ART 5370: GRADUATE STUDIO PRACTICE

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Course Overview: The MA with an Emphasis in Studio Art and the MA/MFA Coordinated Degree Program in Studio Art provide the means for candidates to develop as contemporary visual artists. Through a conservatory approach, candidates acquire the skills necessary to create sophisticated aesthetic statements, master technical and formal interests, practice professional behaviors, and mature their understanding of form and content. Explorations in critical analysis, research methods, and contemporary theory are linked by extensive considerations of innovative problem solving. The MA or MA/MFA Coordinated Degree Program in Studio Art provides the context in which students join elements into a holistic philosophical, aesthetic and practical knowledge of the discipline.

Course Objective: This is an Independent Study course for MA/MFA candidates; therefore candidates must have been accepted into the MA/MFA program, be in good standing, and gained permission from the Graduate Coordinator as well as the candidate’s Graduate Committee in order to participate. Candidates are expected to have established a strong direction for their work, and be prepared to function at a high level within the conservatory tradition. The intent of this course is to provide candidate’s opportunity to develop technical, conceptual, methodological, and formal possibilities in response to the candidate’s existing tendencies. Candidates are expected to accept the challenges of developing multiple works simultaneously, which could be considered as variations on the form. Candidates must develop thorough bodies of works, which endeavor to expand the degrees of sophistication, complexity, and experimentation. Candidates are expected to push themselves to become more informed contemporary artists. We expect candidates to make an impressive quantity of work.

MA/MFA Student Learning Outcomes:

ANALYZE OBJECTS Students will be able to analyze the components of their visual object(s) and articulate the intended and discovered content of their aesthetic.

CONTEXTUALIZE AESTHETICS Students will be able to contextualize the artist's aesthetic to the canon of art history and contemporary art theory.

DOCUMENT WORKS Students will be able to digitally document their art works for the purpose of archiving, application, and presentation.

EXHIBIT WORKS Students will participate in juried, solo, group or curated exhibitions of their work.

INTERPRET WORKS Students will be able to define and interpret their works of art within the context of contemporary art.
The student will be able to critique art works relative to traditional standards v. innovative standards.

**Office Hours & Email Etiquette:** I am here to help you and I want each of you to do well in this course! I am always available to meet with you. It is always best for you to make an appointment with me during my office hours or, if this does not fit your schedule, we can arrange an alternate meeting time.

The best way to contact me is through email. I will check and respond to emails during the workweek, Monday through Friday, 8 am - 5 pm. I will do my best to answer promptly, please allow 24 hours for a response. If you contact me through email, please use formal email etiquette and use your UT Tyler student email address if you wish to get a response.

**Professional Communication:** When referring to any faculty member, please remember that they all have earned a high degree of respect, and should be referred to, or addressed as “Professor”, or “Dr.”. In any academic situation, sticking with “Professor ” is the safest path, until you have been invited to address your professors otherwise, even then, I would be circumspect as to the propriety of doing otherwise.

Likewise, engagements with university/departmental staff members should be equally respectful. Please understand that the staff members are critical partners in the department. Please refer to them as Mr./Mrs./Ms.

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**Attendance:** Students enrolled in ART 5370 are expected to set individual work schedules that allow for the student to produce a significant body of work. It is expected that the student will be an active and involved presence in the art studio. Setting a consistent studio schedule with ample dedicated studio time/presence, is expected. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should inform the instructor in writing by the end of the second week of class. Faculty should initial the request to indicate approval.

**Committee Selection and First Semester Graduate Student Requirements:** First semester graduate candidates are required to meet with each and every faculty member during the semester. It is the responsibility of the candidate to solicit, schedule, and confirm these meetings. At the end of the first semester, the candidate must invite a minimum of 3 faculty members to sit on their committee, (This is an invitation and must be formalized by acceptance by the faculty member). Please see the current MA and MA/MFA graduate program policies and guidelines for detailed information about changes to the committee.
Critiques with Committee Members: In accordance with the MA and MA/MFA studio art graduate policies, graduate students are required to schedule regular critiques/updates with members of their graduate committee at least once every month during each semester in which the candidate is registered for credit (it is important to realize that these critiques/updates may be with individual committee members, and need not be formal critiques. The critique/update is intended to maintain an appropriate level of communication between student and committee members).

It is the candidate’s responsibility to schedule these critiques/updates and to maintain a critique confirmation form signed by the professor who conducts the critique/update. The form can be found in the most current version of the MA and MA/MFA studio art policies and guidelines manual available on the department website. This form must be turned in to the Studio Art Graduate Coordinator at the end of each semester.

Beginning, Mid-Semester & End-of-Semester Reviews: All MA or MA/MFA candidates will participate in a review/critique three times each semester. The Graduate Faculty, all faculty members of the Department of Art + Art History, and all graduate students are required to attend and participate. The beginning and midterm reviews are for the graduate students and faculty, the final review is open to the undergraduate cohort as well. Every graduate student is required to participate by showing and discussing current work at the date and time scheduled.

The student’s committee will determine semester grades. During the final critique, candidates will be expected to present an oral defense of the work.

Graduate MA or MA/MFA candidates must provide the graduate faculty with the following at the end of semester graduate review/critique:

1. Artist statement, following the criteria below:
   - Title Page: conventional page showing essential bibliographical information
   - Artist Statement: the main body of the statement
   - Students will provide a hard copy of the artist statement in a notebook at the end of semester review/critique, as well as a digital copy to all faculty members.
   - The artist statement should be thoroughly considered, well written and edited. Students are encouraged to seek assistance through the writing center.

2. Photographic documentation of the semester’s work, following the criteria below:
   - Images should be professional and of the highest quality.
   - Students will provide a hard copy of the images in a notebook at the end of semester review/critique, as well as a digital copy to all committee members.
   - List of works including titles, media, and size should accompany the hard and digital copies.

3. Curriculum vitae
4. Artist’s biography
5. Statement of influences

**Final Semester Grade:** Your final grade for the semester is based on the quality, quantity, and formal and conceptual development of the body of work created during the semester. Your final semester grade will be determined after the final semester graduate critique and in consultation with the student’s graduate committee.

**Facility Access & Studio Lab Safety and Mechanical Safety Training**
Studio facility access is for enrolled students only. Students are required to use appropriate safety equipment (PPE) and practice safe operation procedures when using any hazardous equipment or materials. All students must successfully complete the lab safety training and mechanical safety training and quizzes on Canvas and complete an Art Safety Agreement before after hours access to the complex is granted. Failure to adhere to the terms of the Art Safety Agreement will result in the loss studio facility access.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**
For your safety, you must follow all safety requirements established by the department and university. It is required that you provide your own Personal Protective Equipment for use in studio areas. This equipment includes: dust mask with at least a N95 rating and attached filter, safety glasses, ear protection, gloves, close-toed shoes, and appropriate clothing. Failure to use this equipment while working may result in the loss of studio privileges.

**Materials and Chemicals**
Any additional materials or chemicals not included on the course material list must be approved by the faculty member in charge of the area where the chemical (material) will be used prior to the material/chemical being brought into the studio. Students are responsible for notifying the studio technician of any new materials/chemicals the day they are brought to the studio in order to insure that the appropriate Safety Data Sheet is on file and in the SDS binder.

Labels for any new, approved chemicals brought into the art studios must include the following information when they are transferred to a new container or if the original chemical label is damaged: Name of Chemical, Date chemical was opened, and any basic hazards associated with the chemical. Labels are located in each studio and must be filled out and adhered to the container immediately.

**UT Tyler Honor Code**
Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

**Students Rights and Responsibilities**
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: [http://www.utttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php](http://www.utttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php)

**Campus Carry**
We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a
handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at http://www.putyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php

**UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University**
All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kretekts, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.putyler.edu/tobacco-free.

**Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 12.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at http://www.putyler.edu/registrar. Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (Sept. 12th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

**State-Mandated Course Drop Policy**
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).
Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices, the SAR office located in the University Center, #3150 or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second-class meeting of the semester. Revised 05/17 Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct
Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.
i. “Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:
• copying from another student’s test paper;
• using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
• failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
• possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
• using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
• collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
• discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
• divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
• substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
• paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
• falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
• taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
• misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.
iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software. UT Tyler

Resources for Students
• UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
• UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
• The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
• UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)