

Art Appreciation / Art 1301

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SYLLABUS

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EMAIL

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OFFICE HOURS

By Appointment

Sign-Up sheet is on the door of my office in Sculpture Lab (ASL119).

CLASS INFO / When and Where

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2 – 3:15 p.m.

ART 111

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the process of accessing and appreciating a wide range of art, with an emphasis on contemporary works, venues and artists in the DFW area. Several short-term assignments will focus on the exploration of physical materials as students create their own art works. Course material and discussion will be introduced thematically via images, video and lecture. Students will visit galleries and museums outside of class in DFW, so they can experience art and architecture in person. Students without cars can still fully participate by arranging carpools with their peers, family members and/or friends. Most students complete the travel and documentation of art works in two-three trips to DFW.

Most of the homework is research-driven, and involves visiting specific art venues and documenting favorite works in person. Students will organize this documentation into a “coffee table” art book they design and create. Additionally, each student will give a brief, interest-driven presentation in the last six – eight weeks of the course. This image and text-based presentation will be comprised of a small sampling of the documentation included in their student-created art books. The class material, class discussions, hands-on projects, in-person art research, customized art books and public presentations teach students how to experience the creative and problem solving process in art making, talk about art, better appreciate the relationship between art and affect, as well as understand the relationship between art, and its role as a catalyst and vehicle for personal and cultural growth. Students will learn how to process, break down and describe each work in regards to formal, conceptual and contextual concerns.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To understand the relationship between art and non-art, and how each can inform the other
- To understand the relationship between appreciating art, as well as appreciating non-art
- To advance visual, physical and conceptual problem solving abilities
- To understand how art is utilized in a variety of disciplines
- To understand the importance of craftsmanship while learning how formal decisions impact the meaning of the work
- To encourage creative and ambitious thought processes, work and communication habits
- To introduce a variety of artists, art venues and art practices, for the purpose of accessing, appreciating and understanding art, and its ability to change the way we think, feel and live.

ASSIGNMENTS

An outline of assignments and due dates will be given at the beginning of the semester. The first half of the semester will consist of theme-based lectures, images, videos, hands-on projects, material demos and discussions. The second half will be dedicated to students presenting on their personal research findings. Much of the research will involve seeing art in person. We have an amazing, nationally and internationally recognized art scene in DFW. Experiencing art in person is necessary to truly appreciate and understand art. You do not have to have a car to complete the assignments and succeed in this class. Students will be organized into teams so that they can carpool and create a travel itinerary. Most students are able to complete the gallery and museum trips in two or three days. There is no textbook for this course, although any assigned readings will be made available via handouts or email. Instead of a textbook, students will be creating their own photo journal book of favorite art works that they have experienced and documented in person this semester.

GRADING

Students' grades will be determined by class participation, preparedness, quality of short-term assignments and quality of research projects.

ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCES:

Class participation is required and students are allowed up to three absences. Each absence beyond the allowed three absences will lower your final grade by one letter grade. For example, if your grade adds up to a B at the end of the semester, but you've missed four classes, your final grade in the class will be a C. I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. Make sure to "budget" your absences wisely. Should you wish to withdrawal from the course, it is up to you to do so before the withdrawal deadlines. You can find withdrawal deadline dates and information online.

If faced with a severe tragedy beyond your control (death of an immediate family member, severe illness or injury requiring weeks of hospitalization, etc.) please let me know as soon as possible.

Additional absences and a change in project deadlines can be adjusted on a case-by-case basis when extenuating circumstances exist. Documentation is required in each instance.

NOTE: I will be away from Thursday, February 14th through February 28th due to out-of-state research. Class will still run as scheduled via a Guest Instructor, Graduate Assistant, a challenging short-term assignment, and two class days dedicated solely to your in-person art-based research in DFW. Do not come to Art 111 on February 14th and February 19th. These two classes are dedicated to your projects and research travel. To keep you on track during my absence, you will need to complete, document, and submit your assignments online. When I return, I will evaluate your work in person. Feedback from other instructors will enrich your experience in this class.

CLASS POLICIES:

Please be on time, and come prepared for each class.

It's important that you stay focused. Do not use Facebook, text or engage in other distractions that take you away from your work and focus in this class. Your grade will suffer if you do so. It is not fair or polite to those who are presenting if you are not giving them your undivided attention.

Be a great teammate – a valuable team player. Always be engaged and bring something to the table. This class is a team, and your participation is required, needed and appreciated. Work hard, do your best, participate, and share what you've learned. Be kind, open-minded, polite, respectful, helpful, enthusiastic and engaged. Do not work in a vacuum - embrace peer learning. You'll learn more while having more fun. Remember, the tide raises all ships.

Assignments turned in late will result in a lower grade. For example, if you turn in a B quality assignment up to one week late, your grade for that assignment will be a C. Assignments turned in more than one week late will not be accepted for any credit, but feedback can be requested. It is in your best interest to complete, document and discuss all assignments, regardless if you turn them in late. If you know you are going to be absent when work is due, you may turn work in early and not receive a penalty.

You will be going to galleries and museums to see art and document art, in person. This is necessary to complete your art book, and prepare for your presentation. If you do not have a car to drive to galleries and museums, don't worry. You will be coordinating ahead of time and can carpool with your teammates. Experiencing art in person is an essential part of this course.

MATERIALS

Basic supplies and tools to bring to each class:

Pens and/or pencils

Notebook to write in

Materials necessary for making art (varies for each student)

Curiosity

Creativity

Sense of wonder and adventure

Thirst for knowledge

Insatiable hunger to solve problems, invent, improve, contribute and succeed. This includes the

ability to self-start and direct. Understanding of the big picture. *See stellar work ethic.

Open mindedness

Kindness and empathy

Dreams and goals – large and small, both personal and community-based. To-do lists, calendar.

*Stellar work ethic with strong, and necessary ability to fail (try) often and wisely.

Attention to detail. Excellent communication skills. Diplomacy.

Fearless problem solving skills.

Adaptability and resourcefulness. Sense of humor.

Optimism and realism – leave pessimism behind. Always.

Humility, gratitude and encouragement.

Good sportsmanship. Healthy sense of competition. Blinders and binoculars - figuratively speaking.

In addition to basic supplies, students are required to purchase their own materials for their individual research-based projects. Materials and material costs will vary - depending on the needs of the project. Students will need a digital camera – cell phone camera is fine – to document much of their research at DFW art galleries and museums. **MAKE SURE TO BACK UP YOUR PHOTOS and PROJECT FILES** via Google Photos, email, DropBox, etc.

There are no required textbooks for this course, although particular essays and reviews will be assigned and discussed. Each will be made available via website link or distributed in class.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as 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 material.

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:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library, Room 132 , Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

Statement on Student Behavior:

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenet of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct) All students must show respect toward the instructor and the instructor's syllabus, presentations, assignments, and point of view. Students should respect each others' differences. If the instructor determines that a student is not being respectful towards other students or the instructor, it is the instructor's prerogative to ask the student to leave, to refer the student to the department head, and to consider referring the student to the Dean of Students who may consider requiring the student to drop the course. Please refer to pages 42 – 46 of the Texas A&M University-commerce Student guidebook's Codes of Conduct for details.

Student Conduct / Citizenship:

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). Students are expected, at all times, to recognize constituted authority, to conform to the ordinary rules of good conduct, to be truthful, to respect the rights of others, to protect private and public property, and to make the best use of their time and effort toward the educational process.

Nondiscrimination Notice:

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry:

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M- Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.