

WGST 320-01 Arts, Activism, & Justice

Fall 2022

TTH 3:05pm – 4:20pm KRNS Rm 112A

“Art should comfort the disturbed and disturb the comfortable.” — Cesar A. Cruz

Instructor Contact:

Instructor	Amanda Masterpaul
Office Hours	Mondays/Wednesdays 11:00am – 12:00pm Tuesdays/Thursdays 2:00pm – 3:00pm ***Virtual Office Hours Zoom Link is on our Moodle classroom
Office	Kearns 104A
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Course Description:

This class will discuss, analyze, and reflect upon the many ways in which artistic activism can amplify and bolster social justice movements. Students will interact with artistic pathways, such as Theatre of the Oppressed, protest art, civic practice, performance art, and more, to study how individuals and groups can bridge creative expression with social change. In this class, students will explore how the arts can support communities to identify oppression and injustice, leading them to articulate their goals and demands, so as to achieve a liberatory means.

Course Objectives:

1. Explore the wide range of social justice issues relevant to artistic expression;
2. Define and apply key terms, concepts, and analytic approaches used in Women’s and Gender Studies and the arts;
3. Understand the history of feminist art;

4. Understand the intersections of gender/sexuality, race/ethnicity, class, and other characteristics and how they are reflected in the diversity of artistic expression;

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students who complete this course successfully will:

- Study artists and movements that have utilized arts-based social practice to evolve the socio-political landscape;
- Acquire the ability to think critically about human rights struggles and justice through intercultural, interdisciplinary, and intersectional prospects;
- Create artistic ideas and share those ideas in class-discussions, activities, and projects;
- Demonstrate an understanding of collective knowledge-making, critical thought, self-advocacy, and communal affinity;
- Learn how artistic expression coupled with civic or social action can lift consciousness, galvanize power, and mobilize impact;
- Apply their learning by engaging in creatively inspired experiential projects which equip students to reflect upon the relationships they hold with themselves, each other, and the larger community.

This course meets the student learning outcomes for Core Goal IID Artistic Expression which are:

1. Apply methods of inquiry to the practices of fine arts.
2. Analyze, interpret, or engage in forms of artistic expression.

Required Readings/Text:

There is no course textbook.

All assigned readings, videos, podcasts, etc. will be made available on our Moodle classroom page and they are **REQUIRED** to be reviewed on the days of each week as listed on Moodle and the course calendar.

Course Requirements:

- Desktop or laptop computer with Internet connection (high speed cable connection desirable), for use in online sessions and in between class meetings.
- Access to CCU's Moodle Learning Management System (LMS).
- Other web-based tools to be used throughout workshop (links will be provided in Moodle)
- Skills
 - Ability to send email with file attachments
 - Ability to upload files to Moodle

- Ability to view browser-based multimedia

Communication Policy:

I will communicate regularly through Remind Text Messaging. Make sure to subscribe:

- Enter the number 81010
- Text: @wgst32

I will also communicate often to your CCU email. Please check it weekly. You are welcome to email me for specific/personal questions. Emails sent to me at amasterpa@coastal.edu should receive a response within 48-72 hours during the work week and including weekends.

Evaluation and Grading:

Discussion Forum Posts: 20% - a total of four (4) discussion forums – 5% per forum

Journal Entries: 20% - a total of four (4) – 5% per journal

Human Library Storytelling: 15%

Participation & Attendance: 15%

Community Voices Exhibition: 15%

Self-Reflection: 5%

Reflection Paper: 10%

Discussion Forum Posts (20%): You are required to complete four (4) discussion forum on our Moodle classroom. Refer to our Moodle classroom for subject matter and word count requirements.

Journal Entries (20%): You will submit a four (4) journal entries over the duration of the semester. The journal entries are to be your personal **reactions to course material**. These can be in bullet point format. You can either post comments on what stood out to you, what confused/surprised/etc. you, what you still have questions about, or any other reactions you might have that show you actually read the materials.

Human Library Storytelling (15%): Each student will develop and perform a 2-minute story centered on a social justice theme and/or activist theme of their choice which will be shared during class time for a Human Library exhibition at Kimbel Library. Details are shared on our Moodle classroom.

Participation & Attendance (15%): Refer to the *Participation and Attendance policy*.

Community Voices Exhibition (20%): All students will produce an exhibition of arts-centered/justice-related work at Fresh Brewed Coffee in downtown Myrtle Beach. Works can derive from in-class assignments, projects, new works, etc. Details are shared on our Moodle classroom.

Reflection Paper (10%): Each student will write a 2-page paper reflecting upon their experience and learning in the class. The paper will synthesize how key themes and concepts have impacted the way in which students engage with society and the world.

(A) 91-100: Student has exceptional quality of work meeting assignment requirements and demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of class concepts and arguments in the assigned texts. Regular attendance and provides strong contributions to class discussion.

(B+) 86-90; (B) 81-85: Very strong quality of work conforming to assignment requirements and demonstrating a solid grasp of class concepts and arguments in assigned readings, though there is room for improvement. Regular attendance and active participation in class discussions.

(C+) 76-80; (C) 71-75: Work meets assignment requirements and demonstrates basic understanding of class concepts and assigned readings. Regular attendance and limited participation in class discussions.

(D+) 66-70; (D) 61-65: Work does not meet assignment requirements or engage with class concepts or readings. Misses many classes and does not contribute to class discussions.

(F) 60 and Below: Fails to meet minimum course requirements. Does not submit all assignments. Misses many classes and does not contribute to class discussions.

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups/Extra Credit:

Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines—there will be no makeup assignments or late work accepted without a serious and compelling reason and instructor approval. Extra credit may be requested or given as needed prior to final exam week.

Participation and Attendance Policy:

Attendance and participation are required. You may miss 2 class sessions without any questions asked. **Each additional unexcused absence will move your final grade down by 2%.** If you are absent for more than 25% of the scheduled class sessions (8 absences) you may automatically fail this class per CCU policy. If you have to miss a class, it is your responsibility to talk with a classmate and share notes. You will be able to find all assignments on Moodle. I only accept late work that has received my prior approval.

I expect you to prepare for and participate in discussions. **Your comments help others to see topics in a different light.** Students are expected to complete all assignments in good faith and on-time as listed on our Moodle class page.

During each class session, full participation will be graded on following criteria:

- Preparation for class discussion
- Ability to answer discussion questions
- Ability to ask relevant questions

- Frequency of contributions

*****Please evaluate your own health status regularly and refrain from attending class and other on-campus events if you are ill. You are encouraged to seek appropriate medical attention for treatment of illness. Notify me by email about your absences as soon as possible, so that accommodations can be made. Please note that documentation for excused absences may be required.**

CCU Academic Integrity:

Students will be expected to understand and abide by the Coastal Carolina University Code of Student Conduct. Any instances of academic dishonesty will be handled in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Code of Student Conduct, and may result in penalties up to and including failure of the course with a grade of "FX". The Coastal Carolina University Code of Student Conduct, which is available online via the CCU website, gives examples of plagiarism and cheating. Make sure you review this document to understand what constitutes academic misconduct.

ADA Statement:

Coastal Carolina University is committed to equitable access and inclusion of individuals with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Individuals seeking reasonable accommodations should contact [Accessibility & Disability Services](#) (843-349-2503). To receive academic accommodations for this class, please obtain the proper forms and meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible. It is recommended that this must be completed within the first two weeks of class.

Website: <http://www.coastal.edu/disabilityservices>

Student Services:

Academic Support:

Link to [Learning Assistance Center](#)

Link to [Kimbel Library Website](#)

Link to [online orientation](#)

Link to [Purdue Owl MLA Style Guide](#)

Technology Support

Link to [Technical Support from Student Computing Services](#)

Link to [A list of on-campus HelpDesks and the Help Request Form](#)

Other Student Services

Link to [Office of the Registrar](#)

Link to [Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)

Link to [Student Activities and Leadership](#)

Link to [Dean of Students Office](#)

Link to [Counseling Services](#)

Link to [Student Advocacy & Intervention](#)

Land Acknowledgement:

As an institution that expresses the responsibility to be the role model in assuring fair and honest treatment with whom it interacts and sustainable stewardship of resources entrusted to it, we recognize the importance of acknowledging the original inhabitants of the land on which we reside. Coastal Carolina University is located on the ancestral land of the Waccamaw Indian People and other American Indian Nations. Through the operations of CCU, we honor and express our gratitude to the ancestors, current peoples, and future generations to come. Source: <https://native-land.ca/>

Code of Conduct:

Students are expected to treat one another with respect and compassionate courtesy in our classroom. All students should expect a safe, brave, and critical learning environment. This environment should be free of derogatory, offensive, harassing, or inappropriate remarks or materials including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and age. Flaming and spamming will not be tolerated. In this course, we will employ the following guidelines:

- Fully participate in our learning community. Honor the background, culture, and experiences others bring to the discussion.
- Respectfully engage with your classmates.
- Respect your classmates' privacy.
- Use your experience to add to the dialogue.
- Read and review your posts for clarity and accuracy. Run spell check.
- Use language conducive to an academic environment including grammar and punctuation.
- Be sure to appropriately cite the work of others.
- Be lean in expression (direct, brief, present).
- You are the expert in your experience – Speak from “I”.
- Be open to different truths.
- Feel free to question for clarity.

Trigger Warning and Resources:

The study of gender and sexuality involves exploration of topics such as abortion, homophobia, racism, and violence, including sexual assault. These discussions can be difficult but are often rewarding. If classroom discussions or assigned materials trigger painful emotions or memories for you, please contact me so that we can find a way for you to successfully take care of yourself and complete the course requirements. If you need counseling, please contact **Counseling Services** (843) 349-2305 for free, confidential, and professional counseling. Please note that CCU policy requires me to report privately disclosed sexual assault cases involving CCU students to the Title IX Coordinator. If you need confidential counseling for sexual assault you can contact **Counseling Services** (843) 349-2305 or the local **Rape Crisis Center** (843) 448-7273 at any time of day.

Concerns:

For general questions about or concerns with this class or to sign up for the WGS minor, please contact Dr. Ina Seethaler, Director of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program, at iseethale@coastal.edu or 843-349-6919. Her office is located in Kearns 104B.

Course Schedule: Note: This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

Date	To-Do’s	Topic
Week 1 (August 25)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Agreements • Syllabus Review • Self-Introductions <p>Discussion Forum 1 – Tell us About You DUE</p>	Introduction to Course – Welcome & Class Community Agreements
Date	To-Do’s	Topic
Week 2 (August 30 – Sept 1)	<p>Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Social Identities & Systems of Oppression</i> article • <i>Privilege & Oppression Diagram</i> <p>Thursday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ITAC Think Tank Pre Video - Arts and Social Transformation in Latin America</i> <p>Week 2 Journal Entry DUE</p>	Social Identities Systems of Oppression Arts-based Social Transformation
Week 3 (Sept 6 - 8)	<p>Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jamaica Heolimeleikalani Osorio: This Is the Way We Rise In The Making American Masters PBS</i> • <i>Adrienne Marie Brown, “We Are Earth”</i> <p>Thursday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Danger of a Single Story” - Ted Talk</i> • <i>Storyteller’s Guide to Changing the World</i> 	Narratives of Authorship Written/ Spoken Word Storytelling Blackout Poetry
Date	To-Do’s	Topic
Week 4 (Sept 13 - 15)	<p>Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Story-based Strategy 101</i> • <i>Conjuring Magic with Black Girls in Oakland</i> <p>Thursday</p>	Story-based Strategy Preparations for Human Library

Date	To-Do's	Topic
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various public narrative videos Discussion Forum 4 - Making a Story DUE	
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 5 (Sept 20 - 22)	Tuesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show & Tell (Narratives of Justice) Thursday Human Library Storytelling DUE (Kimbel Library during class time)	Narratives of Justice Human Library Storytelling
Week 6 (Sept 27 - 29) <i>There will be no class on Thursday, Sept. 29th</i>	Tuesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet The Women Finding Empowerment in the Serious Art of Clowning Guest Presenter – Dory Sibley (feminist clowning) Week 6 Journal Entry DUE	Guest Presenter Feminist Clowning
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 7 (Oct 4 - 6)	Tuesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declaration of TO Principles Thursday Discussion Forum 7 – TO DUE	Theatre of the Oppressed
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 8 (Oct 11 - 13) <i>There will be no class on Tuesday, Oct. 11th or Thursday, Oct. 13th</i>	Week 8 Journal Entry & Activism Project DUE	Activism
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 9 (Oct 18 - 20)	Tuesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do You Mean by Culture Jamming article Muffled Voice Liberation City Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chant Life – Theatre/Film for Health Education 	Get to Know Your Professor's Work Community Arts + Activism Theatre/Film for Health Education Culture Jamming

Date	To-Do's	Topic
	Discussion Forum 9 – Arts & Activism DUE	
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 10 (Oct 25 - 27)	Tuesday & Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Voices Exhibition Preparations 	Community Voices Exhibition Preparations
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 11 (Nov 1 - 3) <i>“Community Voices” Exhibition Friday 11/4 at Fresh Brewed Coffee</i>	Tuesday & Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Voices Exhibition Preparations Self-Reflection DUE	Community Voices Exhibition Preparations
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 12 (Nov 8 - 10) <i>There will be no class on Tuesday, Nov. 8th – Election Day</i>	Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation with Tracie & Eric – Civic Practice Week 12 Journal Entry DUE	Civic Practice
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 13 (Nov. 15 - 17)	Tuesday & Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Channeling the News 	Channeling the News Newspaper Theatre
<i>Thanksgiving Break Nov. 21st – 25th</i>		
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 14 (Nov. 29 – Dec 1)	Tuesday & Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Games for Social Transformation 	Creative Play
Date	To-Do's	Topic
Week 15 (Dec 5 - 9) Last Day of Class Tuesday, December 6th	Tuesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qoya – Movement with Meaning Workshop 	Movement with Meaning Guest Presentation
FINAL Friday, December 9th at 4:00pm	Reflection Paper DUE	Reflection Paper