

# ARTH-A340 TOPICS IN MODERN ART: CURATING THE CONTEMPORARY



**CASE A&H Credit**

FALL 2018 CLASS # 30773 | PROFESSOR FAYE GLEISSER | LINDLEY HALL 008 | TR 9:30-10:45

Art exhibitions have the potential to change not only the history of art, but also how we perceive cultural production, politics, and personal relationships. This course examines historic examples of art exhibitions from the 19th century to the present moment and tracks the various stages through which exhibitions develop in order to expose students to the behind-the-scenes processes that constitute the experience of cultural consumption. The class, tailored for undergrads with an interest in art history, design, curation, museums, and/or global economies of exchange, dovetails with the opening of an exhibition on campus at the Grunwald Gallery titled *Out of Easy Reach*. The exhibition features 25 artists self-identifying as women of the African and Latinx Diasporas, whose work engages with abstraction through painting, installation art, sculpture, and new media. Throughout the semester, class sessions will be held at the Grunwald and in museum archives on campus, where we will have access to the curators, art handlers, artists, exhibition files, and conservationists, in order to ascertain the labor of maintaining and preserving exhibitions of art. The majority of course readings, short writing assignments, and a final research project, integrate reception theory, feminist theory, and critical race theory to unpack feature landmark exhibitions that have changed the canon of art, art education, and exhibition design. No previous knowledge of art history is required.