

*Title and Code of Course:* American Art in a Time of War and Terror

*Instructor's Name:* Joseph Tanke

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Credit Point Value:

3      Number of Lessons per Week: 1      Type of Course: **Seminar x Lecture**

Method of Evaluation:

**Oral Examination**

**In-Class Presentation x**

**Other**

**Course Description:**

This course aims to provide students with an introduction to contemporary American art and culture. It will examine in detail the artists, curators, and critics working at the American Pavilion at the Venice Biennale, during the years 2001-2022. Through this endeavor, students will have the opportunity to study the works of important American artists such as Robert Gober, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, and Simone Leigh. Students will learn how to analyze and evaluate contemporary artistic discourse, together with the different curatorial strategies that are employed in museums and galleries throughout the world today. In each case, our purpose will be to understand how these artists have sought to address issues, debates, and concerns specific to American society during the period following 9/11. By studying these individual works of art, we will have the opportunity to reflect upon the nature of the American identity, the lingering effects of slavery and segregation upon American society, questions of gender and sexuality, as well as ongoing threats like war and terrorism.

**Bibliography:**