



Fall Semester 2022

Bodies of Difference: Disability, Art History, and the Museum (Field Trip to London)

Jess Bailey, M.A., Virginia Marano, M.A., Dr. Charlotte Matter, Laura Valterio,
M.A.

Tutor: Elena Bally, B.A.



From the left to the right: Lower limb prostheses, Roehampton, England, 1966, Science Museum, London.
White glass eye with blue iris, cased, London, England, 1901, Science Museum, London.
Ear trumpet with flexible tube, Europe, Science Museum London.

This field trip to London will consider understudied visual and material histories of disability, chronic illness, disabled artists, and representations of the human body in order to challenge the way we write art history. Art history has traditionally been committed to looking at a very narrow definition of the body, and yet the way we live in our bodies is very diverse. Disability studies asks us to radically expand the scope of our field and consider the relationship between art and the body anew. Students will visit museum collections across London including a behind the scenes special collections visit at Wellcome Collection to view art and archival materials first hand with experts. We will ask questions about who and what art history has excluded from its line of sight and consider how disability studies provokes us to describe figuration and artistic expression more inclusively. We will tackle big topics like ableism, beauty, the history of medicine, affect, illness, protest and social justice. Jess Bailey (UC Berkeley), an art historian specializing in visual and material cultures of disability, will join University of Zurich based lecturers Virginia Marano, Charlotte Matter, and Laura Valterio to teach this course.



Jess Bailey (she/her) is a PhD candidate in the history of art and medieval studies at UC Berkeley and an associate lecturer in art history at UC London. Based in London, she specializes in visual cultures of violence, gender, sexuality, and disability from Medieval Europe. Her dissertation addresses the first European images of gunpowder made in the early 14th century in order to consider constructions of masculinity and the interconnectivity of state and gendered violence. Bailey has written about the history of collecting and exhibiting disability material culture at the Wellcome Collection for a special issue of *Kritische Berichte* on “Dis-Ability Art History” in 2020. Her work on representations of disability, the history of medicine, and sex work in 16th century drawing culture has been published in *Disability and Art History from Antiquity to the Twenty-First Century*, Routledge Press, 2022. Bailey has taught for the University of Bern, UC Berkeley, and the Prison University Project.

Dates – Introductory session: Friday 30 September 2022, 2–4 pm
– Field trip to London: 2–5 November 2022

Assessment In order to earn 3 ECTS credit points, students are expected to familiarize themselves with the topic through selected readings, to participate actively in the discussions, and to prepare a short input to be held during the field trip in London.

Application This module cannot be freely booked. Interested participants send a short letter of motivation, clearly indicating their study programs (major/minor) and level (BA or MA), to virginia.marano@uzh.ch by **August 21, 2022**. Participation will be confirmed by the end of August.

Costs Accommodation costs will be covered.

Introductory Readings

Amanda Cachia, ed. *Curating Access: Disability Art Activism and Creative Accommodation*. Routledge, 2022.

Nirmala Erevelles. *Disability and Difference in Global Contexts*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.

Rosemarie Garland-Thomson. “Misfits: A Feminist Materialist Disability Concept.” *Hypathia* 26, *Ethics of Embodiment*, no. 3 (Summer 2011): 591-609.

Petra Kupperts, ed. *Disability Arts and Culture: Methods and Approaches*. Intellect, 2022.

Ann Millett-Gallant and Elizabeth Howie, eds. *Disability and Art History*. Routledge, 2016.

Ann Millett-Gallant and Elizabeth Howie, eds. *Disability and Art History from Antiquity to the Twenty-First Century*. Routledge, 2022.

Richard Sandell, Jocelyn Dodd, and Rosemarie Garland-Thomson, eds. *Re-Presenting Disability: Activism and Agency in the Museum*. Routledge, 2013.

Tobin Siebers. *Disability Aesthetics*. University of Michigan Press, 2010.

Keri Watson and Timothy Hiles, eds. *The Routledge Companion to Art and Disability*. Routledge, 2022.