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ARTZ 494.01: Professional Practices

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ARTZ 494 Professional Practices

Section 01, 3 credits
FA Building 302, T/TH 2-3:20
Fall Semester 2016
School of Art
University of Montana

Professor: Cathryn Mallory

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Arts Annex
Email: cathryn.mallory@umontana.edu
Office Hours: M 1-2 or by appointment



“You’re a right-brained sort of person, Mr. Sommersby—very creative, artistic, etc. ... Unfortunately, I think I also see why you’re having trouble figuring out your gas mileage.”

“The best dividends on the labor invested have invariably come from seeking more knowledge rather than more power.”
-Wilbur and Orville Wright, March 12, 1906

Prerequisite:

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

Course Description:

This course is 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 lectures. In addition, this course will prepare BFA students for Senior Thesis ARTZ 499, which will concentrate on preparation for the required capstone exhibition.

Course Objectives:

- Students will gain a basic understanding of the professional practices, standards, and ethics that are expected in the visual arts 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.
- Students will learn to articulate about their work through writing artist statements and doing oral presentations.

- Students will learn how to successfully photograph their work for visual documentation.
- Students will expand their professional experience through exhibits, internships, and community involvement opportunities presented in class.

Text(s) and Materials:

Handouts, assigned research, art periodicals. The course syllabus, calendar, readings, and assignments will be posted on Moodle (<http://umonline.umt.edu/>).

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to complete all assignments on time, attend all class lectures, maintain a resource notebook, actively participate in discussions, as well as contribute to the overall culture of the class.

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.**

Juried Exhibitions: You will be required to enter at least two juried exhibitions. It is mandatory that you enter the UC Gallery Juried Student Exhibition and you can pick any other of your choice. More details to follow.

Final Project: 10-15 minute visual presentation of your work. Details will be given at a later date.

Final Exam: Tuesday, December 19, 3:20-5:20

Participation, Attendance, and Absence Policy:

Participation is crucial for successful completion of this course and will be factored into the final grade. Attendance will be taken and announcements given at the beginning of class, so please be on time. **After 3 absences, your grade will drop by one letter grade per absence.** Being sick does not count as an excused absence, (with exception to extreme circumstances that must be approved by the instructor). **Three late arrivals or early departures will result in one absence.** If you miss any part or all of a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed.

Time Conflicts:

Students with unavoidable time schedule conflicts must get preapproval for any missed classes, late arrivals or early departures. It is the student's responsibility to inform themselves of announcements, assignments, deadlines, and discussions presented in any missed class time. It is also agreed that these students may be required to do additional work outside of class to meet course objectives.

Electronic Devices:

NO CELL PHONES or other electronic devices are allowed in class. If you are in the midst of an emergency, please communicate with me about the situation to be granted an exception.

Access, Special Needs, and Disabilities:

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DDS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already

registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson Center 154. Please contact me immediately and I will try to work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.

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. 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

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>.

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:

BFA Studio Space is designated **ONLY** for students who have been accepted into the BFA program and are currently enrolled in Professional Practices and Senior Thesis courses. Students will be assigned workspace by studio faculty as it applies to their chosen area of emphasis. 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.

Having a BFA studio is an honor and a privilege. Remember, this is a "borrowed" studio space that has been provided for you as a place of sanctuary and creative energy. Please take good care of all the provided equipment (lights, tables, chairs) and remember it must be returned in the same or better condition. All students must adhere to the posted health and safety standards in each specialized studio area. Please do not leave valuable equipment or materials in your studio unattended. The School of Art is not responsible for lost or stolen valuables. Students that do not adhere to studio guidelines will be given a warning. After one warning, any other infractions may result in loss of studio space. Above all, **please respect your studio mates** and make all reasonable effort to keep your area clean. Make art and enjoy the luxury of your studio!

Health and Safety:

- Materials, tools and equipment to be used must be in accordance with studio policy.
- No creatures or children will be allowed in studios during class time or open studio times.

- No food or open beverage containers will be allowed in the School of Art facilities when art making is in progress.
- Studio clean up is REQUIRED.
- Pick-up of artwork must take place by the instructor's scheduled date. Pieces remaining after this time will be discarded. Artwork may not be left in the Art Office.

Student Involvement and Announcements:

- The University of Montana Artist Collective (UMAC)
- The University of Montana Emerging Ceramic Artists (UMECA)
- Events in the School of Art, www.umt.edu/art/ or umartdepartment.wordpress.com
- Gallery of Visual Arts
- UC Gallery
- Montana Museum of Art & Culture
- Exhibitions in Missoula, please support your local galleries, museums and colleagues.

Academic Conduct:

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 www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321 .