

KUNO EXPRESS TEMPLATE

Title of course: Clouds

Teaching period: 16.-20.01.2023

Teacher(s): David Ross

ECTS: 2

Number of available place for KUNO students: 6

Level: BA/MA

Application deadline: 15.12.2022

How to apply: Please fill in the Google Form -

<https://forms.gle/ZXEEecQDZKwA1Cm2A>

Course description: *Among Clouds*

What do clouds portend?

- Greg Bordowitz

Floating between weather and wonder, this course looks at the idea of the cloud as it has gathered in the minds of visual and spatial practitioners, visionaries, critical thinkers, engineers, scientists, and poets over the ages. From the Greek playwright Aristophanes, to 18th-century balloon explorations, to the iCloud, humans have put themselves and proxy selves into and amongst the clouds. And while we have been joining clouds, they have also been joining us: forming from ancient myths, drifting down from cathedral ceilings, hovering on walls within landscape paintings, gradually appearing in the photographic image, and dissipating into social networks. Presently, the three intermingling clouds of war, computing, and weather are bearing down upon us, and we would do well to understand their properties by both looking up to the sky and down at our devices to understand their impact.

The course first provides a meteorological overview of actual clouds--how they have been observed, named, and classified. In learning the basics of cloud identification, students will transpose this practical knowledge into a more expansive understanding of symbology and metaphor. What cultural, technological and social meanings have been assigned to clouds, and by whom? The class is comprised of lectures, workshops, readings, visiting artists, and field trips. Assignments will integrate with students' own interests and pursuits. The course will cross multiple fields of inquiry, from various forms of artistic production to historical and technological investigations.



Altostratus Lenticularis formations at Arctowski Station in the Antarctic

Course Outline

This short, but intensive course includes individual projects, field trips, homework assignments, and active participation in class activities and discussions. Most classes will involve engagement with assigned readings, presentations and screenings.

Learning Outcomes

Following the completion of the course students will be able to identify major cloud genera and species of cloud types as they exist in the skies above us, as well as how they exist in representation around us (art, film, literature etc). Additionally, students will be able to analyze and interpret the various technological, symbolic, historical and metaphorical meanings of clouds in their many forms and contexts.