

Feminisms & Visual Activisms

How do I actively belong *with/in* the world?

How can I participate in social change?

How can WE make our lives 'equally livable' and 'breathable'?



The enlarged eyes of Eric Garner and other young black men were carried during the Millions March in New York City on December 13. Credit: Twitter/JRart

‘The “I” is thus at once a “we”. [...] The exercise of freedom is something that does not come from you or from me, but from what is in between us, from the bond we make at the moment in which we exercise freedom together, a bond without which there is no freedom at all.’

~Judith Butler (2018) *Notes Towards a Performative Theory of Assembly*

This course explores the relationship between the visual, activism, contemporary culture and feminisms; and how their intersections enable social change. Current Covid-19 pandemic has already reimagined the 1970s feminist adage, 'the personal is political', with a renewed sense of urgency. The world as we knew it is out of balance; it no longer exists and it is no longer possible. How do we act and 'breathe' together to make the world 'equally livable' to all?

The course is taught through a series of: interactive lectures; online social; story circles; reading tasks and collective and collaborative development of readings lists; intensive workshops and *walkshops*; self and peer critical evaluation: reflective journals; independent learning; and personal and peer tutorials.

Key themes:

- Feminisms, social justice and human rights *with/in* visual cultures;
- The visible and the invisible; ways of seeing and practices of looking;

- The right to one's body; embodied actions;
- Creative practices of resistance and disruption;
- Feminist interventions in the field of contemporary art, fashion, the public sphere, and cultural production;
- Activism in relation to broader questions of cultural difference, history, class, economic standing, ecological issues, and sexual orientation; and their intersections.

Those interested in participation are asked to prepare:

- A portfolio of creative practice or other experience
- A response (up to 250 words) to the following question:
How does your practice engage with social justice and/ or the exercise of freedom?

The response & portfolio need to be uploaded to the following OneDrive folder by **Monday 15th February 2021, 12pm**: https://artslondon-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/b_sliwinska_fashion_arts_ac_uk/EtvODyTOdIhMI6eGEQKjKHEBWJ2gdIAMRWONfz3a0IM6Uw?e=gYVfso

Selected candidates will be invited for a short meeting on Teams on Thursday 18th or Friday 19th February 2021 (time to be confirmed).

The final list of course participants will be published by the end of the Friday 19th February 2021.



Rzeczpospolita
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