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| **Course Name**  BLCK 480 (3 units): Special Topics in Black Studies - Art Criticism After Black Stud  **Contact Hours**  Lecture: Tuesdays 2:30-5:30pm | |  |
| **Course Description**  This seminar explores the unique position Art Criticism occupies in contemporary critical discourse. This course surveys the genre to analyze key texts that have shaped criticism, and the ways in which black studies perspectives can shift and expand how we understand aesthetic practice. Students will gain a practical overview of art criticism and the social, economic, art historical contexts of the art world in which artists practice and present their work. The readings, discussions and writing exercises will familiarize the students with art critical discourses and styles of art criticism, while also paying attention to questions of race, class, gender, (hetero)sexuality, and social justice. | | **Required Course Materials**   * All readings are available at the bookstore or through the library’s e-reserve. |
| **Course Objectives**  By the end of the course, students should be able to:   * understand the role or the art writer/critic in relation to art, artists, and art institutions * contextualize works of art within an artist's practice, and within a specific medium or genre * connect art criticism and art practice to overarching social differences (such as race, class, gender, location), as well as to the attitudes and values of a historical period * support their interpretations of artworks with close readings and appropriate social, economic, and historical contextualization * write ethical, well-researched, opinionated interpretations of artworks, exhibitions, and events | | **Course Evaluation**   * Reading responses 20% * Presentation 25% * Final project/paper proposal 5% * Final project/paper 40% * Participation 10% |
| **Topics in Course Outline**   * Styles of Art Criticism * Art World Ecologies * Art Criticism in Peril * Beyond the White Cube * Ethics and Aesthetics * Art in the Age of the Internt * Politics of Language * Art and Value |  | |