ART & IDEAS: BERLIN BIENNALE
NYU STEINHARDT

Credits: 3-6
*The class may include some TBD evening and weekend sessions
Classroom: NYU Berlin Academic Center and Berlin!
Instructor: David Darts (with Gianni Sirch)
Email: [darts@nyu.edu](mailto:darts@nyu.edu)

Course Description:
Berlin remains one of the last bastions of bohemia, attracting creatives looking for the elusive combination of space and time. Students in this class will spend two weeks studying at the Berlin Biennial, known for its experimentation and critical examination of the latest trends in the contemporary art world. Throughout the class students will visit key exhibitions, events, and cultural institutions; meet with participating artists and curators; and examine and discuss the artworks and ideas embedded within them.

Intended Learning Outcomes:
Students that successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Identify and demonstrate mastery over key issues, concepts, and theories in contemporary art with a special emphasis on the Berlin Biennale;
2. Clearly articulate complex ideas visually, verbally and in writing.

Teaching and Learning Methodologies:
The class will meet daily in:
1. Site visit sessions in which students actively participate in a critical viewing of key exhibitions, events and installations.
2. Seminar sessions of lectures, presentations and critical discussions based on the analysis of key texts, artworks, and topics.

Required Texts:
*Additional online and digital texts will be shared during the course.

Gabi Ngcobo: We are all Postcolonial

Gabi Ngcobo on her appointment as curator of the 10th Berlin Biennale
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WhzUc6P6iW8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WhzUc6P6iW8)
The Ultimate Guide to Ana Mendieta
http://www.sleek-mag.com/2017/02/16/ana-mendieta

Vitalism's After-Burn: The Sense of Ana Mendieta

Oscar Murillo Perfectly Encapsulates the Current State of the Contemporary Art World

Sondra Perry on blackness, gender and internet culture
https://www.royalacademy.org.uk/article/magazine-sondra-perry-typhoon-coming-on-serpentine-galleries

'Abstraction Isn't Neutral': Sondra Perry on the NCAA, Subjecthood, and Her Upcoming Projects

Lubaina Himid: "I Am Painting Parts Of Black Women's Lives That Nobody Paints"
http://www.vogue.co.uk/article/lubaina-himid-interview

Art is Medicine: Helen Molesworth on the Work of Simone Leigh
https://www.artforum.com/print/201803/helen-molesworth-on-the-work-of-simone-leigh-74304

Mildred Thompson: Radiation Explorations and Magnetic Fields

Okwui Okpokwasili Explores Politics and the Body
https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/04/24/okwui-okpokwasili-explores-politics-and-the-body

Mimi Cherono Ng‘ok: A Photographer Who Uses Color to Hint at Her Own Presence
https://hyperallergic.com/382124/aperture-platform-africa/

Academic Requirements:
1. Daily Assignments and Personal Engagement 40%
This is an intensive course and students are expected to attend ALL class activities and actively engage in group discussions, critiques, exercises, etc. Students will also be expected to write short response papers connected to the course readings and exhibitions we visit.

2. Final Paper 60%
Students who choose to enroll in 3 credits will be required to complete a 10-12 page research paper (due date TBD – 2 weeks after the class ends). Students who choose to participate in 6
credits will be required to complete an extended 20-25 page research paper (due 3 weeks after the class ends).

In both cases, students are expected to select a topic (in consultation with the instructor) that will critically engage the theories and concepts represented in the readings, viewings and classroom discussions. One-page written proposals must be submitted in advance. Students may elect to propose a research-supported creative project as a supplement to their written paper. Specific details and guidelines will be discussed in class.

Evaluation
Students will be evaluated based on successful completion of all course assignments and activities. Work completed for this class should represent graduate quality scholarship and final grades will be awarded according to the NYU Department of Art and Art Professions guidelines.
A 95 to 100
A- 90 to 94
B+ 85 to 89
B 80 to 84
B- 79 to 75
C+ 70 to 74
C 69 to 65
C- 60 to 64
D 59 and below

SAMPLE Class Schedule (from 2018):

**Sunday June 17**
**Time:** All Day
**Note:** Students arrive and check-in at the NYU Berlin Residence

**Monday, June 18**
**Time:** 9:30am
**Note:** Housing Orientation in Student Residence followed by shuttle to Academic Center

**Time:** 11:00am-12:30pm
**Note:** NYU Berlin Academic Center Orientation
**Meeting Point:** NYU Berlin Academic Center – Schonhauser Allee 36 (in the Kulturbrauerei building) [http://goo.gl/p6Y63](http://goo.gl/p6Y63)

**Time:** 1:00-2:00pm
**Note:** Lecture: Intro to course, the Biennale, and contemporary art in Berlin
**Meeting Point:** NYU Berlin Academic Center
Time: 3:30-5:30pm
Note: Berlinische Gallerie
Meeting Point: Depart from NYU Berlin Academic Center

Time: 7:00-10:00pm
Note: Orientation Dinner
Meeting Point: Khushi Indian – Kollwitzstr. 37 10405 Berlin (Prenzlauer Berg)

**Tuesday, June 19**
Time: 11:00am-1:00pm
Note: Alte Nationalgalerie
Meeting Point: Alexanderplatz World Clock

Time: 3.00-5-00pm
Note: Akademie der Künste: “By-Products of Love”

**Wednesday, June 20**
Time: 10:00am-12:00pm
Note: Boros Collection
Meeting Point: Alexanderplatz World Clock

Time: 3:00-6:00pm
Note: Berlin Biennale: KW Institute for Contemporary Art
Meeting Point: TBD

**Thursday, June 21**
Time: 11:00am-3:00pm
Note: Teufelsberg (noon reservation)
Meeting Point: Alexanderplatz World Clock

Time: 3:00-6:00pm
Note: Berlin Biennale: Akademie der Künste (Hanseatenweg)

**Friday, June 22**
Time: 11:00am-2:00pm
Note: Sammlung Hoffmann Collection
Meeting Point: Alexanderplatz World Clock
Time: 3:00-6:00pm
Note: Berlin Biennale: Volksbühne Pavillon + HAU Hebbel am Ufer
Meeting Point: TBD

Saturday, June 23
Time: TBA
Note: TBD
Meeting Point: TBD

Monday, June 25
Time: 12:00pm-3:00pm
Note: The Feuerle Collection
Meeting Point: Alexanderplatz World Clock

Time: 3:00-6:00pm
Note: Berlin Biennale: ZKU Zentrum für Kunst und Urbanistik
Meeting Point: Alexanderplatz World Clock

Tuesday, June 26
Time: 11.00-2:00pm
Note: Hamburger Bahnhof
Meeting Point: Alexanderplatz World Clock

Time: 3:00-6:00pm
Note: Studio visits with Hulda Ros Gudnadottir and Clarissa Thieme

Wednesday June 27
Time: 11:00am-6:00pm
Note: Gallery Tours! König Galerie, C/O Berlin, Pool Gallery, Gallerie Open, Carlier Gebauer, etc.
Meeting Point: Alexanderplatz World Clock

Thursday, June 28
Time: 11:30am-1:30pm
Note: KINDL
Meeting Point: Alexanderplatz World Clock

Time: 3:00-5:00pm
Note: Julia Stoschek Collection
Meeting Point: TBD

Friday, June 29
Time: 12:00-3:00pm
Note: Final Class Seminar & Farewell Lunch at Klunkerkranich
Meeting Point: TBD

Academic Integrity:
All students are responsible for understanding and complying with the NYU Steinhardt Statement on Academic Integrity. A copy is available at: http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/policies/academic_integrity

Students with Disabilities:
Students with physical or learning disabilities are required to register with the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities [http://www.nyu.edu/csd] at 726 Broadway, 2nd Floor, (212-998-4980) and are required to present a letter from the Center to the instructor at the start of the semester in order to be considered for appropriate accommodation.