

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

**SOCI 2810B/ANTH2815E**  
**FALL 2025**

**FASHION, ART AND THE EVERYDAY**

**Instructor:** Reyhab Mohmed Patel

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**Office:** TBD

**Office Hours:** Mondays 12:30-2pm (by appointment only)

**Lecture Time:** Mondays 14:35 to 17:25

**Pre-requisites & Precluded Courses:**

SOCI 1001 and SOCI 1002, or SOCI 1003 [1.0], or ANTH 1001, or ANTH 1002.

**Method of Delivery:** In-person

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In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and from one another. This requires striving towards understanding each other but it does not imply striving towards finding agreement. Our class will be racially, religiously, politically, culturally, generationally, and economically diverse. We will be of different gender identifications and sexual orientations and our lived experiences and reactions to the course material will reflect this diversity. Sharing our perspectives and interpretations on the course material will enhance everyone's learning experience and you are encouraged to openly express any disagreements with the authors you will read, with your fellow classmates, or with the Professor in the different participation fora that are available for this course. However, you are expected to conduct yourself in such a way that shows the utmost respect to others who may – or may not – share your views. Derogatory comments and hateful behavior towards others (and their views) will not be tolerated.

Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.

**Course Description and Objectives:**

This course will investigate the ways in which fashioned identities emerge within a contemporary context to critically understand fashion's relevance in everyday experiences. The course will focus on highlighting concepts with an emphasis on foundations of sociological studies to explore the ways identities are shaped through sartorial practices. By exploring concepts such as (and not limited to) aesthetics, commodification and social capital this course will examine how fashion and art are intertwined. Discussions and course assignments will be addressed in 3 key components throughout the semester: historical context, influences and alternative futures. The course objectives are as followed and not limited to:

1. **Critically analyze** how identities are shaped and expressed through sartorial practices by applying foundational sociological theories to contemporary and historical fashion contexts.
2. **Evaluate** the relationships between fashion, art, and systems of power, with particular attention to commodification, aesthetics, social capital, and the centering of marginalized voices within a decolonizing framework.
3. **Develop and articulate** informed perspectives on the future of fashion and artistic expression by integrating historical analysis, contemporary influences, and speculative or alternative futures into written, visual, and participatory assignments.

The guiding principle for this course emphasizes a decolonizing framework, which in a broader understanding will focus on the ways of centring marginalized voices. Questions will be examined throughout the course may include- but not be limited to:

- In what ways do our identities contribute to our sartorial practices?
- How do systems of power influence our visual and material consumption?
- Has our understanding of fashion and artistic expression changed?
- What impact do we as individuals hold in contributing to the future of fashion, aesthetics and culture?

## **EVALUTIONS: FASHION PORTFOLIO**

- **PART 1: Reflect (10%):** Select a piece of clothing or accessory that holds significance to you. Write a 2-page reflection deconstructing the piece you have chosen, explaining its significance and connecting it to the course material. You will submit this via Brightspace, refer to the brief for more details on Brightspace.
- **PART 2: Observe (15%):** Select two articles that identify and discuss key cultural influences that have developed our understanding of fashion and aesthetics. Each article must identify a different cultural influence. For example, the first article may explore the impact of influencer culture on overconsumption while the second article explores a specific example of cultural appropriation. This paper must include 2 readings from the course material, 4-pages minimum and a critical analysis of the articles. You will submit this via Brightspace, refer to the brief for more details on Brightspace.
- **PART 3: Plan (25%):** Produce an outline for your final project. Your outline should include an overview of your final project (eg: what images you plan to produce, what key elements you are using, what course material will be used and what obstacles you may face). A key element to the “everyday” of the city (ex. Fashion/art observation conducted in the city). You will submit this via Brightspace, refer to the brief for more details on Brightspace.
- **PART 4: Create (30%):** This final part of the fashion portfolio requires you to produce a thematic photo series (5) accompanying an 1500-word paper. Building on your planning assignment, bring your vision to life! Due last day of classes December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025. No extensions allowed. You will submit this via Brightspace, refer to the brief for more details on Brightspace.

- **Late Submissions/ Extensions:** You may request an extension by emailing the instructor anytime up until 2 days before the due date. Any requests made afterwards will be declined. Deduction of 5% per day will apply.

Part 1: Reflect <u>DUE: Week 3: September 22nd</u>	10%
Part 2: Compare <u>DUE: Week 6: October 27<sup>th</sup></u>	15%
Part 3: Observe & Plan <u>DUE: Week 9: November 17<sup>th</sup></u>	25%
Part 4: Create (Final Assignment) <u>DUE: Last Day of Classes: December 5<sup>th</sup></u>	30%
Participation <u>DUE: WEEKLY</u>	20%