## northwestern university DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

 Quarter/Year
 Course Number
 Day/Time
 Instructor

 Spring 2020
 ART-HIST 450
 M 2-5
 Clayson

 Course Title
 Degree/Distro Fulfillment

 Studies in 19th-Century Art: The History of 19th-Century Art Now



The seminar will be explicitly and trenchantly historiographic. In the 1970s and 1980s, the study of 19<sup>th</sup>century French art occupied the intellectual and institutional center of the study of art history in the anglophone world. We will investigate the "state of play" twenty years into the 21st century, roughly fifty years later. Why is that subfield no longer reckoned to mark the center of gravity in art history? What questions do scholars and students ask now? Are they substantially different? What is a "21st-century perspective"? What are the privileged objects and practices under scrutiny now, and why? Several recent publications will launch our inquiry: Petra Chu and Laurinda Dixon, eds., Twenty-First-Century Perspectives on Nineteenth-Century Art (for Gabriel Weisberg), 2008; Hollis Clayson and André Dombrowski, eds., Is Paris Still the Capital of the Nineteenth Century? 2016; H-France Salon, Volume 9. Issue 14, "The Social History of Impressionism," 2017; Malcolm Baker and Andrew Hemingway, eds., Art as Worldmaking, Critical Essays on Realism and Naturalism (for Alex Potts), 2018; Denise Murrell, Posing Modernity, 2018.

Course image: The Eiffel Tower, half scale replica, Paris Las Vegas Hotel, 1999.

Required Textbooks

Readings will be posted as pdfs on CANVAS.

Assessments

Requirements: regular participation in class discussion, preparation of discussion script(s), and the pursuit of a research project commensurate with each student's interests and abilities.