

**VAS 9541b/9544b Graduate Studio Seminar**

**Winter 2023**  
**Professor Kelly Wood**

Office: VAC 119  
e-mail: kwood@uwo.ca  
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 3:30pm – 4:30pm (or, by appointment)

Room: VAC247 and MFA Studios and/or TBA  
Time: 9:30-12:30pm

Classes Start	Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
January 9	February 18-26	April 10	NA	N/A

**1. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will provide a weekly forum for the critical engagement of the ongoing material production and research of MFA students. The course will be structured around presentations of student thesis-related research and the close analysis of contemporary artworks. Over the term, these presentations will be complemented by both formal critiques and less formal studio discussions. Critique sessions will be directed to sustain discussion and debate concerning students' developing material, conceptual and theoretical engagements. Critiques will be scheduled by the instructor throughout the course, and, at the end of the term.

Students are required to schedule individual or class meetings with their instructors to discuss the development of their studio work. All students will also be expected to arrange studio visits with Visiting Artists, Faculty and other individuals.

**Learning Outcomes**

**A. Application of Knowledge**

Students will use their capacities with the medium as a critical, discursive and expressive tool to develop creative works; understand the potential viability of their works, and will utilize their reflections on their works to explore and develop further projects in order to create a body of work. Students will utilize their knowledge of appropriate methods, the vocabularies pertinent to the field, and their ability to make appropriate judgements, in order to develop a sound argument regarding a particular historical development, and will be able to defend their argument according to a knowledge of scholarly works

**B. Communication Skills**

Students will be able to communicate in writing and orally regarding their projects and regarding relevant art and culture, and will recognize the range of language suited to differing communication opportunities (i.e. a grant application vs. a grad school application). Students will be able to communicate orally and in writing with regard to their art history research, and will be able to utilize different genres of writing for different purposes (i.e., to write an academic paper, or a magazine article)

C. Awareness of Limits of Knowledge

Students will be aware of the field of research/inquiry in relation to which their studies are situated, and will understand the limits/opportunities inherent to their research capacities within the framework of their studies

**Note:**

An aim of this course is to expose the student to a very broad range of contemporary art. Some of the most canonical or universally esteemed works depict what is nowad

#### **4. EVALUATION:**

This course presupposes each student's vigorous and regular engagement with a studio practice and with the activities of the MFA community. All scheduled due dates must be respected. The following represents the principle requirements of the class:

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Studio work	In-class Peer and mid-term roundabout; and,		

discourse, lecture, and debate that gave us the first use of *diatribe* recorded in English (1581), in the now archaic sense "discourse, critical dissertation." The critical element of this kind of diatribe must often have been uppermost, explaining the origin of the current sense of *diatribe*, "a bitter criticism."

**diatribe**/ da tra b/

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a bitter or violent criticism or attack; denunciation

Etymology: 16<sup>th</sup>Century: from Latin *diatribal* earned debate, from Greek *diatribe* discourse, pastime, from *diatribein* to while away, from *dia-* + *tribein* to rub

### **Encomium (second year students)**

All second-year students will produce and deliver, to the class, a 30-40 minute presentation in the form of an *encomium*

Graduate students with disabilities (for example, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions, mobility impairments) are strongly encouraged to register with Accessible Education Western (AEW), a confidential service designed to support graduate and undergraduate students through their academic program. With the appropriate documentation, the student will work with both AEW and their graduate programs (normally their Graduate Chair and/or Course instructor) to ensure that appropriate academic accommodations to program requirements are arranged. These accommodations include individual counselling, alternative formatted literature, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction, writing exams and assistive technology instruction.