



## are 440: theories of child art fall 2014 course syllabus

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& by appointment

### course description:

Examination of contemporary theories, issues and practices related to current theories of children's development in art.

### course objectives:

In this course, we will investigate ways in which children develop in art with an underlying emphasis on understanding children's art as a social practice. Beginning with an analysis of the history and discovery of child art, we will use original children's artworks to examine contemporary theories of children's development in art and the implications of these theories for educational contexts and for research. We will consider children's making in various mediums, and explore their implications for various pedagogical settings and strategies (i.e.: classrooms, museums, and community programs).

### learner outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

- Develop a nuanced understanding of children's art as a social practice;
- Understand contemporary theories of children's art, and their origin in historic theories of artmaking and children's art;
- Make connections between these understandings and broader issues in art teaching and research;
- Observe, document, and analyze the social contexts of children's art-making;
- Share research and ideas with one another through discussion, papers, and presentations.

### required readings:

- Required readings and course media will be hosted on the course d2l site in PDF format.
- Please see course calendar for reading schedule.

## supplies:

- Internet access
- Required readings (I encourage you to download these from d2l at the outset of the course, as we will move along quickly, and there will be scheduled d2l outages);
- A scanner and/or digital camera, if necessary, to complete projects;

## d2l (desire to learn):

ARE 440 has a designated course site within the DL2 system. ALL students are REQUIRED to use D2L and to have a University of Arizona email account. Information, announcements, notes, images, and class activities will be posted on or linked to this course homepage. This means that you must check the homepage frequently for information.



## course requirements & project descriptions:

Throughout this course, there are various requirements and projects that you will need to complete. Below please find details about each of these projects.

### Discussion Questions (15% of final course grade):

There are 20 total readings assigned throughout the semester. You are required to create and post a question for 15 of these readings. You can choose any 15 readings you wish, but you must follow the class calendar (for example, if we're in week 7, you cannot post a question for a reading from week 3 or week 9). For each reading you choose, you will post a question to the corresponding discussion forum on d2l. The purpose of these discussion questions are to discuss new information gained from the readings, respond to issues presented, and discuss how ideas presented relate to your interests in children's art and art education. An excellent discussion question will do the following:

- Clearly reference something specific from the article (including a quote).
- Briefly summarize or introduce the idea/topic/quote of interest.
- Be thoughtful, interesting, and unique. It should be clear that the question was developed while thinking deeply about the article, and the main ideas discussed within it.

Additionally, you are required to *thoughtfully and respectfully* respond to your classmates questions. You must post 10 responses over the course of the semester, but once again, you must follow the class calendar (for example, if we're in week 7, you cannot post a

response to a question posted during week 3). Each discussion question/response is worth 1 point, for a total of 25 points.

**Due:** Discussion questions are due by 6pm the night before the reading is due, on either a Monday or Wednesday. Responses are due by 10pm the night before the reading is due, also either on a Monday or Wednesday.

#### Child Artmaking Observations (40% of final course grade):

During the course of the semester, you will write two papers based on carefully designed observations of children's artmaking experiences. Each paper should be 4-5 pages in length, and discuss your observations of the experience, as well as connections to ideas and theory discussed/presented in class. **Detailed guidelines will be shared during the semester, and posted on our d2l site.** You will also conduct a short, organized presentation to the class for your second paper.

**Due:** Observation 1 due Thursday, September 25; Observation 2 due Thursday, October 30 via the d2l dropboxes.

#### Final Project (20% of final course grade):

At the end of the semester, you will complete a final project and paper that should culminate your ideas and research from this course. This project might look different for each student, as you will have choices about how to approach it. Your paper completed with this project should be 4-5 pages in length. **Detailed guidelines will be shared during the semester and posted on our d2l site, including some ideas/options about how to proceed with this project.** You will also conduct a short, organized presentation to the class for this final project.

**Due:** Tuesday, December 9 via the d2l dropbox.

#### Course Co-Conducting (15%)

During the length of the course, you will each sign up for class topics and lead a portion of one class session, along with one or two other students. Your small group will lead the class based on the topic assigned and reading due for that session. An excellent co-conducting session will include the following:

- A presentation that addresses the topic and reading due
- Understanding of key ideas from the reading
- Explorations of how these key ideas are relevant to art education
- Inclusion and discussion of visuals that connect and relate to the topic/reading
- Facilitation of class conversation about topic/reading

You are required to submit an outline of your session one week before your co-conducting date. I will offer advice/feedback based on this outline. Your outline will not be graded, though points will be deducted from your co-conducting grade if your outline is not handed in or submitted late.

**Due:** Varied, but dates will be scheduled during the second week of class. Outline due one week before co-conducting date.

### Participation (10% of final course grade):

You must be prepared for each in class discussion and activities. All students are expected to read all course materials, prepare for and participate in each class discussion. If you have trouble with class discussions, please think ahead of what you would like to discuss in class and prepare to interject this. If this still proves hard for you, please let me know. Your participation will be graded based on the following:

- Minor homework assignments given in class
- Participation during in class discussions and activities

You will be given two participation grades throughout the semester, so that you can track and alter your participation if necessary.



### grade policies & distributions:

All grades will be posted on D2L as assignments are completed and assessed. You can keep up with your grades and progress through the class site. **There is a two-week turn around time for grades.** If you have any questions in regards to your grade please contact me as soon as the questions arise. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER TO BRING UP GRADE ISSUES OR QUESTIONS.** Students will be assessed upon the intensity of their engagement in the experiences, attention to detail, willingness to exceed minimum expectations, and contributions to the class as a whole. Any student who fulfills these criteria thoroughly and thoughtfully is capable of earning a B in this course. Those who consistently display exceptional effort and involvement will earn an A.

**A (90-100%)** The student fulfills all course requirements and performs at a superior level.

**B (80-89%)** The student fulfills all course requirements and performs at an above-average level.

**C (70-79%)** The student fulfills all course requirements and performs at an average level.

**D (60-69%)** The student fulfills all course requirements but performs at a below-average level.

**E (59% and below)** The student fails to fulfill all course requirements and performs at a poor level.

*[The grade of Incomplete will be assigned ONLY under the following circumstance: only a small percentage of the semester's work is still outstanding and was not completed due to a documented medical emergency.]*

Grade Category	Grade Percentage
Discussion Questions	15% of final grade
Child Artmaking Observations (2)	40% of final grade (20% each)
Final Project	20% of final grade
Co-Conducting	15 % of final grade
Participation	10% of final grade
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>100%</b>

### attendance policy:

Please notify the instructor in advance if you must miss a class by sending an email message. Work you miss due to absence can be made up only under very exceptional circumstances. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed during the class session. **Over two unexcused absences will result in a lowering of your final grade 2 points per additional absence.** Lateness is not acceptable. If you arrive five minutes after class has begun, you will be marked late.

If you are more than five minutes late three times, each additional lateness will result in a lowering of your final grade 1 point per additional lateness. If you are more than fifteen minutes late to class, you will be considered absent. Although I reserve the right to administratively drop you from the class if you do not attend our first class meeting, dropping the course (if you choose to do so) is your responsibility and you should attend to it promptly.

In order for an absence to be excused, it must be documented and meet one of the following requirements: serious illness or injury, family emergency, and University-sponsored travel. All holidays or special events observed by organized religions will be honored as excused for those students who show affiliation with that particular religion. Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean's designee) will be honored as excused.

### additional class policies:

#### Preparation and deadlines:

It is essential to be prepared and to meet course deadlines. Expectations and deadlines are outlined in the daily calendar posted under "Content" in d2l. Please check the d2l news feed and your email once daily, as the calendar is subject to change and is our primary means of communication. Expectations will be shared at the beginning of each class period for the following course meeting. For unexcused absences, in class work cannot be made up and other assignments that are late may not be accepted.

#### Written work:

Written work must be typed, proofread, double-spaced, and submitted on time. Complete and proper APA citations must be used where references are required (consult the

University Library and its website for style guides). Grammar, spelling, and punctuation count! Writing is expected to be correct and coherent. Free tutoring and editing services are available at the University Writing Center in the Nugent building. Your name, the date, and the assignment title must be placed at the top of all assignments. Please do note that all written work submitted to d2l will be assessed through the plagiarism detector program "turnitin."

#### Late work policy:

For each calendar day (i.e. each 24 hour period after the deadline) late work will be reduced by 1/2 letter grade. Work more than two weeks late will not be accepted.

#### Electronic communication/contacts:

You are responsible for keeping up with the online course calendar available on the d2l site. Please check the news feed on class meeting days. I will make every effort possible to post news by 8:00 AM. I will communicate with students personally via UofA email. Please contact me via UofA email only.

#### Classroom behavior:

- Cell phones and pagers: As a courtesy to all people in class, please turn off cell phones and pagers during class time.
- Laptops are welcome in class for note-taking, but please refrain from looking at videos and websites in class, as it is very distracting for the people seated around you.

**From the University Policy on Threatening Behavior:** "The aim of education is the intellectual, personal, social, and ethical development of the individual. The educational process is ideally conducted in an environment that encourages reasoned discourse, intellectual honesty, openness to constructive change and respect for the rights of all individuals. Self discipline and a respect for the rights of others in the university community are necessary for the fulfillment of such goals."

**From the University Code of Academic Integrity:** "Integrity is expected of every student in all academic work. The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own. This principle is further by the student Code of Conduct and disciplinary procedures established by ABOR Policies 5-308 – 5-403, all provisions of which apply to all University of Arizona students."

The Code of Conduct is available at:

<http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies/scc5308f.html>

The Policy on Threatening Behavior is available at:

<http://web.arizona.edu/~policy/threatening.pdf>

The Code of Academic Integrity is available at:

<http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies/cai1.html>

ADA Statement:

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with me. I would like us to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Resources (621-3268; [drc.arizona.edu](http://drc.arizona.edu)) and that you notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations. <http://drc.arizona.edu/teach/syllabus-statement.html>

Disclaimers:

Information contained in this syllabus and in the course calendar, other than absence and grade policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advanced notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

A Note on Content:

The subject matter of this course contains material that may challenge or offend your moral, religious or political values and beliefs. During the course of the semester, we may encounter and discuss works of art that contain or deal with nudity, profanity, sexuality and violence. If this is an insurmountable issue for you, perhaps this course is not appropriate.

A Note on Copyright:

Images of children's artwork shared in class and hosted on d2l are property of my collection of children's art. They have been collected for research and teaching purposes and are not intended for reproduction or distribution. Images are subject to copyright infringement violation if they are removed from d2l site. I appreciate your compliance. You may not use these images for work outside of this course.

