COURSE DETAIL

RACE AND AESTHETICS
Country Germany
Host Institution Humboldt University Berlin
Program(s) Humboldt University Berlin
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Art History
UCEAP Course Number 109
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title RACE AND AESTHETICS
UCEAP Transcript Title RACE AND AESTHETICS
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description

How does racial difference teach us to see, or not to see? This seminar examines the intersection of Modernist aesthetics and racial formation, with a focus on the United States and Europe in the 20th century. From monochrome painting and mid-century furniture to Josephine Baker and Isamu Noguchi, we will analyze how race materializes through form and style. Topics and themes will include: race and abstraction; primitivism in 20th century art; formalism and art historiography; exhibition history. By the end of this course, students will gain an interdisciplinary foundation in conducting aesthetic analysis from a critical race viewpoint. Readings include Clement Greenberg, “Towards a Newer Laocoon [1940],” in *Clement Greenberg: The Collected Essays and Criticism* (Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 1986); Richard Dyer, *White: Essays on Race and Culture* (London: Routledge, 1997); Frantz Fanon, “The Fact of Blackness [1952],” in *Black Skin, White Masks*, trans. Charles L. Markmann (New York: Grove Press, 1967); Stuart Hall and Sarat Maharaj, "Modernity and Difference: A Conversation," in *Modernity and Difference*, ed. Gilane Tawadros and Sarah Campbell (London: Institute of International Visual Arts, 2001).

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
533646

Host Institution Course Title
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Host Institution Course Details
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Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Institut für Kunst- und Bildgeschichte
Course Last Reviewed 2023-2024

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