

# WHITNEY

Whitney Museum  
of American Art  
Independent Study Program

100 Lafayette Street, 5th Floor  
New York, NY 10013

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The **Independent Study Program (ISP)** consists of three interrelated parts: **Studio Program**, **Curatorial Program**, and **Critical Studies Program**. The ISP provides a setting within which students pursuing art practice, curatorial work, art historical scholarship, and critical writing engage in ongoing discussions and debates that examine the historical, social, and intellectual conditions of artistic production. The program encourages the theoretical and critical study of the practices, institutions, and discourses that constitute the field of culture.

Each year fifteen students are selected to participate in the Studio Program, four in the Curatorial Program, and six in the Critical Studies Program. Curatorial and critical studies students are designated as Helena Rubinstein Fellows in recognition of the substantial support provided to the program by the Helena Rubinstein Foundation. The program begins in early September and concludes at the end of the following May. Many of the participants are enrolled at universities and art schools and receive academic credit for their participation, while others have recently completed their formal studies.

## STUDIO PROGRAM

The participants in the Studio Program are engaged in a variety of art practices with an emphasis on installation work, film and video, photography, performance, and various forms of interdisciplinary practice. The program provides studio space and facilities in our loft in downtown Manhattan. The Studio Program exhibition is held in May.

## CURATORIAL PROGRAM

Curatorial students collaborate to produce an exhibition. Working closely with the program's faculty and curators at the Whitney, the students develop proposals for the exhibition. Once a proposal has been approved by the Museum's curators, the students proceed to select artworks, arrange loans, and design and oversee the installation of the exhibition. The students write essays for and participate in the production of a catalogue accompanying their exhibition.

## CRITICAL STUDIES PROGRAM

Critical Studies participants engage in individual scholarly research and critical writing projects through tutorials with a professional art historian, critic, or cultural theorist. The program's faculty arranges tutorials and provides additional advice and guidance. A symposium is held in May at the Whitney, at which the Critical Studies students present papers.

## FACULTY

The faculty of the ISP is available to meet individually with all members of the program to discuss their work or more general practical, theoretical, or historical questions. The program's regular and visiting faculty members are Ron Clark, Mary Kelly, Benjamin Buchloh, Hal Foster, Laura Mulvey, Isaac Julien, Gregg Bordowitz, Andrea Fraser, Chantal Mouffe, Alex Alberro, Soyoung Yoon, Okwui Enwezor, Nora Alter, and Kenneth White.

## SEMINARS

Each week during the year, a professional artist, theorist, or historian conducts a seminar at the program. Members of all three components of the program participate in these seminars, which focus on the work of the seminar leader. In addition, all members of the program participate in a weekly reading seminar in social and cultural theory led by Ron Clark and members of the program's visiting faculty. This seminar provides an occasion for the group to collectively study and discuss contemporary critical theory. There is a particular emphasis on the methodologies of critical cultural studies and social art history.

## RECENT SEMINAR LEADERS AND TUTORS

Vito Acconci	Rosalyn Deutsche	Stuart Hall	Miwon Kwon	Andrew Ross
Alex Alberro	Mark Dion	David Harvey	Louise Lawler	Allan Sekula
Nora Alter	Okwui Enwezor	Sharon Hayes	Park McArthur	Gayatri Spivak
Emily Apter	Harun Farocki	Thomas Hirschhorn	Tom McDonough	Hito Steyerl
Carol Armstrong	Silvia Federici	Jenny Holzer	Kobena Mercer	Anthony Vidler
Homi Bhabha	Hal Foster	Chrissie Iles	Chantal Mouffe	Fred Wilson
Gregg Bordowitz	Andrea Fraser	Alfredo Jaar	Laura Mulvey	Peter Wollen
Benjamin Buchloh	LaToya Ruby Frazier	Emily Jacir	Mark Nash	Yes Men
Matthew Buckingham	Coco Fusco	Gareth James	Molly Nesbit	Soyoung Yoon
Judith Butler	Jennifer González	Isaac Julien	Christiane Paul	
Jonathan Crary	Isabelle Graw	Geeta Kapur	Adrian Piper	
Douglas Crimp	Renée Green	Mary Kelly	Yvonne Rainer	
Thomas Crow	Hans Haacke	Silvia Kolbowski	Martha Rosler	

## APPLICATION

### ALL APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE:

- A clear indication of which program (studio, critical, or curatorial) you are applying for
- A resume or C.V. including name, address, and telephone number (school and/or permanent)
- School you are currently attending or have attended, degree program, and expected date of graduation (may be included in your C.V.)
- Two letters of recommendation (may be sent under separate cover)
- A statement discussing your work, educational experience, and intellectual interests (no more than 2 pages)
- An application fee of \$15 (make check payable to the Whitney Museum of American Art)

PLEASE NOTE: There is no application form. Please do not apply to more than one program at a time.

### STUDIO PROGRAM APPLICATIONS MUST ALSO INCLUDE:

- Reproductions of examples of your recent work—No more than 15 high resolution print-outs, photos, or slides (slides must be enclosed in plastic sleeves). No more than 30 minutes of film, videotape, or DVD (do not send original material). Please do not send CD-ROMs.
- Application materials must be enclosed in no larger than a 9 x 12-inch envelope. Oversize material will not be reviewed.

### CURATORIAL PROGRAM APPLICATIONS MUST ALSO INCLUDE:

- Writing sample (no more than 15 pages)
- An exhibition proposal (no more than 2 pages)

### CRITICAL STUDIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS MUST ALSO INCLUDE:

- Writing sample (no more than 15 pages)
- An individual research project proposal (no more than 4 pages)

### SEND APPLICATIONS TO:

**Ron Clark, Director  
Independent Study Program**

100 Lafayette St., 5th floor  
New York, NY 10013  
t (212) 431-1737  
whitneyisp@whitney.org

Email inquiries are preferred. Emailed applications will not be accepted.

### ELIGIBILITY

Those eligible for participation in the ISP include graduate students, candidates for advanced postgraduate degrees, undergraduates with a demonstrated capacity for advanced scholarship, or those who have recently completed formal academic study. The ISP welcomes international applications and can provide a J-1 cultural visa if needed.

### NOTIFICATION

After a preliminary review of applications by the program's faculty, arrangements will be made to interview final candidates. Studio Program and Critical Studies Program applicants will be contacted in late April; Curatorial Program applicants will be contacted in early May.

### APPLICATION DEADLINE

**All application materials and supporting documents must be received by April 1.**

### CREDIT

Credit may be granted by the students' home universities for work done in the ISP. Most cooperating schools grant twelve to sixteen credits for participation in the program. Students need to make the necessary arrangements to receive credit.

### TUITION

Tuition for the program is \$1,800 per year. Financial assistance in the form of reduced tuition is available on the basis of need.

Support for The Independent Study Program is provided by Margaret Morgan and Wesley Phoa, The Capital Group Charitable Foundation, the Whitney Contemporaries through their annual Art Party benefit, the Easton Foundation, the National Committee of the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Edward and Sally Van Lier Foundation, and an anonymous donor.

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The Independent Study Program is an equal opportunity education program. The Program does not discriminate because of age, sex, religion, race, color, national origin, disability, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other factor prohibited by law.