentation, at the discretion of the lecturer.

To prepare for your presentation they will be expected to read and critically analyse and report on the set readings, and further readings around the topic. If required, the student will be referred to further suitable material. The presentation may be presented in a variety of formats, such as discussion, debate, visual display. The presentation should aim to engender discussion and debate in the class. The student is encouraged to raise further questions that may have arisen out of their research for the class to consider and debate.

3. **Gallery Research Papers (20%)**

**Paper 1 (10%)**

**Paper 2 (10%)**

Students will be required to submit two (2) gallery research papers. The course includes three gallery visits, so students may wish to submit three gallery research papers, with the best two results used to calculate the final grade (10% each).

Each gallery research paper will require research on at least one of the artists and their art works examined on a gallery visit. Students will also be required to relate the gallery visit, and the works of art, to the themes and ideas raised in class. Students will be taken on at least 3 gallery and / or museum visits. From these visits they are to choose an artist from each gallery to research. Each paper is due one week after the gallery visit.

The gallery research papers must include at least three (3) references. At least one reference must be from a non-Internet source. The word length of each gallery research paper is 1000 words.
Both gallery research papers must:

- Be entirely the student’s own work
- Be within 10% of the required length
- Include a reference list of a minimum of 3 items
- Include at least 1 reference from a non-Internet source
- Be adequately and correctly referenced
- Demonstrate their research skills

In addition, please format as follows:

- Leave a space and a half between lines
- Write text on one side of the paper only
- Leave a wide left-hand margin for the marker’s comments
- Number and staple together all pages
- Ensure your name is clearly written on each essay page

To achieve a Credit grade on a paper it is expected that they will consult references beyond those in the course outline and/or present their discussion in a coherent and analytical fashion. To achieve a Distinction or High Distinction they will need to undertake extended research and present the information and material gained from their research in a critical, analytical and sophisticated fashion. If a paper contains little or no research the essay will be failed. Students should ensure they retain a copy of their work at all times in case of lost or misplaced essays.

4. Online research: The Virtual Exhibition (20%)

For this research presentation you will conceptualise & curate an exhibition based on Australian art works.

Your final work will include a PowerPoint presentation with images of Australian artworks (including details of artist, title, medium & dimensions), a floor plan / map of the exhibition, a curator’s statement (rationale of the exhibition), an introductory panel to the exhibition (1 page) and an explanation of the key artwork in the exhibition (text panel ½ page). Art works may be chosen from any gallery or museum in Australia. Suggested works: minimum of 10 and a maximum of 30.

5. Exam (30%)

The final examination will take place in class in week 12. The exam consists of 2 parts: 1) slide recognition and 2) formal essay response. The students will be given a short list of images two weeks prior to the exam. Students will be examined on 6 from the 30 slides and required to identify and discuss the art works shown. The works will have been examined throughout the course. Preparation and discussion regarding the exam will take place during class. The essay questions in the exam will be based on topics and themes covered throughout the course.
Course Materials

Required Readings

See the weekly schedule for a detailed list of readings.

Recommended Reading

Whilst students will be able to access weekly readings online, for background reading and reference throughout the course, the following are particularly useful texts.

- Christopher Allen, *Art in Australia: From Colonization to Postmodernism*, (Thames & Hudson, 1997).

Course Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Seminar topics</th>
<th>Class activities</th>
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| 1    | **Seminar 1 - Overview and introduction to course issues and themes**  
Colonialism: displacement and adaptation  
The Landscape Tradition: Australia / America  
Focus Artists: John Glover, Eugene Von Guerard, Augustus Earle, Nicholas Chevalier, WG Pigenet  
**Required Reading**  
Lecture  
Slide presentation  
Discussion  
Online  
Virtual exhibition  
research |
| 2    | **Seminar 2 – The Heidelberg School**  
This class will deal with the construction and question of an Australian vision through the eyes of one of the seminal groups of Australian artists: the Heidelberg School.  
Focus Artists:  
Tom Roberts, Frederick McCubbin, Arthur Streeton, Charles Conder.  
**Required Reading** | Class  
Lecture, Slide presentation  
Discussion  
Online  
Virtual exhibition  
research |
| 3 | Seminar 3 – The Colonial Outpost – Art and Architecture of the City | Class  
Guided Field trip  
Online  
Virtual exhibition  
research |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Field trip to Macquarie St.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Students will examine the architecture and public sculpture of early Sydney through an exploration of historical sites on Macquarie Street and Circular Quay. These will include buildings designed by the convict architect, Francis Greenway (Hyde Park Barracks; St James Church); the Sydney Hospital (“The Rum Hospital”). Students will also examine the use of public buildings such as State Parliament House, the State Library and Customs House as venues for historical and contemporary art exhibitions.</td>
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</table>
| 4 | Seminar 4 – Modernism I | Class  
Lecture, Slide presentation  
Discussion  
Online  
Virtual exhibition  
research |
| | I: Early 20th Century / Between the wars: The Body Beautiful |  |
| | What did modernism come to mean in Australia? How were artists who utilised modernist practices received? A discussion of historical and social factors that bought change to Australian urban life in the early 1900s. |  |
| | Focus artists: Margaret Preston, Grace Cossington Smith, Thea Proctor, Roland Wakelin, Roy de Maistre, Max Dupain, Charles Meere |  |
| 5 | Seminar 5 - Modernism II: The Post-War Generation to Abstraction | Class  
Discussion  
Presentations  
Online  
Virtual exhibition  
research |
| | How did representations of the Australian landscape and identity change in the 1940s-1960s? |  |
| | A discussion of Australian society at the time. |  |
| 6 | **Seminar 6 - Field trip**  Australian Icons of Art: Art Gallery of NSW  
The Art Gallery of NSW has recently reopened its Australian Galleries which have been expanded and revitalised. Students will be guided through a selection of works from the colonial to the contemporary, from the Gallery’s collection of Australian art - one of the finest in the country. | **Class**  
Guided Field trip  
**Online**  
Virtual exhibition  
Research |
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Mid Semester Break</strong></td>
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| 7 | **Seminar 7 – Indigenous Art**  
I – Traditional to Contemporary  
Introduction of the themes of diversity, connection and continuity and how they relate to Aboriginal art practice. A discussion of the reception and treatment of Aboriginal art within the dominant settler art industry.  
**Required Reading**  
Lecture,  
Slide presentation  
Discussion  
**Online**  
Virtual exhibition  
Research  
**Assessment** : Gallery Research Paper due |
| 8 | **Seminar 8 – Indigenous Art**  
II – The Art Market  
A discussion of Papunya Tula and Geoffrey Bardon, and the issues and debates regarding the commercialisation of Aboriginal art and artists.  
Focus Artists:  
Clifford Possum Tjapaljarri and artists of the Papunya Tula Group.  
**Required Reading**  
Lecture  
Slide presentation  
Discussion  
**Online**  
Virtual exhibition  
Research |
| 9 | **Seminar 9 – Australian Postmodernism and Contemporary Art including Feminism, Globalisation and cross-cultural exchanges**  
The focus of this lecture has been on Australia’s relationship with Global art movements, Feminism and multiculturalism, and will include artists who have dealt directly with the theme of identity in their art. A discussion of different media & new technologies in contemporary art. This will include a discussion of the technique of appropriation, and how it is used to express the often complex notion of identity. | **Class**  
Lecture  
Slide presentation  
Discussion |
Attendance, Participation & Student Responsibilities

Attendance: CAPA has a mandatory attendance policy. Attendance is taken at the beginning of every class. The first time a student has an unexcused absence for a class, their grade will not be impacted. The second time a student has an unexcused absence in that class, it will result in a 3 percent reduction of the final grade (for example: an A- [92] will become a B+ [89]). The student will be placed on academic probation at this time. Three unexcused absences per class will result in failure of the course. A pattern of three absences in more than one course will result in dismissal from the program. If a student arrives late for a scheduled class, it is the student’s responsibility to notify the instructor to ensure that they are added to the class register for the session.

Focus Artists:
Imants Tillers, Juan Davila, Hou Leong, Tracey Moffat, Julie Rrap, Fiona Hall, Patricia Piccinini

Required Reading

Additional Reading

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<tr>
<th>10</th>
<th>Seminar 10 – Museum of Contemporary Art</th>
<th>Online</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Virtual exhibition research</td>
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<tr>
<th>11</th>
<th>Seminar 11 – Review</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Presentation of Virtual exhibitions</td>
<td>Gallery Paper 2 due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Conclusion and Revision</td>
<td>Student presentations</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Revision of Course content</td>
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<tr>
<th>12</th>
<th>Seminar 12 - Final Examination</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Exam</td>
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</table>
Excused Absences: Absences are only excused for medical reasons, for a family emergency or for a religious holiday. To request an excused absence, students must contact excused.absence@capa.org ahead of time and provide evidence (e.g., a doctor’s note) of the reason for their absence, otherwise the absence will not be excused. Even if the student knows the absence will not be excused, the student should still contact CAPA to inform CAPA they will not be in class. In addition to contacting excused.absence@capa.org, it is the responsibility of the student to contact their instructor and make up any missed assignments.

Class Participation: Students are expected to participate in all classes and to participate actively and critically in class discussions, and the participation portion of the class will be graded accordingly. Students must read assigned reading BEFORE the class and arrive at the session on time. Participation is a vital part of students’ grade; students are expected to participate in class and in online forums and discussions in a critical and evaluative manner; to interact with the faculty and fellow students with respect and tolerance; and to actively engage in discussion. Derogatory or inflammatory comments about the cultures, perspectives or attitudes of others will not be tolerated.

Academic Accommodations: Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability should contact the instructor and/or the Director of Academic Affairs privately to discuss their specific needs. Students requesting accommodations must have their home institution’s Disabilities Services or an appropriate licensed professional or healthcare provider submit official documentation directly to CAPA in a timely manner outlining their specific needs. If the documentation is submitted by a provider other than the home institution’s Disabilities Services, it must be someone familiar with the history and functional limitations of the student’s disability (not a relative or family member of the student). Any required accommodations will be approved by CAPA’s Vice President for Academic Affairs, in consultation with relevant Academic Directors, before being relayed to faculty. Any student who requires an accommodation based on official documentation should also discuss their needs directly with their instructor.

Academic Integrity: A high level of responsibility and academic honesty is expected. Because the value of an academic course depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in their scholastic work and class behavior. Plagiarism, self-plagiarism and cheating can result in dismissal from the program. Self-plagiarism, copying an assignment entirely or partially to submit to a different class in an attempt to receive credit twice for one piece of work is unacceptable and considered cheating by duplication. Students risk receiving a “0” for any assignments in which they have duplicated their own work. All substantial writing assignments will be run through the plagiarism checking software Turnitin when submitted via CANVAS. See CAPA’s Academic Standards and Policies for more information and resources on plagiarism.

Sexual Misconduct, Required Reporting, and Title IX: CAPA: The Global Education Network is committed to encouraging a safe and healthy environment at our CAPA centers. This commitment includes the understanding of, and applicable adherence to, the guidelines outlined in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX necessitates that US universities provide equity in all educational programs and activities without sex discrimination. CAPA understands the implications of Title IX compliance for our institutional partners and thus endeavors to support this compliance as a vital aspect of partnership. The safety and security of all students during a program is a matter of crucial importance to CAPA. To facilitate this, CAPA encourages students to openly disclose any and all information that is Title IX relevant so that CAPA staff can provide support and connect students with appropriate resources. Because students may not understand the implications of Title IX abroad, CAPA will work to advise students about the resources available through Title IX and explain the importance of compliance in Title IX reporting. CAPA will work to build student confidence in CAPA’s status as a mandated reporter by outlining the advantage of disclosure for the student, reassuring them that any information disclosed will not be used in an inappropriate manner, and stressing that individuals will only be informed on a need-to-know basis.

Use of Electronic Equipment In Class: All devices such as laptops, i-pods, i-pads, netbooks, notebooks and tablets, smartphones, cell phones, etc. are NOT allowed unless students have express permission from the faculty, or they have been instructed to do so. If students require an accommodation to use any type of electronic equipment, they must inform the Director of Academic Affairs at the beginning of term.

Use of Electronic Translators: In language courses students are NOT allowed to use electronic translators for writing texts in the target language; those submitting compositions and texts of whatever kind translated in such a fashion will receive a “0” (F) grade for the course.
Late Submission: Late submission of papers, projects, journal entries, pieces of homework and portfolios is only permitted with prior approval. A request for an extension must be made to the relevant faculty member no later than two days prior to the due date. Late submission without prior approval will result in a 3 percent per day deduction of the final grade. In either case, work cannot be submitted after feedback has been provided to the rest of the class on the relevant assessment or one week after the due date whichever comes first, after which point a grade of “0” (F) will be given for the assessment.

Behavior during Examinations: During examinations, students must do their own work. Unless specifically instructed by the lecturer or instructor, talking during an exam is not permitted, and students may not access online resources of any kind, compare papers, copy from others, or collaborate in any way. Any failure to abide by examination rules will result in failure of the exam and may lead to failure of the course and disciplinary action.