

The University of Western Ontario - Department of Visual Arts
September-December- 2016

Course: VAS 2282A Title: BFA Honors Studio Seminar I

Location: VAC 247 Time: Friday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Instructor: Prof. Kim Moodie

Email: komoodie@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Wednesday: 1 to 2 p.m. Office: VAC 118

Phone: 519-661-2111 ext.86195

Course Description:

Visual Arts 2282A is a second year studio/theory seminar course required for students taking an Honors Specialization in Studio Arts. A focus of the course is the development of an informed studio practice in the context of an introduction to various methods and practices of professional artists. Structured around technical workshops, seminars, writing assignments and critiques this course is intended to assist students to begin preparations for the portfolio review required for admission into VAS 4430 Practicum (BFA Graduating Studio Seminar course).

Learning Outcome:

- [a] Development of a disciplined, objective and experimental studio practice in which a considered art projects are realized
- [b] Research relative to an awareness of important contemporary artists and methodologies
- [c] Awareness of operative activities that foster the advancement of a professional artist, i.e. graduate school applications, grants for artists, documentation, artist statements, curriculum vitae, a comprehension of exhibition venues and their relativity to diverse art practices, public art lectures and field trips to galleries.

Class Format:

The class is held once a week for four hours. The majority of classes are structured in a seminar style where active participation in various discussions and workshops will be crucial in achieving a positive learning outcome. Besides in-class meetings, students should attend visiting artist talks at the school and visit galleries on their own in order to successfully complete assignments throughout the term. In order to achieve a successful learning outcome, it is your responsibility to read or make available all the required readings and research before the seminars and workshops. Two formal critiques will occur in which the student studio projects will be discussed and evaluated.

Requirements and Assignments:

Students are expected to attend all classes and complete all assignments. Punctuality

and attendance is absolutely noted as an indication of the student's seriousness of intent in relation to course study. University policy states that an instructor can potentially refuse to grade the work of students who miss more than 15% of classes. Students who miss a significant amount of class time due to medical reasons or bereavement should make an appointment with the Academic Counselor in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities Office in University College, or in the offices of the student's faculty. The Counselor and the instructor will then discuss how the student would fulfill course requirements. Late assignments will automatically lose 5% of their grade and then 10% per week. Assignments will not be accepted 3 weeks past due date and not at all after the end of the course.

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counseling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf> [downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading]

Specific Policy on assignments totaling less than 10%: Accommodation for missed assignments, or attendance, totaling less than 10%, due to medical reasons, may be arranged with the instructor as long as the student contacts the instructor no later than the day after the assignment or attendance is due.

Mental Health Policy:

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Suggested Useful Material:

Subscription to one Canadian art journal/ magazine from the following options: BlackFlash, Border Crossings, C Magazine, or a Public Art active email account .

RESOURCES:

On-line resources The Centre for Contemporary Canadian Art
<http://www.ccca.ca/start.html?languagePref=en&>

Art listings, journals, blogs Akimbo (Canada) <http://www.akimbo.ca/> Artforum (International) <http://www.artforum.com> e-Flux (International) <http://www.e-flux.com>

Galleries in London, Ontario.

Museum London www.londonmuseum.on.ca 421 Ridout Street North (at Dundas)

The McIntosh Gallery www.mcintoshgallery.ca on campus approaching Social Science building.

The Forest City Gallery www.forestcitygallery.com at 258 Richmond Street (near Horton St.)

The ARTS Project www.artsproject.ca 205 Dundas St. (by Central Library)

Michael Gibson Gallery www.gibsongallery.com 157 Carling Street (near Richmond)

Parker Branch www.parkerbranch.ca , directly next to the forest City Gallery

DNA Artspace <http://www.dnaartspace.com/> 123 Dundas St. (East of Talbot)

Satellite Art Gallery, beside the DNA.

Art Now!

Contemporary Artist Profiles Art: 21 DVD – you can view this DVD in our Visual Arts Resource Centre or at: <http://www.pbs.org/art21/> Vision Database (high quality jpeg image files): see Digital Resources Technician in the Visual Arts Digital Resource Centre (VAC 241D)

Weldon Library has a good, continually updated collection on contemporary artists.

Speaker Series: Thursday Evenings at 7pm, NCB 113 (check for dates throughout the term)

Course Assignments and Evaluation Breakdown

Following is a list of assignments and their relative percentage of the course grade. For each assignment students will receive an outline defining its aims, parameters and precise breakdown.

1. Two Studio Projects as assigned by the instructor. [15% each]. There will be a handout describing each of these in the first two classes.
2. An independent studio project organized by the student. {25%}
3. Presentation on a Contemporary artist, concept or theme on only artists active in the 21st century [15%]
4. Dossier [15%].
5. Attendance and Participation [15%].

*Attendance: Attendance records are kept for all students. Grades for attendance will be calculated accordingly: Perfect attendance= 5%, 1 absence= 4.5%, 2= 4%, 3=3.5%, 4 = 2.5%, 5=2.%. This scale relates to all classes including the first one. Note 4 absences in a semester could lead to being debarred from the class. 2 Lates=1 Absence. Students missing more than half a class on a given day are considered absent. (See course requirements for more detail regarding attendance policy)