



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ART AND ART HISTORY
ART 421.1 Advanced Topics in Digital Arts (Development and Exhibition)
Winter 2023

Course Delivery Format:	<i>In-person, synchronous</i>																																			
Instructor: Office: Email: Office Hours: Phone/Text (preferred):	<i>Rob Furr</i> <i>AB661</i> rsfurr@ucalgary.ca <i>11:15-1:15 MoWe</i> <i>403-629-8837</i>																																			
Day(s), time(s) and location of class:	<i>MoWe, 8:30 – 11:00, AB 659</i>																																			
Course description:	<i>Advanced studio inquiry into digital art forms developing students' technical and conceptual skills. Advanced exploration of digital media topics such as 2D graphics, 3D graphics, animation, motion capture, and modelling will enable research creation directed toward self-generated practice.</i>																																			
Prerequisites and/or co-requisites:	<i>15 units of courses labelled Art at the 300 level including 3 units from Art 313, 331, 319, 323, 334.</i>																																			
Course Objectives:	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: 1. Develop and discuss their position on the ethics of AI art. 2. Use common AI art generators effectively. 3. Train their own AI models and apply them to the creation of art.																																			
Required Textbooks of Readings:	<i>N/A</i>																																			
Course Schedule:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Week of Jan 9</td> <td>Introduction to class, orientation to DiffusionBee, Stable Diffusion, and Midjourney</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Jan 16</td> <td>Introduction to IP law</td> <td>Weekly assignment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Jan 23</td> <td>Img2img</td> <td>Weekly assignment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Jan 30</td> <td>Collage and decoupage</td> <td>Weekly assignment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Feb 6</td> <td>Ethical issues</td> <td>Weekly assignment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Feb 13</td> <td>Inpainting</td> <td>Weekly assignment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Feb 20</td> <td>Term break</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Feb 27</td> <td>Outpainting</td> <td>Body of Work</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Mar 6</td> <td>AI and photography</td> <td>Weekly assignment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Mar 13</td> <td>Training</td> <td>Weekly assignment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week of Mar 20</td> <td>Use and misuse of AI</td> <td>Paper due</td> </tr> </table>	Week of Jan 9	Introduction to class, orientation to DiffusionBee, Stable Diffusion, and Midjourney		Week of Jan 16	Introduction to IP law	Weekly assignment	Week of Jan 23	Img2img	Weekly assignment	Week of Jan 30	Collage and decoupage	Weekly assignment	Week of Feb 6	Ethical issues	Weekly assignment	Week of Feb 13	Inpainting	Weekly assignment	Week of Feb 20	Term break		Week of Feb 27	Outpainting	Body of Work	Week of Mar 6	AI and photography	Weekly assignment	Week of Mar 13	Training	Weekly assignment	Week of Mar 20	Use and misuse of AI	Paper due		
Week of Jan 9	Introduction to class, orientation to DiffusionBee, Stable Diffusion, and Midjourney																																			
Week of Jan 16	Introduction to IP law	Weekly assignment																																		
Week of Jan 23	Img2img	Weekly assignment																																		
Week of Jan 30	Collage and decoupage	Weekly assignment																																		
Week of Feb 6	Ethical issues	Weekly assignment																																		
Week of Feb 13	Inpainting	Weekly assignment																																		
Week of Feb 20	Term break																																			
Week of Feb 27	Outpainting	Body of Work																																		
Week of Mar 6	AI and photography	Weekly assignment																																		
Week of Mar 13	Training	Weekly assignment																																		
Week of Mar 20	Use and misuse of AI	Paper due																																		

	Week of Mar 27	TBA	
	Week of Apr 3	Exhibition	Exhibition collection

Readings will be made available via D2L

Assignments & Evaluation

Assignment	Description	Due Date	Worth
Weekly Assignment 1	Report that includes one AI-generated image (specifics to be announced), prompts used, and a URL to an article or reading on AI art.	Jan 16	7%
Weekly Assignment 2	As above.	Jan 23	7%
Weekly Assignment 3	As above.	Jan 30	7%
Weekly Assignment 4	As above.	Feb 6	7%
Weekly Assignment 5	As above.	Feb 13	7%
Weekly Assignment 6	As above.	Mar 6	7%
Weekly Assignment 7	As above.	Mar 13	7%
Body of Work	Ten images that share a common theme, subject, or concept, and one page detailing difficulty in generating those ten images.	Feb 27	14%
Term Paper	2000-3000 word academic paper with bibliography and citations on whether or not AI art can be considered art, and should/should not be exhibited	Mar 20	21%
Exhibition collection	Ten 8.5"x11" prints that use a model trained by the student in their production, that share a common theme, subject, or concept.	Apr 3	16%
Assessment expectations:	<p>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments: <i>Weekly assignments will be submitted to class folder on Microsoft OneDrive, or, if that is unavailable, the IAML server; if the latter is necessary, as a result of university security measures, students will have to be on-campus or use the campus VPN to submit files. Term paper and Exhibition collection will be submitted in paper form, as discussed in class.</i></p> <p>Expectations for Writing: Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.</p>		
Additional Costs and Information:	<i>Students will be required to generate 10 prints on art paper in the IAML. Students may also wish to sign up for an account with Midjourney, Night Café, or other AI service.</i>		
Portfolios and Assignments:	The Dept of Art and Art History will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading.		

Other Important Dates

For more information on term dates, add/drop/swap/withdraw dates from course deadlines and refund/payment deadlines, please see: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

Grading Method and Grading Scale

Undergraduate: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>

- A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations.
- The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy.

Percentage	Grade	G.P.V.	Grade Definition
96-100	A+	4.0	Outstanding performance
90-95	A	4.0	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
85-89	A-	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
80-84	B+	3.3	Exceeding good performance
75-79	B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-74	B-	2.7	Approaching good performance
65-69	C+	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
60-64	C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter.
55-59	C-	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
53-54	D+	1.3	Marginal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
50-52	D	1.0	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Fail – Failure to meet course requirements.

Graduate: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-2.html>

- All grades of "C+" or lower are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. Individual programs may require a higher passing grade.

Learning Technologies and Requirements:	<p>There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (d2l.ucalgary.ca).</p> <p>To successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote, and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates • A current and updated web browser • Webcam (built-in or external) • Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone • Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled • Broadband internet connection
Academic Standing:	For more information go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html
Academic Accommodation:	<p>It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations.</p> <p>Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for</p>

	<p>Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.</p> <p>SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/</p>
Academic integrity, plagiarism:	<p>Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.</p> <p>For more information go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html or http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity</p>
Internet and electronic communication device:	<p>The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time.</p> <p>Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf</p>
Deferral of Term work and exams	<p>For more information about deferring a final exam go to https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams For more information about deferral of term work go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html https://www.ucalgary.ca/live-uc-ucalgary-site/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferred_termwork-feb-2020_revised.pdf</p>
Intellectual Property & Copyright:	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including presentations, textbooks, posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams).</p> <p>Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html</p>
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy:	<p>Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.</p> <p>For more information go to https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-centre/privacy-policy</p>

Ethics	<p>Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e., surveys, interviews, or observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research.</p> <p>For more information go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-5.html or https://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/chreb</p>
Student Support:	<p>Please visit this link for important information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness and Mental health resources • Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points • Student Success and more.... <p>https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines</p>
Studio Procedures:	<p>Please view current updates from RISK and the Covidsafe page links to information on rapid testing, masking rules, vaccination regulations and documentation as well as a FAQs page, which must all be followed while in Studios.</p> <p>https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/covid-19-response https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/covid-19-response/covidsafe-campus</p>
Arts Students' Centre Program Advising:	<p>Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca.</p> <p>You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns.</p>
Faculty of Graduate Studies:	<p>For graduate studies email: graduate@ucalgary.ca or call 403 220 4938. Visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies for more details: https://grad.ucalgary.ca/</p>