What is Hawai‘i’s most recent “art history”? How is it documented and preserved? What institutions, artists, critics, and historians have contributed to its becoming? Who has been included? Who has not? And why?

This course will concentrate on learning about Hawai‘i’s transforming contemporary art scene by interviewing local artists, curators, and educators, visiting current exhibitions on Oahu, as well as looking at archives and texts written in the last 20 years. In the process, students will develop community-based interview methods for studio visits with artists.

Ultimately, students will be better able to understand Hawaii’s contemporary cultural history as informed by Indigenous cultural practice, colonization, and globalization. Students will have the opportunity to reflect on their own place in the history and future of Hawai‘i’s creative culture.