

Art 246 – Screenprinting  
Fall 2015, MW 9:05-11:00 am  
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## **Syllabus**

### **Course Description:**

This course will acquaint you with the fundamental techniques required to produce hand-pulled screenprints and the principles behind them. Class will consist of lectures, demonstrations, critiques, and studio time, during which we will discuss the history of screenprinting and its role as fine art, mass media, and commercial tool. Projects are designed to challenge students to consider their ideas within this specific medium and its context within printmaking and contemporary art.

### **Objectives/Outcomes:**

At the completion of this course, students should demonstrate the ability to:

Create original multi-layer screenprint with a variety of techniques, from concept and drawing to production and printing.

Identify the properties and significance of screenprints in historic and contemporary context.

Analyze prints for quality of production and effective communication/exploration of ideas.

Understand the communal nature of the print shop and be able to work cleanly, safely, and efficiently within it.

Understand the nature of appropriation in fine art and digital media.

Discuss your work, its elements, and your ideas using the

## vocabulary of printmaking

### **Attendance:**

I take attendance seriously, and I expect you to be present and on time. Three unexcused absences will drop your overall grade one full letter. Four unexcused absences will result in the student failing the class. If you have extenuating circumstances, the Office of Academic Affairs handles excusing absences. I am a very understanding person, but it is not my place to determine which of your various crises and emergencies should be excused and which are the result of poor planning or general malarkey.

Additionally, since there will be many demos and much of the work will be done during class time you may want to consider carefully the ramifications of missing a class. If you miss a demo due to absence I will be extremely reluctant to repeat it for your benefit. If you believe you have a valid reason to miss a demo or a critique, let me know *in advance* and maybe we can work it out. Taking notes is essential.

Work days are not optional attendance days. If you believe you have completed the assignment, work in your sketchbook. If you are ahead of the class, I am willing to show you an additional technique or help you expand your project.

### **Studio Etiquette & Expectations:**

Come to class prepared, equipped to print and to participate. Read the syllabus and be aware of announced due dates. Know what is going on! Check your email. I will communicate notes, reminders, clarifications, and addenda through email. UD email is official communication, and I expect you to read it.

The studio is a laboratory for creativity. Every printmaker has the right to a clean, well-organized workspace. To ensure common courtesy, all printmaking students are required to clean and put away all materials after use. Schedule 15-30 minutes of clean-up time at the end of every printing session. All work-areas should be cleaned of excess ink, tape, and detritus after printing. Students must properly close and store inks, thoroughly wash, dry and store squeegees, palette knives, and screens prior to leaving the studio. In addition, all phones are to be stored during class. Students will receive a grade for their conduct.

### **Assignments & Grading:**

Projects will be assigned in class and will be summarized in Sakai. *All assignments are for an edition of 5 prints unless otherwise noted.* Each student will submit a final portfolio for grading at the end of the semester, which may include collateral materials, such as sketches and transparencies, as well as additional proofs and reworked reprints.

Each assignment will have designated criteria and goals set forth in Sakai, but all assignments are also judged on the following. The student has/has not:

- Produced a neatly, carefully and thoughtfully executed artwork.
- Visually conveyed an idea central to the student's interests.
- Demonstrated an understanding of the elements and principles of art.
- Explored the media used in the creation of the artwork.
- Produced a consistent edition as appropriate for the project.
- Understood the role of paper selection in producing the final image.
- Practiced safety procedures and safe handling of cutting tools, knives and solvents.

Assigned printmaking projects may require 5-15 hours outside of class each week to complete. You can't make prints without putting ink on paper! Names must appear clearly on work. Edition prints in pencil only. **If you leave a mess in the printshop that someone else has to clean up, you will lose a letter grade (10 points) off the current assignment.** Late assignments will be accepted grudgingly, and will be penalized one full grade letter for each class session they are late. Sketchbooks will be reviewed at midterm and at the end of the session.

**Final Grades** will be determined using the following formula:

Assignments: 75%

Participation & Studio Etiquette: 15%

Quiz & Sketchbook: 5%

Final Presentation: 5%

### **Materials:**

There is a \$95 art consumables fee for this class. That fee covers the purchase of most basic printmaking supplies required for this class, including paper, ink, and ongoing shop needs like solvents and tools. There are a few items you should plan on supplying for yourselves, including:

Sketchbook

Drawing Materials – pens, pencils, markers, ink

There should be plenty of ink provided for our class by the department, but color selection may be limited. If you are picky/ambitious/wasteful, you may need to buy the occasional jar of ink for yourself. They are widely available in a variety of colors and brands.

**Print Shop Hours:**

We will have some work time during class hours, but the shops will also be available for the inevitable time needed outside of class to complete your projects. Shop open hours will be posted shortly after the start of the semester. When working in the shops outside of class, you must defer to the monitor on duty.

**Instructor:**

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or comments. If you are unsure about something, email me. If you are having trouble, email me. If I don't hear from you, I will assume everything is going fine. My office hours are by appointment Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Send me an email and I'll be happy to find a time we can meet.

**Health & Safety:**

Some of the materials used in this class have potential hazards; their safe use and handling is important. If you have, or develop, sensitivity to any materials, contact the instructor immediately. Please be careful, and never work alone!

**Appropriation:**

The appropriation of published artwork will be discussed. Appropriated work must be changed or critiqued in some way. Directly copying work and re-presenting it as your own is plagiarism. Work derived from any published source must give credit to the original artist by including the following information when the print is turned in: artist's name, title, date, publication source and date of publication.

**ADA Statement:**

Any student, who, because of a disabling condition, may require assistance in the event of an emergency or may require some special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements, should discuss with the instructor the nature of their disability and needs so that the necessary accommodations can be made.

**Abandoned Work:**

Artwork that is abandoned or uncollected at the end of the term will have to, unfortunately, be thrown out. If this is a concern for you at any point, you only need email me to find a solution.