

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF ART

COURSE OUTLINE

**Art (ART) 381.01
Sculpture: Materials and Processes
Fall 2017**

Tuesday and Thursday 9:30am – 12:15am; AB 633

Instructor: *Dick Aaverns*
Office Location: *AB 667*
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Web Page: *N/A*
Office Hours: *Tue & Thurs 12:30 – 1:30pm*

Course Description

Technical and conceptual exploration of sculpture through materials and processes. This may include a range of methods such as mold-making, casting, assemblage, carving, welding, forging, riveting, time-based media, installation or digital media.

Prerequisites: Art 233

Objectives of the Course

Upon successful completion of this course students will:

- 1 have acquired an ability to technically handle, manipulate and deploy a range of materials in the making of both traditional and contemporary sculpture.
- 2 have experience in, and honed, a range of processes including material handling, technical, conceptual, and subject-based approaches in the pursuit of content, embodied in traditional and contemporary sculpture.
- 2 have been made aware of select historical and theoretical contexts associated with sculpture.
- 3 become familiar with the tenets of approaching artistry via research, creation, production and dissemination.
- 4 have developed an ability to use analytical and critical thinking in the art-making process, as demonstrated through participation in studio projects and critique.
- 5 have developed an evolving understanding of sculptural vocabulary as it relates to visual language, including through oral presentation, titling art and a project statement.
- 6 have gained experience in individual and collaborative processes.
- 7 have refined their studio work ethos and become more acquainted in the protocols of safe and productive studio practices.

Textbooks and Readings

There is no set text for this class, but some readings may be assigned in conjunction with specific projects, for which details will be provided in assignment instructions.

Assignments and Evaluation

Assignments and evaluation will be spread across inter-related elements that support the course title, description and objectives for both historical and contemporary art practices.

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|---|-----|
| A. Technical exercises addressing materials and their handling, throughout the course | 35% |
| B. Three sculptures resolved through processes addressing subject, concept, content | 30% |
| C. Interweaving of materials and processes through presentation and titles | 15% |
| D. Personal sketchbook/journal, and participation in class project critiques | 10% |
| E. Group Exhibition: <i>Adapt... Ability... Disability...</i> | 10% |

1 In-class and homework sculptures incorporating a range of materials & processes. 80%

These sculpture assignments are mainly evaluated across a mix of the three areas outlined above, as per A), B), and C). In the making of your work your sculptures will be more resolved (and invariably receive better grades) if you work regularly in your sketchbook/personal journal. Similarly, you will learn from your work, and that of your peers, by ensuring your participate in project critiques. Both of these aspects are reflected in D), above.

Assignment 1 (30%) *Art Multiples* (with choice of materials) Tues Sept 12 - Thurs Oct 5

Evaluated thus:

- A) Material workshops and processes 15%
- B) Subject, concept & content 10%
- C) Presentation & title 5%

Assignment 2 (30%) *From Organic to Inorganic* (metal casting) Thurs Oct 5, due Tues Dec 5

Evaluated thus:

- A) Material selection, mold-making process & workshop, cast finishing 15%
- B) Subject, concept & content 10%
- C) Presentation & title 5%

Assignment 3 (20%) *Modeling Monuments* (clay or time-based media) Tues Oct 24, due Tues Nov 28

Evaluated thus:

- A) Material handling and process for finishing 5%
- B) Subject, concept & content 10%
- C) Presentation & title 5%

2 Exhibition (as per "E", above). Sun Nov 26 – Sat Dec 2. 10%

In the latter part of the course students will mount an exhibit of artwork created during the first three projects. This will likely comprise an opportunity to exhibit in one of the Art Department Galleries – either The Little Gallery or Gallery 621. The theme of the exhibition is *Adapt... Ability... Disability...* and will be held in collaboration with SPARK Disability Arts Festival, a city-wide initiative addressing disability arts.

Participation in the exhibition will provide an opportunity to hone processes of professionalism in presenting work, consideration for audience, working collaboratively, and aspects of promotion/dissemination. Grade will be split between exhibition organization and a written statement. Full details will be provided after mid-term.

3 Participation via Sketchbook/Journal (as per “D”, above). 5%

The sketchbook is a tool and friend: it is a machine for generating and resolving ideas and a confidante for recording your emotive concepts. If the word “sketchbook” rings alarm bells in your head, think of this aspect of your creative development as maintaining a visual journal or ideas catalogue. Be sure to always have your sketchbook to hand, and always in class. Having two books may be beneficial: one that is pocket-sized and one that is larger and more suited to large-scale developments. It is fine to have a sketchbook that is used between classes/disciplines, although material relating to this sculpture course should be evident.

Maintaining a sketchbook is a valuable aid to your creative development, self-expression and personal growth. Aim to work in your sketchbook three times a day! This *will* help with success in this course. Your sketchbook will be graded on quality, quantity and by assessing how your practicing and concepts have been *represented, developed and resolved*.

A 50% approximation of participation/sketchbook grade will be given at mid-term

4 Participation via Critique (as per “D”, above). 5%

There will be four substantive critiques (crits) during the course, for which student participation is vital for success in the course. 5% of the participation grade is based on full attendance and involvement at crits: 1.25% at each crit. Participation will not be evaluated on who has spoken most. Students should come to the studio having contemplated how they can positively add to a shared learning environment. Qualitative elements will also be evaluated, such as ability to catalyse debate, pass constructive comment, or enhance group *esprit d’corps*.

Writing

You will need to write a statement about your work for the exhibition (less than 500 words), and you will be creating titles for your art, taking written notes during critiques, and sketchbook work. There is no other significant written content (such as essays) for this course.

To successfully conclude this course, students must complete all four main projects and pass three of them.

Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam: NO

Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of or any relevant documentation regarding each submitted assignment.

Please hand in your assignments directly to your instructor. If this is not possible, you can use the drop box outside of AB 608. Assignments that are put into the drop box will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Late Assignment Policy

- All assignments should be handed in on time. Extensions may be granted in extenuating circumstances, e.g., documented illness, family emergency, or similar, but this must be both approved in advance by the instructor, and documented in writing.
- Late assignments (without an extension) incur penalties of one grade per week, excluding weekends and holidays, for a maximum of two weeks.
- After ten working days, assignments will not be accepted and a failing grade may be assigned for the course in accordance with instructor requirements for assignments.

Additional Information

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous and friendly manner, offering encouragement and respect to peers during class activities. When taking part in any field trips please be sure to show respect and gratitude to members of the public and those persons involved in the activities.

Cost of materials for this course will vary, but will likely be at least \$100.00. Some supplies are available directly from the Artstore on the 6th floor of the Art Department or from the University Bookstore in Mac Hall. Some course supplies may be purchased from the technician in the woodshop through a chit system that is initially purchased at the Artstore.

Course Activities

The Assignments and Evaluation section of this Course Outline provides a broad narrative structure for the course. Weekly homework comprises absorbing the assignment parameters, completing required exercises and daily sketchbook activity, and coming to class prepared with materials to promptly commence each studio session.

A more detailed schedule will be provided separately at the start of the course. Please note dates may vary slightly to accommodate course flexibility, potential field trips (students will be responsible for their own transportation and for any associated fees) and University/Department events, but total course contact time will remain unchanged.

Proposed Fieldwork/Special Events

Some class time will include working outside the confines of the assigned studio, but all classes will commence in the assigned space, unless otherwise noted beforehand.

Good luck with your studies and enjoy the class. Remember I'm available by office hours and appointment, and am here to help you succeed to the best of your potential and input.

Grading Method/Grading Scale:

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

Studio Procedures

You will receive a health and safety orientation in the use of the shop facilities in the department. This is mandatory for use of tools and shop space.

The creation of art can be a dirty process and a studio is only workable if everyone cooperates in keeping it clean. Out of respect and consideration for your classmates and other users of studio spaces, it is expected that everyone will participate in keeping the studio clean and tidy.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

Cell phones and pagers must be turned off and stored out of sight, except if a student or faculty member has compelling circumstances that warrant active cell phone use during class hours. These circumstances must be identified and approved by both faculty and students at the beginning of the semester or class.

Laptops may be used in class for note taking only, with the instructor's permission. Surfing the web is restricted to project work as approved by the instructor. Wireless connections should be disabled at all other times.

Email: class time and office hours are the primary contact periods for instruction and questions. Email may be used for communicating unexpected absences, arranging appointments or general questions. The instructor will endeavor to answer emails within a reasonable period of time (1-3 days) but students should not rely upon immediate responses. Course instruction does not occur via email.

Academic Accommodation

The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Academic Standing

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html>

Deferral of Exams/Term work

It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examination(s) for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with Enrolment Services if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.

For more information about deferring a final exam go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

For more information about the deferral term work go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>
http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15.pdf

F.O.I.P.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

Writing/Plagiarism

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support Services can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support> or <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. Visual art projects submitted for course credit must be produced by the student specifically for this class. Students must not submit projects if credit has or will be provided for it in another class. This includes re-worked assignments from previous or concurrent courses, unless permission is provided in writing by the instructor. Additionally, the student is asked to be mindful of using visual sources from the internet, ensuring that that material is not derived from any on-line or other available source, and that appropriate copyright permission is granted, when required.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

Student Misconduct

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Student Union

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

Student Ombudsman

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Lockers

The Art Building lockers are administered through the Student's Union's used bookstore, Bound and Copied. Lockers are rented on a first come, first served basis. Due to the shortage of lockers, and the high demand, students cannot hold more than one locker at a time. All of the details on renting a locker and your responsibilities can be found on the Locker Rental Agreement at

https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/locker_rental_agreement_2010.pdf

Lockers for all sessions can be rented through my.ucalgary.ca. Once you're in the Student Centre, click on **Other Academic Services** and choose **Locker Reservation**.

Lockers must be vacated by the end of term.

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

Portfolios and Assignments

The Department of Art will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading, or for work posted on bulletin boards in the art building.

Note - All unclaimed work will be disposed of.

Note - Studio spaces, bulletin boards and display areas need to be cleared 2 weeks after the last day of classes.

Ethics

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.

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>

Campus Security/Safewalk

Call 220-5333 anytime. Help phones are located throughout campus, parking lots and elevators; they connect directly to Campus Security - in case of emergency, press the red button.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

Emergency Evacuation

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Stop by SS102, call us at 220-3580 or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca or artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.