

VA 420/520 Concepts & Debates in Contemporary Art
Syllabus for Spring 2021-2022

Teaching mode: Only physical (Classes will not be recorded)

Meets in room SUSAM G010 (Speranza)

Course schedule: Tuesdays 9:40-12:30

Instructor: Meltem Işık

Online Office Hours: By appointment

Email: misik@sabanciuniv.edu

Course Description: Discussion based learning

Contemporary art can be interpreted through layers of information and insights from different perspectives. These in turn give rise to new debate and insights regarding– value, meaning, purpose, existence... This course will review a selection of these events, publications, some taped interviews and documentaries, and whatever other relevant materials you'll be able to find online....

As a student of senior status, your own ongoing academic research and /or studio practice will of course be a mainstay of this course. The debates in class, your general research and writing projects will be based on investigating these multiple perspectives:

Exhibitions you visit (your own interpretations based on **your individual experience with the work**), **Published work** about the artists and their works, the views of various writers and art critics regarding the artist's contributions to the current discussions in contemporary art and their position within the field),

Artist's interviews or writings related to their own creation / process.

Evaluation

Grading will be based on:

Discussion comments/questions-40%

There will be a space for posting your thoughts and questions about the screenings, readings and/or concepts we discuss in class, which you can find under "Forum for Discussion" on SuCourse. Each week you are expected to post your comments/questions about the current discussion topic, before the next class.

Presentations-40%

Each student will prepare a presentation, which will be outlined in detail later on in the term.

Attendance and participation-20%

In order to earn 20% of your grade, participation in the class discussions is critical.

Students who miss 4 classes or more without a valid excuse, will receive N/A as their final grade.