

## **Interdisciplinary Graduate Seminar I**

Contemporary Arts 811

Section: D100

Term: 1999 Fall

Instructor: Allyson Clay

Office at HC: TBA

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**Discussion Topics:** This is a combined first and second year seminar required of all students taking the MFA program. The structure of the course is built on a balance between presentation and discussion of assigned theoretical readings and student talks on their recent and current studio work. The theme for the assigned readings is "technology and the arts."

Technology as a means to an end will be critically examined through various course readings. Most artists working today make use of technology as a part of the process of making work. The traditional idea of studio practices or most fine arts practices is that the body of the artist is the necessary point of reference in terms of the ability to craft a work. The use of technology in the arts seems to have an embattled relationship to this notion of craft and the humanist notions of art practice as a specifically embodied practice. We will be looking at the questions that arise in our engagement with technology as artists, and how each of us answers these in our own practices.

For second year students this course is intended to allow you to begin your first draft of your graduating project essay/thesis. For first year students this course is intended to help you develop your ability to articulate your practice in writing, anchoring it in contemporary and historical theories and artistic processes.

**Grading:** 20 % September Presentation of work

25% Oral Presentation

35% Paper

20% Class Participation

**Required Texts:** Culture on the Brink: Ideologies of Technology Edited by Gretchen Bender and Timothy Drickery. Bay Press Seattle, 1994.

**Additional readings on Reserve in the library.** The first reading of the semester will be Elaine Scarry, "The Mergi

**Recommended Texts:**

**Materials/Supplies:**

**Prerequisite/Corequisite:**

**Notes:**

This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in

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2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.