ART 4980-1 Spring 2015
Senior Seminar
3 hours credit
Pre-requisite: Junior or Senior studio major. Fulfills Special Topics for Painting & Drawing emphasis.

Thursdays, 4:35- 7:30 pm, Marriott Library 1725 (or as announced)
Maureen O’Hara Ure
Assistant Professor (Lecturer)
Office: ART 366
Office hour: Mon 4:45-5:45 for drop-ins. Otherwise, By Appointment
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Course Description: Senior Seminar material will be divided between two areas: creative process in the visual arts, & day-to-day professional concerns of the studio artist. Extensive readings, class discussions, writing exercises, & guest presenters will address a wide range of topics.

Course Objectives: To prepare for life after graduation. (Topics will touch on art-related jobs & nuts and bolts of the independent studio practice, gallery and other exhibition opportunities, small business concerns e.g. contracts & copyright, taxes, etc.) To improve ability to think and to write clearly. (One emphasis of Seminar: professional writing required in this field.) To investigate the option of graduate study, discussing strategies for choosing an appropriate program, & to demystify the application process.

Teaching & Learning Methods: Seminar will require excellent, on-time attendance, as participation will be an important component of your grade in course. If you have are not available during the entire Thursday 4:35 to 7:35 weekly time slot, you will need to drop the course. Arrive each session well-prepared to discuss the assigned readings, having marked any passages of interest in the texts, as you will be asked to contribute to discussions. Expect me to call on you, to not just rely on volunteers. Some weeks I will start off having you respond briefly to a written questionnaire on assigned reading(s) & I will use those sheets (in grading you in April) as evidence of your out-of-class preparation & overall engagement with course content. Readings, writing exercises, & seeing assigned exhibits will require an average of 4 or more hours/ week outside class throughout term to PASS course. Those who excel typically spend more than 6 hours/ week. There will be frequent guests. Students will maintain a folder for this class, saving all handouts, drafts of your statements, etc. Bring this folder each week in case the discussion returns to a previous reading.
Each time you hand in a new (typed) draft, **staple it atop any previous graded ones which carry my comments or peers' comments.**

**DEADLINES** are deadlines. Late work will neither receive edits nor full credit, but skipping any draft will undoubtedly lower your final grade in course. If a student is absent, written assignments are still due (emailed to me in doc or docx format) at regular class time, & are then to be handed in later as hard copy.

To participate fully in this course, be sure the U has your preferred email address. Email me from that address before next Seminar, 1/22, putting SR SEMINAR in the subject line. (If not obvious from address, identify yourself in the body of email.) Check email frequently, as I will forward notices of opportunities as I receive them, and will answer queries about assignments etc. through email. Some docs will be too complex to be read on small screens.

Recommended Options: I will indentify some events in calendar that are particularly worthy of your attention. I may use 1 such event to compensate for 1 absence (or other issue) in grading you at end of the semester. Some of these early Recommended Options include:

1. James Coupe, guest artist, Jan 22, 3:45 pm Gould Auditorium, Marriott Library

2. Tony Kushner, playwright talking about his creative process and other concerns, Feb 5, 7 pm Kingsbury Hall, President’s Circle. Call box office ASAP (or stop by) to reserve up to 5 free tickets 801 581 7100

3. Film "Mr Turner" (about JMW Turner) opens, Broadway Cinema, Feb 6

4. Mia Fineman, guest curator (of important 2013 Met Museum photo show, "Faking It", 4:30 pm

**(Tentative) Calendar to begin semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan 15</th>
<th>Intro to course. Lamott reading &amp; Kentridge video assigned.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 16</td>
<td>Gallery Stroll, recommended. 3rd Fri./month many city art venues open late, including required Rio Gallery Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 22</td>
<td>3:45, Gould Auditorium, Marriott Library Recommended Option, guest video installation artist James Coupe speaks. You can slip out at 4:45 for our class</td>
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<td>Jan 29</td>
<td>Lamott through p144 discussed. Kentridge <em>Anything is Possible</em> discussed. MFA Interim Show response. Handout, Clock-Your-Week</td>
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(exercise which starts 1/30). Finish Lamott for next week. Procure Art and Fear. Start browsing through Elements of Style.

Feb 5  Clock-Your-Week discussed. Shortened class to allow as many students as possible to attend Recommended Option, 7 pm Kushner lecture, Kingsbury Hall. (Extra credit may help compensate for 1 absence or other issue. See Recommended Options above.) Art and Fear to p 36 for next week.

Feb 12  1st draft artist's statement due. Peer review exercise defined. Art and Fear to p 78 for next wk

Feb 19  Influences Handout to prepare for next wk. Art and Fear to end, and for Why Art Cannot Be Taught to p 39 for next wk

Feb 26  Influences discussed. Why Art... to p 90 for next wk

Mar 5   Packet, 2nd draft statement due, stapled atop ones with comments

Mar 12  Response to Rio Gallery Fellowship Show. Meyers Briggs packet due

Mar 26  Resume Handout. Consult Reading Room file and other resources

Apr 2   Packet, 3rd draft statement due, stapled atop others with comments. Guest, Lincoln Ure, on personality theory

Apr 9   Resume due. 7 Days... to p 217 for next wk

Apr 16  7 Days... to end for next wk

Apr 23  Last class, change of venue. (Extra credit reworked resume, stapled atop one with my comments due, may help compensate for absence, etc.)

CLASS CALENDAR, posted outside Owen Reading Room, 3rd floor Art Bldg, will be updated frequently. (Note: I will decide soon whether to use Canvas to post copies of course handouts, my weekly notes etc. for absentees to access.)

Course fees : $15. Used primarily for lecture supplies, as well as to cover some costs for guests.

Required Texts
University Bookstore received this list. I also recommend you try on-line sources, including Marriott Library (via CIS) & SL Public Library digital versions, if available (& if you can easily bookmark and retrieve passages for discussion.) Bring assigned text(s) to Seminar on day appointed.

A. Strunk and White, Elements of Style, any edition, but I recommend the illustrated Kalman version.

B. Bird by Bird, any edition ok
Lamott, Anchor, NYC

C. Seven Days in the Art World
Thornton, Norton
D. Art and Fear
Bayles and Orland

E. Why Art Cannot Be Taught
Elkins, University of Illinois

Other Assigned Material
First assigned video, via Youtube or Art 21.org, prepare to discuss as early as 1/29, William Kentridge, ART 21, Anything is Possible. Some of you have already screened this, but I want you to do it again, paying attention to how artist describes his creative process.

I will put some assigned readings on Marriott Library’s Electronic Reserve. Access these with your Unid through CIS.

Required Exhibits to Begin Term
MFA Interim Show, Gittins Gallery, see before 1/29
UMFA (con)text, see before
Fellowship Show, Rio Gallery, see before 3/12

Additional Requirements
All Seminar students will enter at least 1 juried show or apply for an internship in an arts field before the end of term. In addition, all May or Dec ’15 graduates will participate in (enter, and help organize) the BFA Show. I will award extra points for additional shows/ internships applied for (which may help compensate for absence or other issue.)

Evaluation methods & criteria
I will note your attendance, and note the level of your preparation for & participation in each week’s class. I will consider how you performed in brief written responses to readings or other assigned discussion topics, and factor that evidence of your overall preparation into your final grade.
In evaluating drafts of your artist’s statement or other written assignments I will use a check/ check-plus system grading, then move to a percentage grade (eg 85%) for your final artist’s statement (which I will expect to be radically different from your 1st draft.) Presuming all work has been completed, and my records show excellent on-time attendance and participation in course, grade on your final draft will be highly predictive of your final grade in course.

Problems with attendance, with preparing the readings etc. will conspire to lower that final letter grade. I may, however, consider 1 Extra Credit recommended event (e.g. attending a guest artist’s talk) to help compensate for 1 (excused or unexcused) absence or for some other issue. See scale below.

A= Excellent. A rare grade. Superior written work & participation
B= Good. Written work much improved. Good participation & grasp of course content
C= Fair. Problems with preparation/ participation/ written work etc. Attendance likely erratic
D= Poor, not college-level work. Inadequate engagement with course for Dept credit.
E= No University credit warranted.

*Note that excellent participation, starting with on-time attendance, is required of anyone who aspires to earn an A or B in course. I will conduct class as I would a graduate-level seminar. All assignments must be handed in on time in order to receive full credit. Course is designed for the motivated, mature A or B student, & therefore may be an inappropriate choice at this time for some students.

Faculty & Student Responsibilities
To provide the best climate for learning, & to facilitate discussion, professor & students will maintain a respectful, professional classroom environment. Kindly turn off cell phones and other electronic devices during Seminar. (Exception: e-readers in lieu of paper texts.)
Class will start promptly at 4:35 pm. Arrive on time, prepared with assigned readings, ready to go. Absentees need to consult class calendar, posted outside Owen Reading Room (as well as Canvas, if I announce I am posting info there) & not get behind in class. Deadlines, assigned readings & other homework descriptions, changes of venue, etc. updated on the 3rd floor Art Building calendar. I will also email those on class list frequently, so check for those updates.

The U of U seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services & activities for people with disabilities. If you need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Bldg. CDS will work with you & the professor to make arrangements for accommodations.

Information in this syllabus may be amended by announcements in class & on the Seminar bulletin board.