

Masaryk University
Faculty of Arts

Department of Art History
Spring Semester 2021

Image, Object, Text: Theories and Methods in Art History and Visual Studies

Code: DU1905 **Credits:** 8

SEMINAR TASKS

MODULE SCHEDULE

4 th March	Art history as a "science": observation and the role of theory
18 th March	Canon wars: the objects and values of art history
1 st April	The meanings of 'style': formalism and the social history of art <i>Task:</i> Consider the texts by Greenberg and Crow in the reading list. In what way can we regard Greenberg as a 'formalist' critic? In what way is the argument of Crow a 'social' history of art?
15 th April	Concepts of iconology: from visual lexicon to social memory <i>Task:</i> Outline the main ideas presented by Aby Warburg in the Introduction to <i>Mnemosyne</i> (uploaded on the folder for this week). How might they be relevant to the interpretation of Czech art?
29 th April	Horizontal art history and the politics of the periphery <i>Task:</i> Considering the work of 2 or 3 artists / architects, in what ways is Czech art in the 'centre' and in what ways is it on the 'periphery' of European / world art?
13 th May	Queering art history <i>Task:</i> Outline the arguments for and against the idea that Donatello's <i>David</i> expresses a queer sensibility.
27 th May	Art history in a global context: decolonizing the discipline? <i>Task:</i> In what ways is the concept of decolonizing relevant to understanding Czech / Slovak art history? Identify the work of 2 or 3 artists that we might view in a different way if we view through the lens of decolonization.