

Course Syllabus

Instructor Resources

[Registrar's Intranet](#): please log in with your UTD NetID and password to access this site. Information that faculty need about grading, scheduling, and other essential aspects of our responsibilities related to teaching are made available and updated regularly in the Registrar's Intranet. This source of information can only be accessed by logging in with your UTD NetID and password. Many important faculty questions are answered here, and this is information that faculty members are expected to know and understand.

[FERPA Guidelines](#): you will be asked to log in before you access the FERPA Faculty Guidelines webpage on the Registrar's Intranet. If faculty have additional questions about FERPA guidance, please contact the Office of the Registrar at records@utdallas.edu for the proper student consent forms and further instructions. NOTE: Class recordings from prior semesters may be used as long there are no identifiable student information due to [FERPA](#) because instructors will need students' written consent first. Please review your previous class recordings for identifiable student information before using them in the current term. For additional guidance, contact the [Office of the Registrar](#).

[Honorlock](#): Online proctoring tool will be available for fully online courses and for classes with enrolled international students who are not yet in the United States.

[UT System Resources for Creating Accessible Course Content](#): designed to assist faculty with developing course content

Course Information

(course number, course title, term, any specific section title)

Course Prefix, Number, Section

Course Title

VPAS: 6339

Creative Workshop; Painting, Digital Imaging, Video

Term

Term Spring: 2025

Days & Times: Wednesday: 7:00-9:45

Room: ATC.4.906

Professor Contact Information

(Professor's name, phone number, email, office location, office hours, other information) (state time/day and how office hours will be held, e.g., physical office, BlackBoard Collaborate or MS Teams (add appropriate links) and/or phone call – optional; please ensure student's identity in adherence to FERPA)

Professor	John Pomara
Office Phone	972.883.2675
Email Address	pomara@utdallas.edu
Office Location	ATC. 4.909
Office Hours	Wednesday 4:00-7:00, Thursday 11:00-1:00 and 3:30-6:00
Other Information	Can meet with students on MS Teams on most any day or evening and time if student makes an appointment. UTD Box will be used with all course material, readings, Power Point Lectures and art work.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

(including required prior knowledge or skills)

It is suggested that each student have some experience or expertise with either painting, sculpture, drawing, mixed media, digital imaging, or video.

Course Description

This course will be a studio based creative workshop where the student will pursue their own creative work in a medium of their preference or expertise. An emphasis will be placed on developing an individual style with personal content using either painting, drawing, sculpture, ink jet prints, video, computer imaging, collage or some hybrid forms. The student is expected to have had some prior experience in a medium of their choice (consult the instructor if unsure). A focus on various topics of the current art discourse in the visual arts will be investigated and discussed throughout the semester through current readings of art periodicals, films and visual lectures. There will also be discussions from the assigned articles and texts, which cover current topics relating to content, theory and studio practice of contemporary artists. There will be periodic critiques of the student's art work along with inquiry into the formality of its making as well as the content expressed. Each student is encouraged to meet privately with the instructor to discuss more in depth his or her individual work.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

1. Students will be able to describe, apply, and analyze major concepts and goals of research that cross the boundaries of traditional academic disciplines.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate advanced knowledge of a focused area in aesthetic studies.
3. Students will be able to produce research that reflects the ability to aggregate, analyze, and use relevant evidence to support their interpretation.
4. Students with a focus on creative performance will be able to produce works of art in one or more medium/genre and to place their work in a larger critical and cultural context.

5. Research -track graduates will be adequately prepared for doctoral programs in aesthetic studies and the humanities.
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Required Textbooks and Materials

No text book is required, but each student will use the internet to do research on contemporary artists that will be presented in power points on assigned days and uploaded later in a designated folder in UTD BOX.

Suggested Course Materials

Any required readings will be posted in a folder in UTD BOX or emailed to each student in their UTD email.

No text book is required, but each student will use the internet to do research on contemporary artists that will be presented in power points on assigned days or put in a folder in BOX.

Suggested Readings/Texts

Online: Ubu.com (video art archive) free, Art 21, Art News, Contemporary Art Daily, Hyperallergic, Brooklynrail, Magazines online such as Art In America, Artforum, Elephant, Flash Art, Freeze. All are online and easy to access. Art Blogs such as Contemporary Art Daily.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

(Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates)

1/22

Class Meeting.

Introduction 1.) Individual goals and objectives. Develop personal content and style within a body of work (a portfolio).

2.) Internet artists searches and art websites that you report on periodically in the semester instead of a text.

3.) Grading Criteria.

4.) Developing Research: a Visual Journal or a file of images of artists. Read and Look at current Art magazines online and Art Blogs, Instagram, and other social platforms!!!!!!!!!!!! This is how you earn an A!!!!!!

5) Homework assignment 1 for next week. Create a power point with a couple of images of work you have done in the past. Could be a video.

6) begin developing ideas around work you wish to pursue for the semester. If unsure use the idea of Personal Identity (analog or digital). A work that has a relationship to an aspect of yourself. Something visually that connects to Personal Identity; to how you see, feel, or think about life or self. Or perhaps reflects who you are!

7) Present an image of one to two of your art works for the class to see what you have done. Each student has 4 minutes to present.

8) Readings: *A Talk for the First Day of Class*, by David Salle located in the UTD BOX Folder.

1/29

Each student presents Power Point 1 with 1-2 works of art that they have made in the past year + An artist whose work changed your life or

changed your view of what art can be or affected you profoundly to be an artist!! 5 minutes.
Discuss reading by David Salle
New readings given for discussion next week. *The End of Art Criticism*, by Pierre d'Alancaisez.

- 2/5 **Class Meeting**
Contemporary Art Presentation 1 by Instructor.
The power point will be placed in UTD BOX after class the following day.

Go over reading: *The End of Art Criticism*, by Pierre d'Alancaisez.

- 2/12 **Class Meeting**
Student Research Presentation 2: Each student presents a power point presentation on research of two artists they are interested in that relate to the type of work they do.

- 2/19 **Work Day. Work in Progress.**
Make an appointment for individual meetings with instructor if needed.

- 2/26 **Critique 1: Group 1.** Show and explain your project for the semester.
Reading given: To be discused next week: *Notes on Artists on Social Media*, by Dean Terry.

- 3/5 **Critique 1: Group 2**
Readings Given. *Notes on Artists on Social Media*, by Dean Terry and *Dear Artist: Success*, By the Anonymous Art Ambassador

- 3/12 Contemporary Art Presentation 2 by professor.
Go over the two readings. *Dear Artist: Success*, By the Anonymous Art Ambassador and *Notes on Artists on Social Media*, by Dean Terry

- 3/19 **SPRING BREAK!!**

- 3/26 Visiting Artist and Curator on Exhibitions

- 4/2 **Critique 2*******
Reading Handout giving: Writing an Artist Statement. Do one using AI and do one using your own words. **Due on 4/30 place in UTD BOX Folder designated as "Artist Statements."**

- 4/9 Student Research Presentation 3: Each student presents a power point presentation on research of two artists they are interested in that relate to the type of work they do.

Discuss article: *Marisol Reclaims Her Spot in the Pop Art Canon at a Vast New Show*. This exhibition will travel to the Dallas Museum of Art.

- 4/16 Visiting Artist

- 4/23 **Work Day**

Artist Statement Due.

4/30 Critique: Group 1

5/7 **Critique: Group 2 Final Class Meeting. PIZZA from Campisi's**

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

Grading Policy

(including percentages for assignments, grade scale, etc.)

1. Completion of two or more artworks (minimum). Each assigned work receives a letter grade measured on the student's technical and skillful expertise in using chosen medium that visually expresses the concept or subject matter assigned. The student will be graded on the formal qualities of each work such as accuracy of observation, value and color use, composition and design, as well as overall creativity of their visual concept and self-expression. Sometimes a student may work on one complex work and is evaluated by the progress made in the semester.

2. Two Critique sessions and group evaluations are like major tests. Attendance and participation are graded. The student will participate in a verbal analysis of the works of art to be graded based on verbal descriptions of visual elements such as composition, color, value, modeling, and overall visual concept.

75%

3. Visual lectures in class that explore contemporary artists and theoretical issues. Attendance important to grasp objectives. 10%

4. Artist Statement. A written statement in a scholarly fashion that the student explains their creative process. 15%

An A student: works in an exemplary manner throughout the semester being focused in creative problem solving and its application in a visual way in regards to each assignment or personal development of their own work. Also, research of other artists that are applicable to their work and going beyond the required 2 power point assignments, often in the form of an extra work, paper, trip to a museum or research in books and art magazines or online sources. They also can write in a scholarly fashion about their creative process

Course & Instructor Policies

(make-up exams, extra credit, late work, special assignments, class attendance, classroom citizenship, etc.)

Critique sessions function as testing periods. If you miss a session make an appointment with the instructor during office hours or on Teams. Also upload

your assignment in UTD Box folder that you are giving a link to. Each critique is 20% of your grade.

Extra Credit

Extra work will only improve your skill and expertise. It will be averaged into raising your grade if the work is completed to a skillful level.

Late Work

All late work must be complete and turned in by the last day of class.

Special Assignments

No special assignments

Class Attendance

Attendance is highly encouraged. Your grade is not based on attendance but it is strongly encouraged during the designated days. It helps the student excel in their art work getting valuable feedback and to also not fall behind in turning in assignments. Your grade is based on participation not attendance. Always email the instructor when you miss a class to get information that you missed.

Classroom Citizenship

Attending Teams class meetings in a cordial and intelligent manner.

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

The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes.

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](#).

NOTE: if the instructor records any part of the course, then the instructor will need to add the following syllabus statement:

The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law.

Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities

(Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.)

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.