

HON260: The Dinner Party- An Invitation to 21st Century Women Leaders

Spring 2009

Tuesday 2:30-3:45 and Thursday 2:30-3:45

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Course Description

Reflecting on the 1979 art installation by Judy Chicago titled "The Dinner Party" this course will investigate the lives of women artists, writers, scientists, educators and leaders that are documented throughout the installation. As an interdisciplinary course students will contribute their own research into celebrating the contribution of women leaders in the 21st century from their own area of study. The names and achievements of these women will be brought to the "the dinner party" through a public exhibition highlighting the continuation of women's accomplishment throughout all disciplines. Components of this course will include women artists, feminism as a general topic and the input of women from other fields of study. This course will be supported through a field trip to the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art in the Brooklyn Museum where the Dinner Party is permanently installed.

Course Objective

This course is designed to provide an overview of women's contributions throughout the ages and to recognize the contemporary contributions of women throughout all disciplines.

Course Requirements

- Individual Presentations (2) – each student will present two 15-20 minute power point presentation on a chosen woman, or topic.

The first presentation will be related to research on women that were included in Judy Chicago's Dinner Party. A written summary of your research is required. Women/topics must be chosen by the second week of class.

The second presentation will reflect your research of contemporary women who we will invite to the Cedar Crest College Dinner Party. Topics must be chosen by February 26th. A written summary of your research is required.

- Field Trip - There will be a field trip to the Brooklyn Museum of Art to visit the installation of the Dinner Party. You will be required to attend this field trip on Saturday, February 28th. We will leave CCC at 8 am and return by 6pm
- Group Project – design and create a contemporary "Dinner Party" – what are appropriate themes for the 21st century?

Studio Component - You will create a place setting for your contemporary woman contributor to be displayed as part of the Cedar Crest College Dinner Party

- Final Paper – this paper will explore a dialogue between the two women that you researched for your presentations. Looking at the past and present, this paper will address the impact, the challenges and the contributions these women have provided.

Grading

Your class participation is essential. I am interested in hearing everyone’s perspective on the topics we discuss, either through group and class discussion or through your response papers and research. I will encourage you to share your opinions and have a voice in the class room discussion

Individual Presentation (2) -	50%
Group project -discussion and collaboration with the dinner party	10%
Studio Component	10%
Final Paper	30%

Policy for Class Attendance:

Attendance is Mandatory! After three absences your grade will be lowered by one letter grade. Tardiness must be avoided. Being late on three occasions will account for one absence. After four absences you will receive a failing grade.

Classroom Protocol

Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest College Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students’ access to their Cedar Crest College education such as cell phone usage and eating during class time.

Honor Philosophy

The Cedar Crest College Honor Philosophy is based upon the principle that, as a self-governing body, students have the ability to create an atmosphere of trust and support. Within this environment, individuals are empowered to make their own decisions, develop personal regard for the system under which they live, and achieve a sense of integrity and judgement that will guide them through life.

Schedule (tentative)

- **January 20 (Tuesday)**

Introduction to course material

Reading assignment : The Power of Feminist Art (PFA) -Introduction 10-29

- **January 22 (Thursday)**

Lecture: Time line – Women’s Movement and Women Artists

Reading Assignment: from The Power of Feminist Art - “The Feminist Art Program”
pg 32-47, Conversations with Judy Chicago and Miriam Shapiro pg. 66-83

- **January 27(Tuesday)**

Lecture: Who is Judy Chicago?

Reading Assignment : The Dinner Party – Judy Chicago – Introduction: The Joy of
Creating pg. 9-27, Description of the Wings pg 33, pg 91, pg 167 browse through the
women included in the dinner party to determine your research assignment

- **January 29(Thursday)**

Lecture: more about Judy Chicago - Women House

Choose presentation topic for first presentation

Reading Assignment : “Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?” Linda Nochlin

- **February 3(Tuesday)**

Library Visit – researching for presentations

Reading Assignment: begin research

- **February 5(Thursday)**

Lecture-: Elizabeth Sackler Feminist Art Center – the need

Reading Assignment : The Dinner Party – Wing One – Prehistory to Rome 33-89

- **February 10(Tuesday)**

Lecture: Prehistory to Rome

Presentation: (1)

- **February 12(Thursday)**

Lecture: Prehistory to Rome

Presentation: (1)

Reading Assignment: The Dinner Party – Wing Two – Christianity to the Reformation
pg 91-167)

- **February 17(Tuesday)**

Lecture: Christianity to the Reformation

Presentation: (1)

- **February 19(Thursday)**

Lecture: Christianity to the Reformation

Presentation: (1)

Reading Assignment: The Dinner Party – Wing Three – American Revolution to the
Women’s Revolution pg 167-267)

- **February 24(Tuesday)**

Lecture: American Revolution to the Women’s Revolution

Presentation: (1)

- **February 26(Thursday)**

Lecture: Burning Down the House (exhibition at Bklyn Museum of Art)

Topic/Person due for second presentation

**February 28th – Brooklyn Museum – the Dinner Party depart CCC at 8:00 leave Bklyn 4:00
return at 6:00**

March 2nd - Gallery opening “ For the Love of Food” artist talk 6:00 – mandatory attendance

- **March 3 (Tuesday)**

Anne Greenwood visiting artist

Reading assignment : **Celebration – Learning from Heart by Corita Kent**

- **March 5(Thursday)**

Group project : planning a 21st century dinner party (tea party)

March 10 and 12 Spring Break

- **March 17(Tuesday)**
 - Lecture: Contemporary Women Contributions
 - Presentations:
 - Reading Assignment: to be determined based on chosen topics

- **March 19(Thursday)**
 - Lecture: Rutgers Feminist Art Program – The Feminist Art Project (today)
 - Presentations: (2)
 - Reading Assignment: to be determined based on chosen topics

- **March 24(Tuesday)**
 - Lecture: Contemporary Women Contributions
 - Presentations: (2)
 - Reading Assignment: to be determined based on chosen topics

- **March 26(Thursday)**
 - Lecture: Contemporary Women Contributions
 - Presentations (2)
 - Reading Assignment: to be determined based on chosen topics

- **March 31(Tuesday)**
 - Lecture: Contemporary Women Contributions
 - Presentations: (2)

- **April 2 (Thursday)** (I will be presenting a paper at the Foundations Art in Theory and Education (F.A.T.E.) conference and will not be in class)
 - Meet to finalize plans for celebration

- **April 7(Tuesday)**
 - studio session – place settings

- **April 9(Thursday)**
 - studio session - place settings

- **April 14(Tuesday)**
 - studio session – place settings
 - invitations

- **April 16(Thursday)**
 - studio session – place settings

- **April 21(Tuesday)**
 - studio session – place settings

- **April 23(Thursday)**
 - studio session- place settings

- **April 28(Tuesday)**
studio session
- **April 30(Thursday)**
Last Class – dinner party (tea party)
- **May 5 (Tuesday)**
Final Paper due