

**ARTH-A400
SENIOR SEMINAR:
THE MATTER OF
ART (HISTORY)**

FALL 2017
CLASS #13536
PROFESSOR
JEFFREY SALETNIK
FINE ARTS 002
TR 9:45-11:00



*My 316.
My 316.
My 316.*

K. Schwitters. 1916.

The senior seminar is meant to be an intensive examination of the discipline of art history. It offers students the opportunity to survey, deploy, and reflect upon the methods used to describe and analyze art objects from ancient traditions of ekphrasis to current academic writing and criticism. Students who are seeking departmental honors in art history are required to enroll in ARTH-A 400; in the context of this course, these students determine a research topic, conduct research for and begin to write their honors papers. However, all students interested in pursuing graduate work in art history, museum studies, and related disciplines are encouraged to enroll.

In this iteration of the course students will explore the conceptualization and employment of matter in artistic practice. Matter will be considered plainly as constituent material having mass and occupying space, but also as material means for expression, action, and the formation of thought. How art historians evaluate and describe these objects also will be a central matter in the course.