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ARTZ 221A.02: Painting I

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Course Description:
This course offers advanced techniques and aesthetic issues as it relates to painting. Demonstrations of new processes are scheduled weekly, and are supplemented by additional impromptu demonstrations as specific student needs arise. Class attendance is therefore vital. Two major areas will be addressed in this course, often simultaneously, sometimes more independently: 1) Basic technical aspects of paint handling and manipulation, color theory and mixing. 2) Exploration of critical and conceptual concerns, such as visual problem solving and development of personal expression and visual language. As the course progresses, students should gain awareness of the creative and expressive possibilities of the process, and begin to develop a personal vocabulary. The amount of information presented this semester will not allow for mastery of every technique. Mastery is not an expectation. What is expected is that each student will attempt each process, and that these experiments demonstrate progress in both technical application and (particularly) a growing awareness of painting aesthetics.

Course Objectives:
- Engage in a critical dialogue on art and painting
- Develop an understanding of painting historically as well as its myriad of contemporary manifestations
- Learn and explore a range of painting methods, materials and techniques from traditional to experimental
- Develop ideas for an independent body of work that defines, explores and realizes your artistic expression
- Develop skills to talk about images, content, and technique in regards to painting and art

Attendance:
Attendance at all classes is mandatory. After three absences your grade will drop by one letter grade per absence, up to six absences when a failing grade is issued automatically. (Being sick does not count as an excused absence). Come to class ready to work, students are not to leave class to purchase supplies. Demonstrations missed will not be repeated for the absent student. If you are absent from class it is YOUR responsibility to get any missed information from another student, and you will be required to meet any deadlines set. Showing up late or leaving early from class will also affect your grade in a negative manner.

Cell Phones:
Cell phones are not to be turned on or used during class. If your cell phone goes off during class, you will be counted absent for that day.

Safety:
The UM Art Department uses environmentally sound methods. Required materials from your supply list are in compliance, with the exception of Gamsol. Gamsol is the only allowable solvent in the painting area because of its relatively low aromatic vapors and evaporation rate (20% in three hours). Even still, do not leave any container of Gamsol open for a prolonged period. All other solvents, including turpentine and Odorless Mineral Spirits are prohibited. You are individually responsible for clean up at the end of each session in this classroom (either in or out of class time). Use of the woodshop power tools is voluntary, and all users must complete a power tool orientation. No creatures or children will be allowed in the studios during class time or open studio times. No food or beverage containers will be allowed in the Art Department facilities when art-making is in progress.

Grading Policy:
The course grade awarded at the end of the term will reflect the students overall attendance and performance both in and out of class. It is your responsibility to consult with the Instructor throughout the term to insure that your progress is satisfactory. Grading will be based on all individual projects, preliminary drawings, ideas, attendance, progress, work ethic and habits. Students will be docked a 5% grade off their project if they do not have their preliminary drawings done on time or have their materials, and are ready to work on work session days. Projects will be graded on creative problem solving, incorporation of assigned techniques, breadth of research and experimentation, effort, meeting professional print standards, meeting all deadlines, development of significant content in the work in form of its conceptual understanding, and fulfilling the stated perimeter. Class participation will be factored in and can only lower the final grade. Attendance will be factored in and can affect the grade only by lowering it.

Three factors will be considered in the determination of grades:
1) The quality of the product, including inventiveness, sensitivity to materials, technical comprehension, compositional effectiveness, and ideas development in relation to the assignment.
2) The nature of the strategies, including risks taken, range of ideas explored, contributions to class, attendance, effective use of class time, enthusiasm and the amount of work done.
3) Professional demeanor in print studio as evidenced by clean work habits, the proper treatment of equipment, attention to the studio space, and participation in the final studio clean up.

A = Excellence in all assignments, highly motivated, extremely innovative solutions to projects
B = Above average in all work, demonstrated technical growth and visual maturity

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Vacation. These are all the types of things you can make on your own, on your own time, but they are not the types of projects I want to see. All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://www.unt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321.

Bob Marley/I love my Dog/Spring Break Clause:
No images of Bob Marley, Jimi Hendrix, Mickey Mouse or any other registered trademarked character may be done, unless used in a significant conceptual manner and with the consent of the instructor. In other words I don't want you copying someone else's photograph, cartoon, anime or graphic novel imagery, painting and so on. At this stage you should be going beyond simply copying others people's work and moving towards the development of your OWN imagery. This course is designed to explore the conceptual, structural and aesthetic potential of painting as a primary means of artistic expression. Therefore, DO NOT do paintings as presents for your family or friends. In addition, I don't want to see paintings done from photographs in general and particularly not of your dog, significant other, or from your vacation. These are all the types of things you can make on your own, on your own time, but they are not the types of projects I want to see during critiques. If you are at all unsure as to whether you are at risk of violating any of these clauses, talk to me BEFORE you start your project.

End of the Semester: Clean up
All student works, materials need to be cleared out of all lockers, studio spaces no later than Noon, the Monday after finals week. Items left after this point will be tossed.

Responsibilities:
The art department is not responsible for lost or stolen materials or artworks. Unlocked lockers, paintings stored in bins in the studio, are used at the sole discretion of the student, with no guarantee of safety of materials is made by the school.

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