

NOT A PRETTY PICTURE: ARTISTS, CRIME, AND DEVIANCE **ACLT6204**

Course Outline

Description:

Historically, artists have often lived as social outcasts because of their unconventional lifestyles within the mores of a given time and place. For some artists, these lifestyles have included involvement in criminal or deviant acts that, in addition to their masterpieces, have contributed to their enduring legacies. Through illustrated lectures, we will examine the involvement of select artists in cases of sexual misconduct, violent crimes, and addictions, and look at how these biographies informed these artists' work.

Course Goals:

The course will offer students a greater appreciation of the personal struggles of various artists from the 17th to 20th centuries, and a deeper understanding of the social mores of the times in which they lived. In addition, students will gain insight into how these personal and social circumstances contributed, both positively and negatively, to the artists' creativity.

Course Objectives:

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Identify some of the major events in the lives of the artists under discussion
- Understand some of the social mores of various historical periods
- Identify some of the artists' major works
- Identify the general thematic and stylistic preferences of the artists

Attendance Requirements:

Students must miss no more than two classes to receive a completion for this course. A grade report can be printed from myWCS.

Code of Student Conduct:

The purpose of the Code of Student Conduct is to define the general standard of conduct expected of students registered at Western University, provide examples of behaviour that constitutes a breach of this standard of conduct, provide examples of sanctions that may be imposed, and set out the disciplinary procedures that the University will follow. For the complete Code of Student Conduct: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>.

Course Schedule:

- WEEK 1: April 14: “Baroquen” Laws: Artists, Murder, and Rape in 17th-Century Italy
- WEEK 2: April 21: Dynamic Family Dynamics: Some Artists’ Unconventional Living Arrangements
- WEEK 3: April 28: “Partners in Crime”: Artists, the Law, and Issues of Sexual Identity
- WEEK 4: May 5: “The Misfits”: Artists as Social Outcasts
- WEEK 5: May 12: “Gunning It”: Artists Who Got Shot
- WEEK 6: May 19: “Exhibitionism”: Depictions of Nudity, and Public Outcry