

ARTH 292 Special Topics: Public Monuments

- **Title:** Special Topics: Public Monuments
- **Number:** ARTH 292
- **Effective Term:** Spring 2021
- **Credit Hours:** 3
- **Contact Hours:** 3

Requirements:

Prerequisite: none

Prerequisite or Corequisite: none

Corequisite: none

Description:

Artwork installed in a public space often culturally identifies a location – such as the Eiffel Tower in Paris or the Statue of Liberty in New York. This course will allow students to explore the ways in which public art has defined our cities and will address the complicated relationship between public art and the community it's meant to represent. We will explore this topic by asking such questions as: What is our responsibility when the public feels that certain monuments no longer accurately reflect the citizens who live in the community? Who owns public art? What is its role in society? Well known national monuments (such as the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC and Mount Rushmore in South Dakota) will be discussed in detail, as well as public art closer to home such as the controversial installation of the Shuttlecocks at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City. Special attention will be paid to the removal of Civil War monuments in the South and the monuments in this country that are dedicated to women and minorities.

Course Fees: None

Textbooks: None

Supplies: None

Objectives:

- 1) Articulate the role and function of public art
- 2) Identify and articulate the meaning of international public monuments
- 3) Identify and articulate the meaning of public monuments within the US
- 4) Identify and demonstrate knowledge of local Kansas City public monuments
- 5) Identify and demonstrate understanding of the role of public monuments representing minorities and minority issues
- 6) Demonstrate understanding of the Black Lives Matter movement and its impact on public monuments

Content Outline and Competencies

- I. The Function of Public Art
 - A. Define public art.
 - B. Discuss the role of public art in society.
 - C. Discuss public art's impact on the economy.

- II. International Public Monuments
 - A. Identify and articulate the significance of major international public monuments
 - B. Demonstrate understanding of the World's Fairs and their impact on public art.
 - C. Address the significance of holocaust memorials in Europe and the US.
 - D. Address the impact of colonialism on international public art.

- III. Public Art in the US
 - A. Identify and discuss the meaning of public monuments in Washington, DC.
 - B. Identify and discuss national parks as public monuments.
 - C. Identify individuals depicted in national US monuments and address notions of representation.

- IV. Public Art in the Kansas City Metro Area
 - A. Identify and discuss local public monuments
 - B. Identify and discuss outdoor sculpture at the Nelson-Atkins (Kansas City Sculpture Park)
 - C. Identify and discuss outdoor sculpture at JCCC

- V. Public Monuments Representing Minorities
 - A. Demonstrate understanding of public art erected in honor of minority groups world-wide.
 - B. Demonstrate understanding of public art representing minority groups in the US.
 - C. Identify and discuss the societal impact of the representation of minority groups in public art.

- VI. Black Lives Matter Movement
 - A. Articulate understanding of the Black Lives Matter movement.
 - B. Address the impact BLM has had on the public art.
 - C. Address the removal of Confederate monuments.

Method of Evaluation and Competencies:

Projects	60%
Homework assignments	20%
Attendance and class participation	20%

Grade Criteria:

- 90 – 100% = A
- 80 – 89% = B
- 70 – 79% = C
- 60 – 69% = D
- 0 – 59% = F

Disabilities:

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