

Art 317

**Printmaking Strategies**

M-W

12:20-2:15

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I remember Francis Bacon would say that he felt he was giving art what he thought it previously lacked. With me, it's what Yeats called the fascination with what's difficult. I'm only trying to do what I can't do.

Lucian Freud

**DESCRIPTION** Printmaking Strategies provides the student an opportunity to further develop his/her skills in a variety of printmaking techniques. Building on previous printmaking experience this course allows a greater level of freedom and experimentation which means that you, the student, are responsible for much of the course's content (the price of freedom). Important to this class is that the student consciously think through a concept and then the method of realizing this idea in advance; in short, to strategize.

This semester you will be asked to create three projects that continue the development of your own personal interests in art, while demonstrating a solid knowledge of art history and printmaking processes. Each project will include:

- A project description- this will explain the general idea behind the project and processes and materials you will use for its creation.
- An artist's statement- this will explain the concept in greater depth and relate the project's concept to your ideas of art, by which we mean an art theory and its relationship to the contemporary/historical artworld.
- Evidence of process- sketches, doodles, collages, artist proofs, different states, notes, pulled out hair, etc.
- Evidence of research- this would mean a bibliography of books you read or movies you watched that inform the work, even online research counts.

There will be four critiques (one of which is for an initial short project of my design), you will sign up for three of these to present and discuss your finished work. We will not critique incomplete work.

**COURSE  
OUTCOMES &  
ABILITIES**

This is an 300 level course students should demonstrate a high level of competency with application of the principles of platemaking and ink transfer, the techniques of color registration, the traditions and terminology of original print production and how these may be applied to the development of personal work. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the history of art and printmaking through individual presentations to the class. Lecture, demonstration, critique, and slide viewing will expose students to terms and concepts to be applied to their own work. A variety of exercises and techniques will be demonstrated and practiced. The sequence of assignments is designed to give the student greater freedom in choosing the focus of their personal work with the techniques necessary in order to fulfill his/her own vision .

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Analyze and interpret works of art.
- Create works of art that utilize technical understanding of different media.
- Use research effectively to provide a basis for personal work .
- Knowledgeably discuss in a critique situation the work of other students and to defend their own work.
- Create a portfolio of works that build and expand upon a concept and place this series in a contemporary context.

**ATTENDANCE** We take attendance very seriously. Please be present and on time. If you are absent three classes this will result in your grade dropping a full letter grade. Any more than three classes and you will fail the course. 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 we will be extremely reluctant to repeat it for your benefit. Absences due to illness must be documented.

**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, we would really hate to lose another student this year due to studio mishaps.**

**ABANDONED WORK** Artwork that is abandoned or uncollected at the end of the term will have to, unfortunately, be thrown out.

**GRADING**

- There is no extra credit work available for this class.
- Mid-term evaluations are given as a gauge for final grades and as an indicator of problems. If you encounter problems that keep you from successfully completing the class see the instructors. Other grading options are available.
- *Incompletes* are given in extreme situations and only if already passing.
- Bribes, especially baked goods, may be something to consider (a small joke).

<b>BASIS FOR EVALUATION</b>	Projects	50%
	Attendance	20%
	Sketches	10%
	Participation	10%
	Final Portfolio and Critique	10%
	Extra stuff	10%

- That's right it adds up to 110% because that's what we ask for here in the making of print!

**STUDIO ETIQUETTE and EXPECTATIONS** Showing up for class is not enough, students are expected to:

- Come to class prepared and equipped to print, and to participate
- Read the syllabus and know what is going on
- Be aware of unannounced due dates and have work ready for them
- Properly dispose of food and drink containers. Recycle the recyclables!
- Clean work areas as needed
- Exhibit good work ethics, sound craftsmanship, and consistency of effort
- Push skill development, show initiative and overall improvement
- Show a willingness to explore and learn beyond known limits

**TIME ALLOTMENTS and LATE PENALTIES** Assigned Printmaking Projects may require 5-10 out-of-class hours per week and sometimes nearly 200 hundred additional weekend hours to complete. Names must appear clearly on the work. Late assignments will be accepted until the following week, but not after, and will be discounted one full grade step for each session late (i.e., A- ? B-). Sketchbook assignments will be due at midterm and at the end of the quarter. Names must appear on the sketchbook cover.

**USE OF PHOTOS**The use of published artwork may be acceptable for some projects. It is imperative each student enrolled be familiar with proper citation procedures to respect copyrighted material that appears in any publication. Work derived from any published source must contain somewhere on the artwork the following information: artist's name, title, date, publication source and date of publication.

**SUPPLIES (and course fee explained)** Standard printmaking supplies will be utilized. The basic list and possible variations will be discussed on the first day of class. Additional (and experimental) supplies may also be discussed and utilized. It is the student's responsibility to have his/her own drawing materials and sketchbook.

Each student is asked to pay a \$95 consumable fee. Paying this fee is not required, but not doing so means the student agrees to purchase all of his/her own materials. Printmaking is best accomplished as a communal process, sharing the presses and other resources saves people the expense and hassle of buying these things themselves while having the additional benefit of adding to the sense of community. Your consumable fee will go to the purchasing of inks, paper, screens, emulsion, blankets for the presses, zinc plates (though only in small amounts), and other assorted shared supplies. If you feel you are not getting your money's worth please ask to discuss this matter with me and we will happily discuss the matter with you.

**You may need to purchase the following additional supplies**

Various Printmaking Papers	Battleship Linoleum	Exacto Knife and Blades
Rags	Assignment Notebook	Utility Knife
Block Cutting Tools	Wood Blocks	Sketchbook

### ASSIGNMENT, ACTIVITIES, and ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Assignment s and Activities	Assessment Criteria
<p><b>Printmaking Assignments.</b> There will be a total of four projects given throughout the semester. Each project may vary in format, emphasis, media, or intent. Restrictions on technique are specified while subject matter and imagery will often be left a bit more open. Visual investigation of other modes of visual expression may be relevant</p>	<p><b>The student has / has not:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilized the designated criteria set forth in the Assignment</li> <li>• Produced a carefully and/or thoughtfully executed artwork.</li> <li>• Visually conveyed an idea central to the student's interests.</li> <li>• Demonstrated an understanding of the elements and principles of art.</li> <li>• Explored the media used in the creation of the artwork.</li> <li>• Recognized the relevant contributions to graphic tradition of major graphic artists</li> <li>• Produced a consistent edition for each plate as appropriate.</li> <li>• Understood the role of paper selection in producing the final image.</li> <li>• Practiced safety procedures and safe handling of cutting tools, knives and solvents, etc.</li> </ul>