Art 141: Introduction to Shop Safety

Debbie Falls  
Graduate Teaching Assistant

Josephine Durkin  
Associate Professor of Art

Tuesdays, 9 – 10:50 a.m.  
Sculpture Lab

Office Location: Sculpture Lab Studio (Debbie Falls)  
A116 in the main Art Building (Josephine Durkin)

Office Hours:

Debbie Falls, by appointment.

Josephine Durkin, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 – 10:30 a.m. by appointment.

Email Addresses: fallsd@mac.com  
Josephine.Durkin@tamuc.edu

Materials:

Students are required to purchase their own materials which will vary for each project. In addition to materials, students will need basic tools and supplies to complete each project. There are no required textbooks for this course.

Basic Supply List:

- safety goggles
- pencils and pens
- large sketchbook with blank pages
- wood glue
- screwdrivers
- flathead and Phillips screwdrivers
- ruler
- tape measure
- square
- masking tape
- materials (MDF, birch plywood, etc.) as needed for assignments
- Labeled Rubbermaid container for your materials, tools and projects

Course Description:
This course teaches students how to use the woodshop tools safely. Students complete a variety of practical, construction-based projects to practice proper tool use and quality craftsmanship.

Assignments:
Assignments will be given one at a time.
Student Learning Outcomes:

- To learn how to use the woodshop tools safely
- To gain construction skills while utilizing a variety of assembly methods
- To understand the importance of good craftsmanship

Attendance and Absences: Class participation is required and students are allowed up to three absences. I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. Make sure to “budget” your absences wisely. You will be dropped from the course if you miss more than three classes. I do not accept late work. Excessive lateness will be counted as an absence.

Each student is responsible for keeping up with class assignments, lectures, etc. Should you miss a class, please be in touch with your classmates so that they can help you catch up to speed. Should you need to meet with me outside of class, please email me to schedule an appointment during my office hours.

You are expected to check your university email at least once a day. This is important, as faculty may need to send you additional course information or updates through email. If you do not have a computer, there are plenty of computers in the library for you to use.

Studio Participation: The majority of the classes will be used for demonstration purposes and studio work days. Please be prepared for class and have your materials with you. Failure to bring materials and work during class will be counted as an absence.

You are not allowed to use cell phones in class. Do not turn them on. Do not text.

For safety reasons, you can not wear MP3 players in the woodshop. Do not use the tools or woodshop until you complete my demos and proper tool training.

Grading:

You will be graded on your preparedness for each class, work ethic in and out of class, class participation during studio time, discussions and critiques, quality and quantity of assignments, any group project participation and facility upkeep. Students who are consistently prepared and work very hard in and out of class to produce excellent projects will earn higher grades. You will need to work during classtime and after hours to complete each assignment.

A - Excellent: You should possess exceptional attitude which is reflected in your critique participation, response to criticism and professional conduct. Your work must manifest remarkable achievement both in quantity and quality. Your ability to communicate ideas should exhibit noteworthy achievement. Your project exhibits superior craftsmanship and attention to installation or display needs.

B - Good: You should have a positive attitude which is reflected in your critique participation, response to criticism and professional conduct is expected. Your work must manifest high quality achievement. You should possess sound, above-average ability to communicate your ideas. Your project exhibits good craftsmanship and attention to
installation or display needs.

C - Satisfactory: A positive attitude which is reflected in your critique participation, response to criticism and professional conduct is expected. Your work must manifest acceptable achievement both in quality and quantity. You should possess satisfactory ability to communicate your ideas. Your project meets the minimum requirements of the assignment. Your project exhibits average craftsmanship and attention to installation or display needs.

D - Poor: Exhibiting a below standard or indifferent attitude which is reflected in your critique participation, response to criticism and professional conduct could also result in this grade. A grade of D indicates your work is less than acceptable in quality and/or quantity. This grade could indicate your inability to satisfactorily communicate ideas.

F - Failure: If you possess an unacceptable attitude which is reflected in your lack of critique participation, response to criticism and professional conduct, and/or your work shows a pattern of low productivity and/or unacceptable quality you could receive a failing grade.

University Specific Procedures:

Texas A&M University – Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. “Academic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one’s own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource materials. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course.

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: 903.886.5150
Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu, Gee Library, Room 132

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).