

**DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY & ART CONSERVATION**  
ARTH 460/3.0 (W2021) Curatorial Studies



Thursdays, 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM; Delivery Method: Synchronous  
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**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This seminar, held at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, integrates historical, theoretical, and practical approaches to contemporary curatorial issues. **Note: This course will be remote delivered in Winter 2021, not at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre.**

**PREREQUISITES:** Level 4 and registration in an ARTH Major or Medial Plan and a GPA of 1.9 and 24.0 units in ARTH.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Anne Whitelaw has suggested that: “While the object is the fundamental component in the study of the visual arts, we come to know that object through the mediation of art institutions.” Those very same art institutions fundamentally shape curatorial practices. Each week this course will investigate the formation and significance of one type of art institution in the Canadian context – archive, history museum, public gallery, university gallery, artist run center, heritage center, commercial gallery, publishing – thinking about issues such as mandate, funding, collecting practice, exhibition design, community relationships, and the role of the artist as shaping curatorial practices. Throughout this course you will be offered opportunities to research your own emerging specialized curatorial interests as they might be shaped by institutional forces, as well as assignments that provide practical experience with curatorial tasks. You will come away from the course with the ability to think critically about exhibition policy and practice, and with a working knowledge of the ways various institutions shape art collection and drive artistic practices in the Canadian context.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** A detailed list of readings and requirements will be available during the first class. This synchronous seminar relies on students’ active participation in discussion based upon course readings. In addition to written assignments, student will be required to produce in-class presentations.