

Advanced Studio, Arts 480.02

Fall, 2011

Thursdays 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Professor: Gregory Spaid



Course Description (from course catalogue)

“This course is required for art majors and is designed to enable students to develop their personal artistic vision based on the foundation of intermediate studio courses. Students will be expected to produce a self-generated body of creative work based on a concentrated investigation of materials, methods, and ideas. Critiques, discussions, presentations, and field trips will provide context and feedback for this process. There will be a focus on developing the elements necessary for professional exhibition of a cohesive body of work, including: developing ideas, writing an artist's statement and resume, and perfecting presentation skills. Majors are expected to take this class and the sequel, Arts 481, with two different faculty members. Prerequisite: senior art major or permission of instructor.”

Nature of this Course

This advanced art course is a seminar, which means you as a student will play a major role in presenting material in the course. Most important will be the production and presentation of your own work. You will also prepare and present to the class one slide talk on a contemporary artist. And you will enter regularly into a conscientious critique of your work and the work of the others in the course.

Course Goals

To get you started on the path to making independent work as an artist. To give you the opportunity to develop an in-depth series or project. To inform you about contemporary art-making practice. To create exciting and meaningful works of art.

The Importance of Drawing

Drawing is fundamental to art making in all media because it helps you as an artist to get ideas out of your head into visual form. *Drawing* is a great way to start the art making process because it can be a fast and uncomplicated way to help you imagine and invent. *Drawing* can help you recapture the fun and enthusiasm you probably had for art making when you were a child. *Drawing* can help you to keep a record of your thoughts and ideas. For these reasons, and many more, we will spend time in class drawing, and I will ask you to keep a sketch book for your drawings and notes throughout the semester.

Your Role and Responsibility

Your primary role is to work steadily and intensely on your artwork. It is not easy to make the transition to working independently and generating your own ideas for your work instead of answering assignments. Your other role is to contribute to the seminar with you slide take and you thoughtful contributions to discussions and critiques.

Working Out of Class and In Your Studio

Your success in this course will rest on your ability to work hard and independently out of class and in your studio. It takes a great deal of focused time and commitment to create a successful body of artwork, and it is not something that can be done at the last minute. You will need to develop the habit of working very regularly. Hardly a day should pass without you putting in some time on your artwork.

My Role and Availability

My role as teacher of this seminar is to raise important question about art making in general and about your work in particular. To structure the course so that it is beneficial for all. To show examples of contemporary art practice to stimulate your interest and expand your knowledge. To evaluate your work in the course and assign a grade. To push you in a constructive way. I hope to see you regularly for conversations during my office hours: MWF from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

Grading

You will receive 4 grades: one after each of the 3 graded critiques and one comprehensive grade that will include your progress and participation in the course. Each grade will count 25% of your final grade in the course.

Attendance

The vitality of a small seminar depends on everyone attending every meeting. There will be no excused absences except for illness or a family emergency. If you need to take an excused absence, please reach me before the class you will miss if that is possible. Each unexcused absence will drop your final grade one grade point (for instance, from A to A-).

Academic Accommodation

If you feel that you may need some type of academic accommodation in order to participate fully in this course, please feel free to discuss your concerns with me in private and also to contact Erin Salva, Coordinator of Disability Services, at 740 427 5453 or salvae@kenyon.edu.

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Advanced Studio, Arts 480.02, Tentative Schedule for Fall 2011

- Aug 25 (Meet at Gregory Spaid's studio) Introduction / Drawing / Warm Up Assignment
- Sept 1 (Meet at Bexley Seminar Room) Drawing / Discuss Scale / Introduce yourself and your work / In-Progress Critique of Warm Up Assignment
- Sept 8 Drawing / Critique of Warm Up Assignment
- Sept 15 Drawing / Report / Discuss Top 10 List / Individual Review / Work in Studio
- Sept 22 (Greg is away attending a workshop) / Work in Studio / One-on-One Critiques
- Sept 29 Drawing / **Graded Critique** / Slide Talks 1 & 2
- Oct 6 *Visit Wexner Center exhibitions in Columbus with dinner afterward. Leave Gambier 5:00 p.m., return by 10:00 p.m.*
- Oct 13 Drawing / Report / Discuss Working in Series / Individual Reviews / Work in Studio
- Oct 20 Drawing / Slide Talks 3 & 4 / Report / Discuss Concept, Theme, Style
- Oct 27 Drawing / **Graded Critique**
- Nov 3 Drawing / Slide Talks 5 & 6 / Report / Discuss Text, Titles, Statements (your draft statement due)
- Nov 10 Drawing / Slide Talks 7 & 8 / Report / Discuss Presentation and Installation
- Nov 17 Drawing / **Graded Critique**
- Nov 24 (Thanksgiving Vacation)
- Dec 1 Discuss Professional Practices / Work in Studio / Individual Review
- Dec 8 **Final Critique**