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ARTZ 420.02: Advanced Research - Painting

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Spring 2014

The University of Montana, Department of Art

ART 420.01, section 02, Advance Research in Painting, 3 Credits

Prereq, ART 340/ARTZ 321

Instructor: Kevin Bell

Office: Room 410, Fine Art Building 243-5453, kevin.bell@umontana.edu Email is the best way to reach me.

Office Hours: Mondays 12:00—2:00.

Meeting times: 11:10-1:00pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays, FA 404

COURSE DESCRIPTION (catalogue): “Investigation of painting with emphasis on student proposals, including specific technical and conceptual aspects.”

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course provides an opportunity for individually-articulated investigations into a specific question or idea relating to painting. Similar to an independent study, but with the benefit of peer support and feedback, you will be asked to choose a topic of study, establish clear goals and work towards that objective. You may choose a range of possibilities, from exploring unfamiliar techniques, to developing a series, to completing a large *magnum opus*. For those working towards their BFA show, this is an excellent opportunity to refine your direction.

We will be holding critiques, workshops, salons, presentations and exhibitions. As this is an advanced research course, we will not often work as on your projects in class as 300-level classes, and you are expected to work independently on your own, bringing in pieces for critique.

FORMAT:

Critiques. Once the term is underway, many classes will consist of group critiques. You will be expected to bring in work in various stages of completion on your day. We will focus on only a few students at a time to allow a more in-depth discussion of their work. Expect to have your work critiqued every two to three weeks. We may divide the class into smaller critique groups centered around similar interests. Please make sure you are ready for critique on your assigned day—it is unlikely we will be able to find extra time for you in a subsequent class.

Painting. We will **not** often paint in class. Please arrange your schedule so you have ample time to do so outside of class.

Workshops. To allow the opportunity for your work expand and grow, we will hold several short workshops that ask you to briefly explore a specific idea or approach.

Homework: Expect to spend 5 hours a week outside of class. As we will not paint in class, you will need to find a consistent and regular time to paint in order to be ready for critique.

PARTICIPATION:

Participation is an important part of this course, and you will be expected to engage in every class. Please make sure you show up prepared for each class.

GRADING AND ASSESSMENT:

Attendance: Success in painting is almost entirely a function of effort. It is therefore nearly impossible to make up missed class and it is essential that you are committed to arriving on time and attending every class. More than 3 missed classes or consistent lateness will result in a lowered grade. (For example, from B+ to B).

Grading: The primary factor used to determine your final grade in this class is PARTICIPATION. I will not assign letter grades to your projects during the quarter. You will simply be given credit for turning the required number of images in on time and for participating in course activities. However, I will give you frequent critical feedback on the work you are doing. Essentially, grading from day to day is based on a credit/no-credit system. At the end of the semester, the total number of credits will be divided into your number of earned credits and the resulting percentage will determine your grade based on a standard breakdown (percentage: 93-100 A, 90 – 92, A-, 87-89 B+, 83-86 B, 80-82 B-, 77-79 C+, 73-76 C, 70-72 C-, 67-69 D+, 63-66 D, 60-62, D-, 59 F). Late assignments will not be accepted. If you know you will not be attending class on the due date for an assignment, you may turn your work in before the due date for credit.

Examples of credit worthy (one point) items are as follows:

- attending daily class
- individual assignments
- completing reading assignments
- participating in reading seminar
- attending critique
- presenting your work in critique
- commenting on the work of your peers during critique
- working during open lab sessions

If you miss a class, please ask a fellow classmate about what you missed. It is often very hard to find a time to meet and summarize the class for you. I ask that you have the email of at least one fellow classmate you can contact. I will post all lectures and assignments on Moodle.

MATERIALS.

You are welcome to work in either acrylic or oil, which ever is your personal preference. If you choose oil, you **MUST** make underpaintings in acrylic, as too much solvent on a canvas produces harmful vapors.

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 <http://life.umt.edu/VPSA/name/StudentConductCode>.”

Disabling Condition:

“The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability for Students (DSS). If you think you have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you are not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation”

Withdrawal Policy

Specifics available at this web address: <http://www2.umt.edu/catalog/acpolpro.htm>

Health and Safety

The UM Art Department uses environmentally sound methods. Required materials from your supply list are in compliance. 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 others, 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. All art work must be picked up by the Monday after finals week or it will be discarded.

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.

Art Student Collective

The collective is a student –organized and student-led group that sponsors art-related workshops, events, and the Annual Juried Student Art Show. Members meet regularly. Look for informational posters in the Art Building.

Events in the Department

<http://umartdepartment.wordpress>