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Fall 9-1-2021

ARTZ 494.01: Seminar - Professional Practices

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Syllabus

FALL 2021

University of Montana, College of the Arts and Media

ARTZ 494 -01, Sem: Professional Practices, (70583) 3 credits

Mon/Weds: 4:00 - 5:20 FA 302

Instructor: Sarah Jones (she, her, hers)

Office Hours: Monday 10am - noon or by appointment (rm ARTZ 412)

email: sarah.jones@umontana.edu

"The University of Montana acknowledges that we are in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people Today, we honor the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for the generations to come."

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to professional practices and standards in the visual arts, including: presentation, portfolio development, career and exhibition opportunities, arts advocacy, and graduate school application.

PHILOSOPHY

This course is an introduction to professional practices and standards in the visual arts, including: presentation, portfolio development, career and exhibition opportunities, arts advocacy, and graduate school application.

These are skills that an artist needs to practice professionally as an artist. This does not mean that doing these things will make you a successful artist but it will certainly assist in that endeavor. Like a disciplined studio practice, the skills covered in this class should be an integral part of your "job" as an artist. These skills will not only serve to get your work "out there," they will help you to think through, conceptualize, communicate about, market, protect, conserve and archive your work. The initial venture into these practices can be daunting and difficult, but to start these practices early will be beneficial to a life long art-making practice.

FORMAT

This course will be taught as a seminar. Classes will consist of lectures, demonstrations, discussions, visiting artists and professionals, exhibition field trips and critiques.

SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES

Please silence you cell phones during class.

It is expected that you will make a genuine, good faith effort to complete the coursework to the best of your ability. I will make sure you have clear and contextualized assignments, have many opportunities to connect with me and with classmates, and a lot of guidance and feedback along the way. I especially want to emphasize the values of flexibility, curiosity, and compassion.

If you find yourself struggling with time management or workload, please reach out to me and I will be happy to help.

Take breaks. Remind me if it is time for a break.

Please send your work to me as soon as the assignments are completed. This is an important way for me to keep track of your progress. PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME AND THE DATE ON YOUR WORK. DO NOT send all of your assignments at the end of the semester.

Final work be due the last week of scheduled classes and that studio cleanup be a scheduled part of each course. Artwork will be returned to students at the end of the term as there is not storage over summer or winter break.

COVID PRACTICES:

- **Mask use is required within the classroom or laboratory.**
- **If you feel sick and/or are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, please don't come to class and contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330.**
- **If you are required to isolate or quarantine, you will receive support in the class to ensure continued academic progress.**

- UM recommends students get the COVID-19 vaccine. Please direct your questions or concerns about vaccines to Curry Health Center.
- Where social distancing (maintaining consistent 6 feet between individuals) is not possible, specific seating arrangements will be used to support contact tracing efforts.
- Class attendance and seating will be recorded to support contact tracing efforts.
- Drinking liquids and eating food is discouraged within the classroom.
- Mask use is required in vehicles when traveling to field sites as part of class/fieldwork.
- (If applicable) Please note this class is being recorded. Notifying students is a requirement if this is the case

I am vaccinated against Covid 19.

Classwork, homework and critiques will be conducted in a manner that allows for safe social distancing.

COMMUNITY CULTURE

This class, based on the belief that everyone can learn, and that this is best accomplished in a community of others with similar goals. Accomplishing this is dependent upon how we act individually and as a group. We are living in a time of trauma and suffering for many. Class members come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences, and success means different things to each of us. The guiding principles of our community engagement are:

Respect (Commit to respect the varied experiences and backgrounds, and perspectives of all class members)

Kindness and encouragement (Commit to being the type of person that you would hope to turn to for support),

Constructive struggle (Commit to the vulnerability of sharing your work *before* it is finished, both to get help where you are struggling, and to connect with others having the same experience as you.)

GOALS and OUTCOMES

- To gain understanding of professional practices and standards of the professional art world.

Including making a professional CV, Artist Statement, Bio, website, documentation, presentation, applications, and public speaking,

CLASS PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE

You will be expected to attend the 2 hours and 20 minutes of scheduled class time each week. [An additional 4 hours minimum will be needed outside of class to complete homework assignments.](#)

[Your presence in all scheduled classes is essential. You will not be able to get an A unless you attend 23 out of our 26 scheduled classes.](#) In order to benefit from the class you must be a contributing member of the group. You are expected to come to class on time and stay for the full duration of the class period. If for some reason you are unable to attend class due to illness or emergency, please call or email me and let me know in advance, if possible. Class participation includes your preparedness, both in terms of practical studio work as well as readings, critiques and discussions. You can ensure a good grade in the “Participation” category if you:

- [a\) Come to class with all of the supplies you need, along with ideas and source material when necessary.](#)
- [b\) Keep up-to-date on your practical assignments for the class](#)
- [c\) Complete all assignments.](#)
- [d\) Participate fully in all critiques.](#)
- [e\) Check your email for messages regarding the class DAILY](#)

If you are not sure what you need to be doing over the weekend, make sure you contact me before you leave Thursday class. The studio is available for your use when no other class is meeting.

GRADING

Your work for your midterm and final grade will be assessed on the following:

- a) Are the requirements of the assignment observed?
- b) Is the work carefully and thoughtfully done and presented?
- e) Progress and effort

A= outstanding student, inventive, thoughtful, self-critical and highly motivated.

Participation during group critiques/discussions, quality finished drawings and considered studies. Meets consistently high standards.

B= good student, above average; competent work if not always excellent; somewhat uneven quality (some very good work but not all work reaching the highest standard); perhaps one area of weakness, but otherwise skillfully executed work.

C= average student; college level work; competence in at least half of the assignments; lacking in some basic skills, eg. consistently timid mark making, or uninspired compositions.

D= incompetent work, very few basic skills demonstrated; unimaginative, or incomplete assignments; a very concerning number of missed classes (three or more) or a combination of these factors.

* I reserve the right to change the syllabus w/out notice.

CONTENT NOTIFICATION

Art scholarship and art practice along with teaching and learning involve a critical exploration of ideas, theories, art-making practices, and art movements that encompass such things as the human body, sexuality, race, gender, religions, and cultures. This course can touch upon any of the above categories with an expectation that students will actively participate in all course assignments, discussions, and tests. Given this information, it is the student's obligation to determine that the requirements conflict with his or her core beliefs. If the student determines that there is a conflict with his or her beliefs, one of the following actions needs to be taken:

- 1) drop the class before the last day to drop a course without penalty
- 2) meet with the instructor within the first week of classes to determine if an accommodation can be made. (Note, faculty, are not required to grant content accommodations.)

BUILDING ACCESS

The use of studio space requires current enrollment in a specific studio course, as course fees are used to purchase supplies. Those not currently enrolled will be asked to leave.

Building hours are 7:00am to 11:00pm daily. Fridays are open studio day in the art building—no classes are scheduled.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The UM Art Department uses environmentally sound methods. All solvents, other than Gamsol, 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 wood shop 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. All art work must be picked up by the Monday after finals week or it will be discarded.

INCLUSION POLICIES

The University of Montana values leadership, engagement, diversity, and sustainability, because our institution is committed to respect, we welcome, encourage, and celebrate the differences among us. As members of the University of Montana community, we aspire to:

- Respect the dignity and rights of all persons.
- Practice honesty, trustworthiness, and academic integrity.
- Promote justice, learning, individual success, and service.
- Act as good stewards of institutional resources.
- Respect the natural environment.

The College of the Arts and Media at the University of Montana, has chosen to actively pursue equity and access for all persons. In this charge we will be researching, planning, and implementing ways in which our culture can be more accessible, inclusive, equitable, sustainable. It is not enough to be anti-bias in principle without being equitable in action. We will implement these actions organized by a group of students, faculty, and staff across the entire College in an ongoing way.

RESOURCES FOR STUDENT SUPPORT

· Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code: “This Code of Conduct embodies and promotes honesty, integrity, accountability, and duties associated with citizenship as a student in our community at the University of Montana. This Code exists to protect the interests of the community and dignity of its members, and to challenge those behaviors

which are not in accordance with our policies”. The Code is available for review online at <https://staging.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/student-code-of-conduct-2021-pdf>

- Accommodations: “Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting the DSS office. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). For more information, please consult <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.”
- The Writing and Public Speaking Center provides one-on-one tutoring to students at all levels and at any time in the writing process. Visit now. Visit often. We’re ready when you are. www.umt.edu/writingcenter.
- Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy: The University of Montana is committed to advancing the mental health and wellbeing of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of support, services are available. For help, visit <https://www.umt.edu/diversity/resources/mental-health.php>

[Take very good care of your selves and one another. Please don’t hesitate to contact me and/or find support from other resources listed below.](#)

In cases of life-threatening emergency, call 911.

<https://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/student-support-resources/default.php>

Office of Student Services: https://www.umt.edu/oss/for_parents_family/student_resources.php

Curry Health Center: <https://www.umt.edu/curry-health-center/>

Off-Campus Emergency resources for Student Support:

Crises Line: <https://namimissoula.org/suicide-prevention/>

Campus safety: <https://www.umt.edu/safety/>

Transgender resources and Hotline - <https://www.gaymontana.org/transgender-health/>

STAY CONNECTED

Please join SVMA social media to stay informed about events and happenings in our school.

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/umt_svma/

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UMTsvma>

Student Art Collective (this is primarily for art students) The collective is a student-organized and student-led group that sponsors art related workshops, events, and the Annual Juried Student Art Show. Look for informational posters. The Director recommends soliciting student participation in art classes.