

The Arts & Genomics Centre

The Arts & Genomics Centre and Leiden University Honours Programme

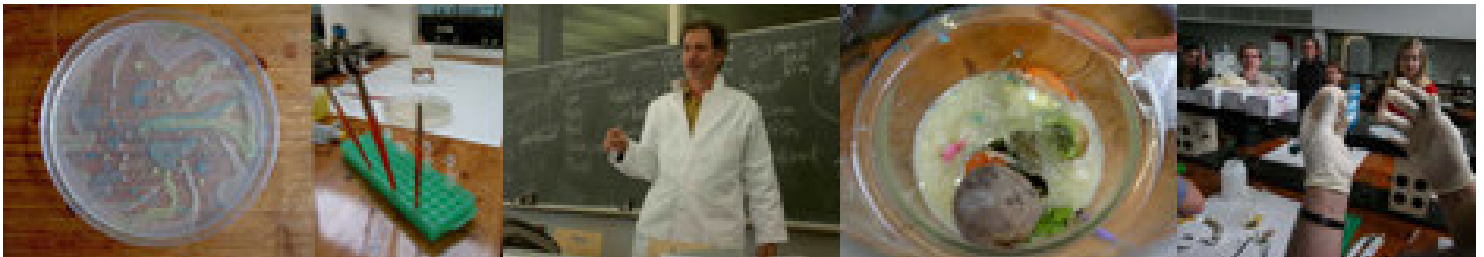
Art and the Life Sciences: Practices and Debates

Studio art and science crossover lab by Jennifer Willet

Every Friday, April 4 – May 23, 2008

1pm – 5pm

Art and the Life Sciences: Practices and Debates is an innovative course that will allow for students to engage theoretically and practically in the biological sciences from a fine art perspective. This course is a studio art and science crossover lab intended for students from various disciplines to foster interdisciplinary exploration of the intersections between art and life through hands-on laboratory protocols, critical readings, and the production of contemporary artwork.



Class 2007. VivoArts Art & Biology Studio by Adam Zaretsky. From left to right: Bacteria Painting, Adam Zaretsky teaching, DNA isolation, and Embryology.

Together we will explore the ethical debates, issues of access and accountability, and overspecialization that arise from contemporary biotechnologies and BioArt practices. **Lectures** will address a range of topics including; biological sciences, historical crossovers between the fine arts and the hard sciences, and contemporary artists in the art/science field. **Practical workshops** will provide students with introductory experience with mammalian tissue culture, microscopy, DNA extraction and imaging, and genetic modification (amongst others) with an emphasis on health and safety and proper laboratory technique. Students will be expected to complete weekly readings, participate in class discussion and lab workshops, and produce individual and collaborative artworks and critical written texts.

Art and the Life Sciences: Practices and Debates is organized within the **Leiden University Honours Programme** and is an extracurricular course open to all second and third-year bachelor's students of Leiden University. For more information, visit www.honoursprogramme.leidenuniv.nl.

Jennifer Willet is an internationally successful artist, specializing in performance, installation, and reproductive (analogue / digital / biological) technologies.

Students can [apply](#) for the course by contacting the co-ordinator Prof. R. Zwijnenberg

Email: r.zwijnenberg@let.leidenuniv.nl

Please note that the number of participants is limited. Participation has to be approved by the programme co-ordinator.

TAGC | Einsteinweg 55 | P.O. Box 9502 | 2300 RA Leiden | The Netherlands T +31 (0)71 527 5782 W www.artsgenomics.org