DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY &
ART CONSERVATION

Fall Term 2019

ARTH 869/3.0
Topics in Contemporary Art II:
Art, Pedagogy and Social
Practice – Histories and Methods

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Jen Kennedy
LOCATION: TBA
TIME: TBA
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OFFICE: Ontario Hall 305
OFFICE HOURS: TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This seminar explores the intersections between art and experimental/alternative/radical approaches to education in the 20th and 21st centuries. From Black Mountain College (founded in 1933) to the Malmö Free University for Women (founded in 2011), we will study the rich transnational history of artists’ experiments in pedagogy, curriculum development, alternative or DIY art schools, and the recent “educational turn” in art practice and curating. Often linked to social or political movements, such experiments envision art and exhibitions as spaces for imagining creative solutions to society’s problems, either directly or by challenging hegemonic modes of perceiving and relating to one’s historical contexts and communities. In doing so, they position artists and art students as potential contributors to a diverse public beyond conventional institutions of art.

This is a practice-based seminar. In addition to weekly readings and assignments, students will collaboratively organize a public program, or “teach-in”, on experimental arts pedagogy which will take place at the end of the semester.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
A detailed course outline will be available in the first class. The course will involve readings, in-class projects, group discussions, student presentations, and writing or research-creation assignments.