Art and Public Culture in Chicago

Syllabus

All morning sessions will meet from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM in Towner Fellows Lounge on the second floor of the Newberry, unless noted otherwise.

Unit 1: A Public Function for Art

Monday, June 11
Morning session: Introductions and Overview, “Chicago and Public Culture” (Zorach, Olson, Heap)

Readings: 1. Jane Addams, “Recreation as a Public Function in Urban Communities” (1912)

Afternoon: 2:30-4 PM. In 2-West. Introduction to Newberry Collections with Alison Hinderliter.

Evening: 4-5 PM. Welcome Reception in Towner Fellows Lounge, Newberry

Tuesday, June 12
Morning session: 9:30-10:15: Tour and Introduction to the Newberry (Jo Ellen Dickie and Lisa Schoblasky)
10:15-12:30: “Literary Cultures in Twentieth-Century Chicago” (Olson)

Readings: 1. Liesl Olson, Introduction and chapter 1, Chicago Renaissance (2017)
2. Harriet Monroe, Reviews of the Armory Show (1913)
3. Carl Sandburg, “Chicago,” in Poetry (1914)

Afternoon: 4:00 pm Architectural Boat Tour (Meet at will call, southeast corner of Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive; look for the blue awning).

Wednesday, June 13
Morning session: “The Art Institute of Chicago and the Armory Show” (Zorach and Olson)

2. Liesl Olson, chapter 2, Chicago Renaissance (2017)

Afternoon: Research and Individual Conferences
Thursday, June 14
Morning session: “Immigrants, the Arts and Reform at Hull House” (Heap)


Afternoon: 2:30-4 PM. Visit to Jane Addams Hull-House Museum (800 S Halsted St., Chicago, IL 60607).

Unit 2: Building Public Institutions

Friday, June 15
Morning Session: “The WPA and the Federal Arts Project in Chicago” (Zorach)


Afternoon: 2:30-4:30. Visit to the South Side Community Arts Center (3831 S Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60653) and tour of the collection.

Evening: Optional happy hour (Reggies Chicago, 2105 S State St.)

Saturday June 16

Evening: Optional: concert in Millennium Park

Monday, June 18
Morning Session: “The WPA and the Federal Writers Project in Chicago” (Olson)


11:30-12:30: In Special Collections (4th floor). Collection display of material from the “Negro in Illinois” Papers, Jack Conroy Papers, and other Newberry collections.

Afternoon: Research and Individual Conferences
Tuesday, June 19
Morning Session: “The American Negro Exposition and Ebony Magazine” (Adam Green)
Readings: 1. Adam Green, Chapters 3 and 4, Selling the Race (2007)
Afternoon: Research and Individual Conferences

Unit 3: Commercial Venues and Their Publics

Wednesday, June 20
Morning Session: “Bohemian Nightlife and Cultural Politics” (Heap)

11:30-12:30: In 2-West. Collection display of material from the Dill Pickle Club Papers and Slim Brundage Papers.

Thursday, June 21
Morning Session: “All Along the Stroll: Bronzeville's Culture Industries as a Public Sphere” (Davarian Baldwin)
Readings: 1. Davarian Baldwin, chapter 1, Chicago's New Negroes: Modernity, the Great Migration, and Black Urban Life (2007)
2. (optional) Davarian Baldwin, chapter 3, Archibald Motley: Jazz Age Modernist (2014)

Afternoon: 2:30 PM-4 PM. Art Institute of Chicago (111 S Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60603, meet at the Modern Wing Entrance on E. Monroe St). Gallery tour of Charles White: A Retrospective with Sarah Kelly Oehler.

Evening: (Optional) 6:30- 7:30 pm Art Institute Event: Conversation with Kerry James Marshall and Ian White with Sarah Kelly Oehler, Rubloff Auditorium (Buy tickets in advance here.)
Friday, June 22
Morning Session: “Disco: Cultural and Political Collaboration and Backlash” (Heap)

Readings:

Afternoon: 2-4:00 PM. Discussion of syllabi and work-in-progress.

Unit 4: The Public Square and People’s Art

Monday, June 25
Morning Session: “The Chicago Picasso and The Wall of Respect” (Zorach)

Readings:

Afternoon:  Research and Individual Conferences

Tuesday, June 26
Morning Session: “Murals and New Institutions” (Zorach)

Readings:

11:30-12:30: In 2-West. Collection display of material from Never the Same.

Afternoon: 2-5 PM. Tour of South Side and Lower West Side (Pilsen) murals.

Evening: Optional: Dinner in Pilsen (*Rabanitos*).
Wednesday, June 27
Morning Session: “Autonomous Cultural Spaces in Latina/o Chicago” (Nicole Marroquin)

Readings:

Afternoon: Research and Individual Conferences

Thursday, June 28
Morning Session: “Gentrification and Cosmopolitanism” (Zorach, Olson, Heap)

Readings:
4. BLW “A Meeting is a Question Between,” http://carbonfarm.us/meeting.html

Afternoon: 2:30- 4:30 PM: Visit to Stony Island Arts Bank (6760 S Stony Island Ave, Chicago, IL 60649).

Evening: 5 PM. Farewell Dinner (Rebecca’s house).

Friday, June 29
Morning Session: Closing Discussion, Presentations, Syllabi Exchange, Evaluations (Zorach, Olson, Heap)

Afternoon: Research

Saturday, June 30
Departures