

Course Syllabus – Spring 2024

ARTS 3311. 001

CONTEMPORARY ART PRACTICES

Spring 2024

Room: ATC 3.904 and ATC 2.908

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Office Hours: by appointment (Microsoft Teams) and Wednesday, 3:45 – 4:15pm

Prerequisite ARTS 1316 or ARTS 2316 or ARTS 2348 or ARTS 2350 or ARTS 2380 or ARTS 2381 or consent of instructor. Command of general computer skills and file management skills for a MAC or PC operating system is expected. Course Requirements to be announced.

Course Description This studio art course provides a context for the creation, discussion, and critique of visual art. This course is designed to introduce students to the interdisciplinary world of contemporary art practice. Students will explore contemporary visual culture, experimenting with a variety of media including (but not limited to) photography, video, sound, performance, and installation. Students will work both individually and collaboratively to produce a body of work, culminating in a final project.

Student Learning Objectives Students will interpret artistic strategies and apply creative concepts and methods to create artworks. They will work both individually and collaboratively, fostering participatory teamwork skills. They will assess and evaluate the creative work of their peers through both written and verbal critique and will discuss and write about both historical and contemporary examples of visual art and artists. Students will develop ideas and choose approaches to generate a proposal for a final project, which they will produce.

Textbooks and Supplies

There are no textbooks required for this course. There will be handouts from the instructor (TBA). *Students will need to supply their own digital camera or smartphone for use in this course,* with a resolution of at least 6 megapixels, as well as storage media to archive image files. Questions regarding cameras may be directed to the instructor. Students may obtain Adobe Premiere or Adobe Creative Suite CC--see UTD technology store for UT discount-- for use on their home computer and will be responsible for the costs of materials and storage media. Software is available for use on campus computers. Additional supplies may be suggested and/or required throughout the semester. Students are responsible for obtaining all supplies locally or online.

Class Outline

This syllabus is subject to change. Current schedule, homework assignments, and supplies will be discussed in class on a weekly basis.

COURSE CALENDAR (tentative)

Week One – 1/17/24

Introduction to course, group discussion
Intro to Project #1: Readymade Object

Week Two – 1/24/24

Class Presentations of Project#1
Discussion

Week Three – 1/31/24

Lecture, Discussion
Intro to Project #2: Video Montage

Week Four – 2/7/24

Work on Project#2 in class
Discussion

Week Five – 2/14/24

Group Critique of Project #2

Week Six – 2/21/24

Lecture, Discussion,
Intro to Project #3: Process; Solar Eclipse

Week Seven – 2/28/24

Work on Project#3 in class
Discussion

Week Eight – 3/6/24

Group Critique of Project #3,
Intro to Project #4: Scanogram

Week Nine – 3/13/24

No Class: *SPRING BREAK*

Week Ten – 3/20/24

Lecture, Discussion,
Work on Project#4
Intro to Project #7: Web Project

Week Eleven – 3/27/24

Group Critique of Project #4

Intro to Project #5: Photo project

Week Twelve – 4/3/24

Work on Project#5

Discussion

Week Thirteen – 4/10/24

Group Critique of Project #5

Intro to Project #6; Online project

Week Fourteen – 4/17/24

Work on Project#6 in class

Lecture, Discussion

Week Fifteen – 4/24/24

Group Critique of Project #6

Discussion

Week Sixteen – 5/1/24

Submit Project #7

No Class – Finals Week (we have no final exam)

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Grading Policy

Assessment of Coursework

100 points: 70 points for projects, 15 points for sketchbook and 15 points for participation.

Projects should be photographed by the student artist and uploaded as an image file to the project Discussion Board in eLearning. Please see the video posted in eLearning on how to best take quality photographs of your drawings. Forthcoming detailed project description documents and group discussions will explain the assignments as we progress through the semester:

Projects and Participation (100 points):

- 1) Readymade Object
- 2) Video Montage
- 3) Scanogram
- 4) Process: Solar Eclipse
- 5) Photo Project
- 6) Process: Alternative Intelligence
- 7) Web Project
- 8) Sketchbook
- 9) Participation

Participation (15 points):

- a. Participation in class (contribution to critiques, engagement, work ethic, etc.)
- b. Work outside of class (research, preparation, utilizing time outside of meetings)

ALL grade concerns should be discussed PRIOR to the end of the semester, especially MIDTERM. If you are worried about your GPA or scholarship, be pro-active with your concerns & meet with me periodically DURING the semester when suggestions are effective for improving your outcome. Please review the information below.

EXCELLENT

A+ 100
A 94-99
A- 90-93

Your project is completed on time, addresses the project objectives, and exhibits EXCELLENCE in the following areas:

1. Preparatory and exploratory work shows evidence of thoughtful intent and thorough investigation.
2. Work shows results, commitment, effort, focus, complexity, and willingness to be open to new ideas (growth.)
3. Work demonstrates an awareness of the problems involved, experimentation within objectives, and variety in solutions and investigations.
4. Work shows a personal concept and interpretation of the problem into a visual image (creativity in visual concept.)
5. You make an effort to articulate your concept, sharing why it addresses the project objectives. (What are you trying to do? Is it working? Can it be strengthened?)
6. The work results in a successful composition; the formal elements (design, spatial concerns, color, etc.) are analyzed and used with intent.
7. Work exhibits care, presentation and execution. Concern and interest in the work of your peers.

GOOD/VERY GOOD

B+ 89
B 84-88
B- 80-83

Your project is completed on time, addresses the project objectives, and exhibits GOOD/Very Good results in 1-7

FAIR

C+ 79
C 74-78
C- 70-73

Your project is completed on time, addresses the project objectives, and exhibits FAIR results in 1-7

POOR

D+	69
D	64-68
D-	60- 59

Your project is turned in on time, yet is incomplete or deficient, exhibiting POOR results in 1-7

FAILURE

F	59 or below
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Your project is turned in or not turned in, missing objectives or is deficient enough to FAIL results in 1-7

Course & Instructor Policies

Students must retain all artwork until the end of the semester, even if the work is stored at the student's residence. Some student work may be selected and retained by the professor temporarily or for the student show. Work will be returned to the students or informed of pick up dates.

Studio Guidelines:

Be prepared for class sessions by completing all necessary work and bringing your supplies. To not interrupt the class session, students are asked to turn off all phones prior to the beginning of class. Students not conforming to this policy will be asked to leave class. Students may not text message nor talk on a cell phone during class time. Please follow all safety rules relevant to this course. Please leave the studio clean and organized, and always pick up after yourself.

Class Materials

The instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Class Attendance

Attendance in a studio art course is essential. Material demonstrations, slide reviews, instructions and work on projects happen during class time.

One absence is allowed and excused, no explanation necessary. A second absence drops your grade by a third (eg. A+ drops to A, or A- drops to B+, or C drops to C-). A third absence and each subsequent absence will lower your grade by a letter at the end of the semester. A total of five absences (excused or unexcused) will result in a failing grade without exception. Do not hesitate to contact me by email if you need help. Written notes from doctors, coaches, academic advisors etc. are required to excuse an absence. If you are absent, communicate with me

promptly. Please arrive on time. If you arrive more than 10 minutes late or leave more than 10 minutes before the end of class, it is counted as a tardy. 3 tardies is the equivalent of an absence.

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students.

Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the catalog sections regarding the credit/no credit or pass/fail grading option and withdrawal from class.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.