

SCHOOL OF FINE ART AND MUSIC
Winter Semester 2016
SART*4230-01
SPECIAL TOPICS IN PAINTING AND DRAWING



TOPIC: *New Abstraction: Iconoclash*

INSTRUCTOR: Daniel Hutchinson
TIME: Monday & Wednesday, 8:30 to 11:20 am
LOCATION: Zavitz Hall rm. 312/313
OFFICE: Alexander Hall, Rm. 184
PHONE: Ext. 52990
EMAIL: dhutchin@uoguelph.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays, 2:20 – 3:30 pm

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

An advanced course which focuses on a specific theme, subject, or technique in painting. Topics may include the figure and narrative in painting, the landscape in contemporary painting, or New Abstraction.

Prerequisite(s): SART*3200

Restriction(s): Registration is limited to students registered in Art History or Studio Art specializations of the Bachelor of Arts program with an average of 70% in all ARTH and SART course attempts.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will explore the limitless possibilities for abstract painting and drawing today by addressing current topics and debates around abstraction while integrating historical context, criticism and theory. Through projects, assignments, workshops, lectures, readings, critiques, and field trips, students will develop an individual relationship to historical traditions and the ongoing vitality of abstraction and non-objective painting. Students will have the opportunity to develop a personal vocabulary of abstraction through the production of an independent body of work informed by critical perspectives on Modernism, Post Modernism and non-Western abstraction. This course aims to capture recent developments and currents in international abstraction by addressing hybridized media, expansions and de-specifications of disciplines, process-oriented abstraction, and the integration of new technologies and digital media.

Readings and group discussions will accompany each project. Individual and group critique discussions will be a regular feature of this course. Participation in discussions and critiques is essential to successful completion of this course.

NOTE: This is a 0.5 credit course. Each week, students are expected to spend approximately 4-6 hours outside of class on related course work.

UNIVERSITY LEARNING OUTCOMES

The five approved outcomes, both undergraduate and graduate are:

1. Critical and Creative Thinking
2. Literacy

3. Global Understanding
4. Communicating
5. Professional and Ethical Behaviour

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Comprehend and synthesize a set of key terms and concepts relating to contemporary painting **and drawing**.
- Engage in enriching discussions of art, theory and criticism.
- Broaden knowledge of theoretical texts, artworks and criticism.
- Formulate a clear, critical, verbal response to readings, presentations and works of art.
- Become familiar with the works of ambitious contemporary and historical artists.
- Develop analytical skills through research and presentation.
- Gain practice in communication skills – articulation, intent and meaning of one’s work through visual, verbal and written literacy.
- Improve skills for public presentation.
- Make artworks that critically and smartly engage with the traditions of painting and drawing.
- Expand knowledge of digital processes and methods through introduction and demonstration of digital software.
-

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- To develop your skills, you need to spend time actively **making**; exploring your materials. You will need to devote a minimum of five hours outside of class time to develop your work. Therefore your in-class studio time is important to use wisely, being productive.
- Hand assignments in on time. There is a late penalty for any work handed in after the due date (-10% per week). Extensions will not be granted without reasonable notification.
- You are expected to arrive on time and prepared to work in class, with materials ready to go. Your painting station set up, canvases stretched, primed and dry before class starts.
- Read your course readings thoroughly, multiple times and always before each class.
- Take accurate and detailed notes during lectures, meetings and group discussions.
- Participation includes the following: arriving on time, listening to lectures and instruction, being prepared and working in class time, sharing ideas, concepts and creative exploration and conceptual development with other students and cooperating in group critiques, analyzing and offering opinions about work in progress and listening to and being an **active participant in critique and group discussions**.
- Go to see exhibitions and be a part an active participant in the art community. Go to artist talks and openings, read art magazines and blogs (*Border Crossings, Canadian Art, Akimbo, Momus, Artforum, Parkette, Painter’s Table, etc.*).

COURSE GRADING SCHEME:

Project 1: How to Design By Accident (Chance and Colour)	20%
Project 2: Nobody Likes A Quitter (Modernism or Post Modernism)	20%
Project 3: Provisional or Process-Oriented Abstraction	20%
Project 4: Hybrids or the Expanded Field.....	20%
Research Presentation and Summary	10%
Participation	10%

(can you come up with four ambiguous and open-ended names for the projects – just so there is something more here at this stage?)

GRADING CRITERIA:

Projects will be based on the following criteria:

- The artwork and preparatory work demonstrate experimentation with materials and processes and meet professional standards.
- The artwork interprets and satisfies - or exceeds - the challenges posed by project guidelines.
- The artwork and working process are linked to the conceptual objectives of the project in meaningful ways.
- There is evidence of research and preparatory work.
- The artwork is innovative and engaging.
- The artwork and preparatory work demonstrate the development of technical skill

Critiques and participation will be based on the following criteria:

- The student regularly attends and participates in formal and informal critiques and discussions.
- The student shows active participation in class by arriving on time, listening to lectures and instruction, being prepared and working in class time, sharing ideas, concepts and creative exploration and conceptual development with other students and cooperating in group projects, analyzing and offering opinions about work in progress
- The student participates in fostering a creative and dynamic studio environment.

Research Presentation will be based on the following criteria:

- The presentation uses key terms and concepts learned in the course to support the student's understanding of the work.
- The presentation is engaging and well organised.
- The presentation uses appropriate visual aids.
- The presentation illuminates the student's work by demonstrating theoretical positioning of the student's artwork and contextual and historical awareness of precedents.

Research Summary will be based on the following criteria:

- The writing contains a concise and clear articulation of objectives in prose.
- The writing shows evidence of research.
- There is clear articulation of your conceptual position in relation to historical precedents and theoretical or philosophical frameworks.
- Demonstrated creative and critical thinking.

ASSIGNMENTS:

A Detailed Description of Assignments will be distributed during the first class.

LAB FEES:

A compulsory materials fee of \$30.00 will be charged for materials and services provided in support of required course projects. The amount will be invoiced by the Office of the Bursar and paid directly with your tuition payment – no additional payment is necessary.

THE LAB FEE WILL NOT BE REFUNDED AFTER THE THIRD WEEK OF CLASSES.

Items Provided by Lab Fee:

- Gamsol or Eco-house neutral thinner
 - ~~—~~ rags
 - Masonite, paper or illustration board for studies
 - India ink, glue, powder pigment, rubber cement
- (Field trips are billed separately now, and require an accompanying course assignment. I don't think it's worth it as a sessional to take on the extra work of a field trip. We're no longer permitted to pay for guest artists using the Lab Fee.)

Items Provided by the student:

Students will also choose their own drawing and painting materials in relation to each assignment at their discretion.

The following is a list of some important basic materials students should have at all times. Please adapt this list to meet your specific needs.

- Masking tape
- Scotch tape
- Painter's tape
- Thumbtacks/pins
- Scissors
- Utility knife (large blade for heavy-duty cutting)
- Craft knife (small blade for precision cutting)
- Pencils
- Pencil sharpener
- Pens
- Notebook/sketchbook
- Erasers
- Ruler
- Rags
- Paintbrushes (a variety, to be discussed)
- Gloves or liquid gloves
- Mediums (oil or acrylic, to be discussed)
- Palette (glass, waxed paper as needed)
- Palette knives
- An assortment of recycled containers (for water, ink and paint mixing)
- Glass jars with lids (for solvents, as needed)

- Paint (oil, acrylic, gouache, watercolor as needed)
- Drawing materials (ink, chalk, charcoal, pencil crayons, conté, oil pastels etc. as needed)
- Staple gun
- Gesso and gesso brush

PLEASE NOTE: Under no circumstances should a student be required to pay any additional monies for supplies needed to complete course assignments – excluding items listed under “Items Provided by the Student”. All supplies are to be paid for using Lab Fee monies. If you are being charged additional monies, please report to Robin McGinnis (rmcginni@uoguelph.ca) in the main office (Zavitz Hall, Rm. 201) immediately.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THE STUDENT

E-mail Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <mail.uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. [See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.](#)

Drop Date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is **Friday, 11 March 2016**. For [regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar](#).

Copies of out-of-class assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible. For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email csd@uoguelph.ca or see the [website](#).

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Each student at the University of Guelph has rights which carry commensurate responsibilities that involve, broadly, being a civil and respectful member of the University community. [The Rights and Responsibilities are detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar](#)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor. [The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar](#).

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The [Academic Calendars](#) are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.