

ART, CONFLICT + TECHNOLOGY IN NORTHERN IRELAND



Wednesdays; 10.00am-12.20pm

Fridays 10.00am-11.20pm (Jan 26th-March 2nd)

60-397 John Carson, School of Art

76-369 Jennifer Keating, Department of English

16-397 Illah Nourbakhsh, Robotics Institute

Art, Conflict and Technology in Northern Ireland is a 12-unit course cross-listed in the School of Art, the Robotics Institute and the Department of English. The class consists of a weekly seminar (Wednesdays) and a required 3-unit recitation in the Robotics Institute (Fridays). Throughout the term students will be introduced to a history of social strife in the North of Ireland from the 1960s to the present, and efforts to reconcile differences in the contemporary period. We will reflect upon and analyze a variety of literary and visual art sources from the chosen time period. We will consider the influence of advancing technology on how narratives are shared within a community and worldwide.

If you have ever considered how artists explore societal strife through their writing or visual arts practice, if you are interested in the social and political influences of evolving technology, or if you are a practicing artist who uses advancing technology as a tool for individual expression, this integrative course is for you. Throughout the semester we will examine the practice of a range of visual artists that include Rita Duffy, John Kindness and Willie Doherty and writers and dramatists like Dermot Healy, Patrick McCabe and Christina Reid. Students will learn how to use technologies from the CREATE Lab in the Robotics Institute, as platforms for exploring the content presented in class and for the development of final projects.

We will travel to Belfast for spring break 2018, to meet a variety of writers and artists whose work we will study, and stakeholders in reconciliation efforts throughout the region.

In addition to weekly lectures on Wednesdays throughout the term, students will have a 6-week lab on Fridays to learn how to use the technologies. Lab sessions are held in CFA 310, and begin in the second week of classes (January 26th).

Prospective students are required to complete a pre-registration form outlining their reason for interest in the course. Please contact jkeating@andrew.cmu.edu.

Image Rita Duffy, *Civil Rights Cushions* 2017

Spring '18

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