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ARTZ 494.01: Professional Practices

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Prerequisite:
Senior status. This course is required for all graduating BFA students.

Course Description:
This course will focus on the professional practices and standards that are expected in the visual art profession. Students will gain experience and knowledge of the varied aspects involved with presentation, portfolio development, marketing, career and exhibition opportunities, arts advocacy and graduate school.

Course Objectives:
Essentially, this class will be a basic training seminar for artists to better prepare them for entry into the professional field. This class will be conducted in a lecture/seminar format. Students will have the opportunity for input about additional topics covered in this class. Guest speakers, hands-on workshops, class discussions and presentations will supplement the lectures. Students will be expected to expand their professional experience through exhibits, internships, and community involvement opportunities presented in class. This course will prepare BFA students for Senior Thesis ARTZ 499, which will concentrate on preparation for the required capstone exhibition.

Text(s) and Materials: Handouts, assigned research, art periodicals. Assignments and some handouts will be posted on moodle. Class lectures will NOT be posted.
Policies:

**Attendance/Absence** – Attendance is mandatory in this class! I take attendance and make announcements at the beginning of class so please be on time to class and do not leave early. Since we only meet once a week, you will be allowed 2 absences. Each absence after two will result in a full letter grade drop. Three unexcused late arrivals or early departures will result as one absence. **If you miss any part or all of class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed, as well as future deadlines for assignments.**

**Time Conflicts** - If you have a time conflict with another course, you must work out a solution with me immediately.

**Grading and Assessment** - Final grade will be based on your attendance, class participation, professionalism, completion of all course requirements, writing skills, and the final project. Each assignment will be assessed on a point system related to the objectives. A grade criteria sheet with clear objectives will be provided for all assignments. All late assignments will be docked a full letter grade. **Extra credit may be available and must be pre-approved by instructor.**

30% Attendance and class participation  
40% Assignments  
30% Final project

**NO CELL PHONES or use of computers in class!**

If you have any learning disabilities and/or physical impairments, or time schedule conflicts that may impede the successful completion of this course, please speak with me as soon as possible.

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DDS). “Reasonable” means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult [http://www.umt.edu/disability](http://www.umt.edu/disability).

**Course Requirements:**

**Faculty Mentor** – All students must select a faculty mentor that will work with them throughout the year (semester only if you are a BA student) in preparation for the BFA exhibit. Students may select more than one if desired. **STUDENTS MUST OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM THE FACULTY MENTOR PRIOR TO SELECTION.**

**Resource Notebook** - Maintain a notebook of exhibit announcements, articles, handouts and other helpful resources.
Class Participation - This class will be conducted in a lecture/seminar manner and you will be expected to participate in discussions.

Completed Assignments, Readings, and Preparedness: You must come prepared to class and be ready to participate. All late assignments will result in one full letter grade drop. I will not accept work that has been turned in to another class. Penalty will result in a failing grade for that assignment.

Final Exam: Thursday, December 12, 3:20-5:20

Building Hours:
The use of Art studio space requires current enrollment in a specific studio course, as course fees are used for purchase of supplies. Those not currently enrolled will be asked to leave. Hours are 7 A.M.-11:00 P.M. daily.

BFA Studio Space:
Graduate/BFA Studio Space is designated ONLY for students who have been accepted into the Graduate or BFA program and are currently enrolled in the Graduate Program or Professional Practices and Senior Thesis courses. Students will be assigned workspace by studio faculty as it applies to their chosen area of emphasis. Students are expected to use their studios to create work on a regular and ongoing process. Classes have priority in all workspaces. When class is in session, do not disturb with loud music, conversation, hammering, or any other loud tools and processes. Students will be asked to sign a contract of agreement and abide to all terms and conditions.

Health and Safety:
a. Materials, tools and equipment to be used must be
b. No creatures or children will be allowed in studios during class time or open studio times.
c. No food or open beverage containers will be allowed in Art Department facilities when art making is in progress. When needed, breaks may be taken by students by simply stepping out of the studios.
d. studio clean-up is required

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code
All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.