

Department of Visual Arts
Western University

Foundation of Visual Arts VAS 1020

Welcome to Foundation of Visual Arts at Western. This course outline and syllabus contain pertinent information about the Lecture and Studio Lab components of VAS 1020 including art materials and a timeline of the assignments and media that will be covered. You will also find important information about learning outcomes, Western University's Grade Descriptors and your responsibilities as a student in VAS 1020. Please read this document thoroughly and refer to it throughout the year.

Tricia Johnson

Calendar Description

A studio course designed to introduce students to the techniques and processes of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media; the formal and material concepts, which act as the foundation of direct studio practice, will be emphasized.

Please Note: Students are responsible for ensuring they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no fee adjustment. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Course Objectives

This course is an introductory studio survey where students will learn, discuss and investigate the fundamental formal, material and aesthetic concepts of art making. Such concepts will be discussed in Lecture and will be investigated through the creation of visual exercises and artworks in the Studio Lab Assignments and Sketchbook Assignments. The course focuses primarily on two-dimensional media, but three-dimensional and time-based disciplines will be explored. Students are also encouraged to take full advantage of all Visiting Artist talks presented by the department, exhibitions at the ArtLAB and events in the Visual Arts Department as a member of our community in Visual Arts.

Course Information

Instructor: Professor Tricia Johnson
Office: Room 215, John Labatt Visual Art Centre
519-661-2111 x 85721
tcjohnso@uwo.ca

**Professor
Office Hours:** Monday 3:15 to 4:00 pm
Tuesday 1:30 to 2:30 pm
Wednesday 12:00 am to 1:00pm
Or by appointment

Lecture: Middlesex College (MC) room 110
Monday 2:30 – 3:30pm

Studio Labs: John Labatt Visual Arts Centre room 302
Studio Lab -002 Monday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -003 Tuesday, 8:30 – 11:30 am (room 302)
Studio Lab -004 Tuesday, 11:30 – 2:30 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -005 Tuesday, 2:30 – 5:30 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -006 Tuesday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -007 Wednesday, 8:30 – 11:30 pm (room 302) – Tricia Johnson
Studio Lab -008 Wednesday, 11:30 – 2:30 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -009 Wednesday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 302)

Teaching Assistants:

Studio Lab 002 –
Studio Lab 003 –
Studio Lab 004 –
Studio Lab 005 –
Studio Lab 006 –
Studio Lab 008 –
Studio Lab 009 –

Textbook referred to in Lecture: *Art Fundamentals: Theory and Practice, 12th Edition* Ocvirk, Stinson, Wigg, Bone, Cayton (Text recently out of print)

OWL: Training: <https://owl.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

Owl Course Site: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

Learning Outcomes

Students will acquire a fundamental knowledge of the basic formal concepts and vocabulary of form, as presented and discussed during the VAS 1020 Lecture. Such concepts create the foundation for the design of artwork in 2D, 3D and time-based media.

Students will explore and apply this fundamental knowledge, discussed in the Lecture, in the creation of exercises and assignments, in the Studio Labs. Further independent exploration of formal and visual concepts will continue in the Sketchbook Assignments.

Students will recognize familiar and challenging formal approaches to subject matter throughout the course by applying different formal and technical strategies when creating subject matter observed directly from life, subject matter created through self-imaginative exploration and subject matter appropriated from popular culture.

Students will analyze their knowledge and experience in creating their studio assignments by discussing their own artwork and the artwork of others during Critique and discussion of the artwork in the Studio Labs. The Critique orally assesses how each artwork responds to the specific assignment objectives. Various Critique strategies will be employed by the Teaching Assistant for students to become more familiar with this discipline specific method of evaluation.

Important Information for Lecture

- **Lecture is the most important element of this course.** During Lecture, all the information about the Studio Lab and Sketchbook Assignments will be presented, discussed and demonstrated. Take good notes, ask questions and visit Tricia during her office hours if you need more clarification.
- **Full attendance is mandatory for the Lecture.** Under university regulations, if someone misses more than 15% of their classes (*15% is equivalent to missing 8 hours of Lecture and/or Studio Lab, due to absence or lateness, or a combination of both, per semester*) without written corroboration for health or bereavement, students can be debarred from handing in assignments for assessment and grading. Note that if a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and be debarred; I will inform your Teaching Assistant to stop accepting assignments and such assignments will receive a mark of 0 (zero). Fair warning will be given through email, first by the TA and then by me, Prof. Johnson, to students if lack of attendance is persistent.
- **Do not come late!** Lateness is disrespectful to the instructor and your fellow students. If you do come late to the lecture, please come in the rear doors quietly.
- **Be respectful!** With 240+ students attending the Lecture, it can be a very noisy room if students chat with each other as I am speaking. It is also very disruptive to leave Lecture before I am finished. Out of respect for your time, I will start the lecture right at 2:30 – I will “Start with Art!” As soon as you see the first artwork on the screen, Lecture has begun.
- **Listen during Lecture.** All the information you need to know is presented in Lecture. You will not receive this information from your Teaching Assistant or on OWL so it is imperative you listen.
- I promise to finish promptly at 3:15, leaving you more than enough time to get to your next class.

Important Information for Studio Lab

- **Full attendance is mandatory for the Studio Lab.** Under university regulations, if someone misses more than 15% of their classes (*15% is equivalent to missing 8 hours of Lecture and/or Studio Lab, due to absence or lateness, or a combination of both, per semester*) without written corroboration for health or bereavement, students can be debarred from participation in final evaluations and/or assignments. Note that if a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and be debarred; I will inform your Teaching Assistant to stop accepting assignments and such assignments will receive a mark of 0 (zero). Fair warning will be given through email, first by the TA and then by me, Prof. Johnson, to students if lack of attendance is persistent.
- **Attendance** is taken during Studio Lab by your Teaching Assistant in order to cross-reference submission of Studio Lab Assignments.

- **Your Teaching Assistant supervises the Studio Lab.** It is your responsibility to attend Lecture to understand the Studio Lab Assignment you will be creating. Your TA will not reiterate information from Lecture.
- **Be on time and be prepared to work.** Arrive for your Studio Lab BEFORE it begins, i.e. 5 minutes before class starts so that you can go to your locker, find a seat, set-up a drawing donkey and begin your Studio Lab assignment immediately.
- **Breaks.** There will be one 10-15 minute break during each Studio Lab, which will be given by the Teaching Assistant, with their discretion as to when the break should occur. You can continue to work through the break.
- **Locking door to 302.** After the Studio Lab has begun, it is often necessary that your Teaching Assistant will lock the doors to 302 (or 206), so students will not be disturbed as they are working. If you have come to class late, you will have to wait until break to enter Room 302 or 206. Locking the studio is mandatory when students are drawing from the model.
- **Bring your art materials.** Please listen in Lecture to ensure you are informed of what is happening during Studio Lab and what supplies are needed. Western Visual Arts does not supply students with art materials of which students are expected to purchase themselves.
- ***If you do not have art materials for a Studio Lab Assignment, in which you are expected to purchase, you will forfeit the assignment.***
- **Be respectful of one another and wait to take your turn.** There will be times during Studio Lab where you have to share equipment. Cutting the line, grabbing equipment from another student or any other disruptive and rude behavior is not acceptable. Your TA will ask you to refrain from such behavior; if the behavior continues, you will be asked to leave the Studio Lab and Prof. Johnson will be informed.
- **Do not chat with your neighbors while drawing from the still-life or the model.** Your conversation can be distracting to your fellow students as well as disrupting the model's concentration during a pose.
- **Headphone/earbud use in your Studio Lab.** We have a "one ear budded/ one ear free" rule in VAS 1020 so that you can be aware of your environment. Leave your noise-cancelling headphones in your backpack.
- **Put away your cell phone when drawing from the model.** Out of respect for the model, all cell phones must be put away for the entire Studio Lab, including during break. If you must look at your cell phone during break, please leave the studio first. This rule helps you too. You will be more focused on your artwork if you are not constantly distracted by your phone.
- **Be prepared to clean up after at the end of every Studio Lab.**
- **Expect to leave room 302, 10 minutes before the next Studio Lab** so that the TA and students for the next Studio Lab can get organized and start promptly. For example, if your Studio Lab finishes at 11:30, you need to leave at 11:20.

Course Requirements

- Students are responsible for making themselves aware of all assignments, procedures and due dates. It is the student's complete responsibility to keep informed by listening intently in Lecture and referring to the Syllabus: Timeline in the Course Outline. All assignments, procedures and due dates are in the Syllabus: Timeline and will be discussed thoroughly in Lecture.
- Students are expected to complete all assignments, both Studio Lab Assignments and Sketchbook Assignments, on due dates.

- Students are expected to create Studio Lab and Sketchbook assignments fulfilling specific assignment objectives; assignments submitted that are not following assignment objectives will be graded as 0 (zero).
- Students are expected to purchase the Art Kit at Bijan's Art Studio or have the equivalent materials in the kit. Visual Arts does not supply art materials to students except for materials mass purchased by the instructor through the Studio Lab fee.
- Students are also expected to pay the \$30 VAS 1020 Studio Lab fee. This fee includes safety equipment glasses as well as communal supplies bought for everyone, such as illustration board, Kraft paper, bamboo skewers, glue sticks, Masonite board and more. If you drop the course, the price of the safety equipment cannot be reimbursed. If you have not paid the fee, you will not receive any communal supplies.

STUDIO LAB ASSIGNMENTS DUE DATE POLICY:

- Studio Lab assignments are created during scheduled Studio Lab time and are due at the end of Studio Lab. Failure to attend a Studio Lab where an assignment is created and due will result in a grade of 0 (zero).
- Students cannot create Studio Lab Assignments outside of Studio Lab time and submit at the end of their Studio Lab. If you are not present to make the Assignment in Studio Lab, it will not be accepted for marking and will receive a grade of 0 (zero).
- Students can seek academic accommodation for missed Studio Lab assignments with their academic advisor in their home faculty if they have appropriate documentation.
- Students cannot attend another Studio Lab if they have missed a Lab where an assignment was created and due. Students can only attend the Studio Lab they are registered in.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION:

- 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 cannot grant academic accommodation.
- A student who cannot complete assignments totaling less than 10% for the whole course, due to medical reasons, must also apply to the Academic Counseling Office of their home Faculty and PROVIDEDOCUMENTATION. The instructor will NOT accept any missed assignments, whether totaling more than 10% or less than 10%, unless the student has arrange accommodations through the Dean's office of their Home Faculty.
- ***All assignments in VAS 1020 are worth less than 10% of the final grade*** and therefore need academic accommodation if missed.
- Please contact Professor Tricia Johnson after she has approved your academic accommodations in order to discuss a new due date. Generally, new due dates will not exceed 2 weeks after the assigned due date in the Syllabus: Timeline.

OUTSTANDING ASSIGNMENTS WITH ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION POLICY:

- Outstanding assignments with academic accommodation, not received on the Final Day of University Classes for the Academic Year, as listed in the Academic Calendar, will be given a mark of 0 (zero).

SKETCHBOOK ASSIGNMENTS POLICIES:

- Each Sketchbook Assignment will be created individually by students, in their sketchbook. Assignments will be photographed digitally, as JPEGs, and the digital photograph will be submitted under the Assignment Tool on OWL.
- Sketchbook Assignments should be photographed with good light, be in focus and photographed with the outside edges of the sketchbook visible. Students must upload a file size large enough in order to be assessed.
- If a file other than a JPEG is submitted, or a file is too small, too blurry or photographed in very poor light in order to be fully assessed, the assignment will receive a grade of 0 (zero).
- No filtering or Photoshop adjustments of photographs should occur unless specified by Prof. Johnson and the assignment objectives. If such filtering and Photoshop adjustments occur, your assignment will receive a grade of 0 (zero).
- Each Sketchbook Assignment is due at **11:55pm** on the specified due date and will be submitted on OWL through Assignments. **Late Assignments will be accepted from 11:56 pm until 11:55 am on the next day.** Late Assignments will have 0.5 or 1.0 points deducted from the mark and will not receive the possible full 2 or 5 points.
- **After 11:55 am**, no Sketchbook Assignments will be accepted unless the student has received Academic Accommodation through their Academic Advisor in their home Faculty.
- I only mark Sketchbook Assignments submitted on OWL, by the timed dates. If you do not submit your assignment on OWL you forfeit the assignment and will receive a zero. I do not accept Sketchbook Assignments by email, attached to a discussion link on our OWL site or in any other manner. If I receive such a submission, the assignment will receive a zero.
- Remember to submit Sketchbook Assignments early as OWL becomes busy from 10pm to midnight.
- Confirm you have submitted your assignment by checking your UWO email as well as our OWL site. Failure to confirm you submitted could result in non-submission status = 0. If it is not posted to OWL, I cannot mark your Sketchbook assignment and you will forfeit the assignment and receive a grade of 0 (zero).
- If Prof. Johnson has a question about a Sketchbook assignment submission, Prof. Johnson may contact you to hand in the physical assignment in your sketchbook in order to assess it. If you cannot produce your physical Sketchbook Assignment for assessment, for whatever reason, such as you have disposed of it, the assignment will receive a grade of zero.
- **Purchasing Artwork to submit for Sketchbook Assignments or seeking assistance from outside sources or other individuals to create your Sketchbook Assignments will result in a grade of zero (0) and could be considered a possible Scholastic Offense.**
- Similar Sketchbook Submissions, for any of the Sketchbook Assignments, which are created by two or more students in the course collaborating rather than working individually, will be assigned a grade of zero (0).

SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES:

- Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offense at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf
- Every Studio Lab and Sketchbook Assignment must be created specifically for the assignment, following the objectives. Previously created artwork cannot be submitted to VAS 1020 for assessment and such a submission could be considered an Scholastic Offense and/or Plagiarism.

- With the onset of Google Image Reverse Search, it is very easy for me to search any Sketchbook Assignment online as to whether you have created the assignment yourself.
- There are instances in VAS 1020 when you may partner with another student to create an assignment or when you might need to ask for a “studio assistant” to help with a technical issue, such as taking a photo while you are posing in the shot. However, it is expected that all other Studio Lab and Sketchbook Assignments are created individually by the student-artist without any further assistance. For example, students cannot share paint that is mixed for the colour wheel exercises or use the same props and wardrobe for the Cindy Sherman Sketchbook assignment. If such assistance is given, without consultation with Prof. Johnson, **THESE ASSIGNMENTS WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO (0)** and could be considered a Scholastic Offense. If you have any questions about this, please ask Prof. Johnson.
- If you have any questions regarding any assignment, please consult with Prof. Johnson. I am always happy to clarify any questions, concerns and to offer advice before an assignment is due.

Departmental Policies

- **Student Conduct:** All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.
- **Attendance:**
A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams, or participation in final studio evaluations. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.
- **Prerequisites:**
You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.
- **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism, which may be defined as “The act or an instance of copying or stealing another’s words or ideas and attributing them as one’s own,” will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from *Black’s Law Dictionary*, 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170). (Refer to Website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.) This includes presenting the visual or aural work of another creator as your own. Visual or Aural Plagiarism may involve both hand-based media such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, as well as digital media such as photography, video and sound. It includes work subsequently manipulated or transferred between different media, as well as self-plagiarism – work submitted for assignments previously produced and graded for another course. Similar to textual plagiarism, all student work involving the visual or aural work of others must be appropriately cited/identified whether in print or orally. Failure to do so will lead to similar academic penalties as those identified in Western’s Academic Calendar.

- **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. The instructor or department cannot grant academic accommodation. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments.
- **Mental Health:**
“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.”
- **Building Access:**
The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:00pm each night Monday to Friday. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00pm-5:00pm unless otherwise posted; access by side entrances only. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:00pm and 5:00pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours
- **Permission re: Promotion**
You grant permission for Western University to reproduce your name, information describing your artwork, representations of your work and any other information you have provided for the purpose of display, promotion and publicity either now or in the future.
By installing your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you grant Western University an irrevocable, perpetual, royalty-free world-wide license to photograph your artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, Flickr, Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Artlab Gallery or Cohen Commons. As the area is open to the public, students, faculty, staff and other visitors will not be prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.
- **Artwork Installation Liability Release**
You understand that the area where your artwork will be hanging or displayed is unsupervised and is in a part of the building that may be open to the public, day and evening, whether or not the building is open. Western University accepts no responsibility for damage to, or loss of, artwork at any time while on display or while being transported to or from the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. By displaying your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you accept all risk of loss or damage to your artwork. Western University does not provide insurance for the artwork on exhibition. **If you wish to insure artwork, it is your responsibility to do so.**
- **Removal**
Western University reserve the right to dispose of artwork not picked up by April 15th of each year.
- **Please remember:**
One of the most important resources for course counseling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Prof. Cody Barteet (tel. 519-661-

3440; vaugc@uwo.ca). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty. Faculty of Arts and Humanities is located in University College, Room UC 2230 (Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the counselors for A&H).

- The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; www.sdc.uwo.ca) offers a wide range of useful services including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.
- The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: www.lib.uwo.ca.
- Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program that offer part-time positions on campus for Western students. Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail, finaid@uwo.ca; or check out their website at http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Students are expected to spend a minimum 1-hour outside of class for every one hour in class towards fulfilling course requirements; in VAS 1020 this pertains to the Sketchbook Assignments.
- Some sessions may involve drawing from the nude (male or female) as a required component of the course; Students wishing to be excused from drawing from the model must consult Prof. Johnson. With permission, such student can create alternative assignments that take the equivalent amount of time spent with the model. The student to be excused will attend the beginning of Studio Lab with the model, in order to receive instruction, then will proceed to another area in the Visual Arts building to work on the alternate assignment. The student will hand in their assignment at the end of the Studio Lab when drawing from the model is finished.

The anti-requisite for this course is VAS 020 and VAS 1025

Students admitted to VAS 1020 may still enter the BFA program (Bachelor of Fine Arts, Honors Specialization in Studio Arts) **for possible acceptance into a limited number of spaces for the following year** provided they meet the admission requirements listed in the Academic Calendar and submit a portfolio of work for approval toward the end of the second term of the course.

Evaluation

- Assignments to be marked will be assessed and given a number grade based on specific grading rubrics pertaining to individual assignments objectives. Assignments will only be assessed using the grading rubrics and if an assignment is submitted that did not follow the assignment objectives and grading rubric, it will be given a grade of 0 (zero).
- Grading Rubrics can be found on our OWL site under the Grading Rubrics tool.
- All grades will be posted to OWL under the Gradebook Tool.

- Student's final course grades will be determined by combining the first and second term grades.
- The Gradebook will be hidden the following day of the last day of University scheduled classes in April in order for final marks to be submitted to the Registrar. Students will receive their final grade for VAS 1020 from the Registrar and the Gradebook will be available for view the first week of May.

Grades for Artwork will reflect the student's ability to clearly demonstrate

- Student's success in accordance with general course objectives (as above) and specific assignment objectives.
- Completion and quality of assignments
- Understanding of project concepts
- Degree of inventiveness and ambition of assignments
- Participation and commitment to process

Western University's Grade Descriptors:

A+ /90-100%	Outstanding work; one could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A / 80 – 89%	Superior work that is clearly above average
B / 70 – 79%	Good work, meeting all requirements and eminently satisfactory
C / 60 – 69%	Competent work, meeting requirements
D / 50 – 59%	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F /below 50%	Unsatisfactory work which shows insufficient effort or comprehension

Visual Arts Studio Grade Descriptors:

90-100 (Outstanding, A+) - The studio work shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated analysis and synthesis involving complex theoretical and conceptual thinking are demonstrated. Mastery of complex ideas is immediately evident. The studio work has originality, clarity and ambition. The project is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is exemplary.

80-89 (Excellent, A) - The studio work shows originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. The work is clearly focused and intelligently presented. Mastery of complex ideas is demonstrated. The studio work has clarity and ambition. The quality of the studio production immediately engages the viewer. The studio work has been sufficiently developed and demonstrates mastery of techniques so that results are compelling. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is impressive.

75-79 (Very Good, B+) - The studio work shows above average analysis, critical thinking and independent thought. It demonstrates a clear awareness of the parameters of the assignment and a very good attempt to respond creatively to them. The work demonstrates reasonable depth and/or breadth and engages in a production that is appropriate to the level of the course. The quality of studio work engages the viewer and demonstrates above-average mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is very good.

70-74 (Good, B) - The studio work shows a satisfactory attempt at analysis and critical thinking. It shows a good attempt to respond to assignment parameters. The work demonstrates some depth and/or breadth, making references to appropriate course material/art context. The studio production engages the viewer and demonstrates a sufficient mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is satisfactory.

60-69 (Competent, C) - The studio work demonstrates adequate engagement with the project. It shows an attempt to respond to assignment parameters but does so at a very basic level that lacks creativity. Engagement with studio production demonstrates basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is competent.

50-59 (Marginal, D) - The studio work shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The studio work waivers in its attempt to respond to assignment parameters and tends to be simplistic. Engagement with studio production demonstrates less than a basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is less than satisfactory.

Below 50 (Unacceptable, F) - The studio work demonstrates a failure to comprehend/engage the topic. The studio work is incomplete and lacks redeeming creative merit. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is unacceptable.

Final Grade will be comprised as follows:

Studio Lab Assignments	70%
Drawing assignments = 25% of final grade	
Printmaking assignment = 7% of final grade	
Sculpture assignment = 7% of final grade	
Audio assignment = 6% of final grade	
Video assignment = 6% of final grade	
Painting assignments = 19% of final grade	
Sketchbook Assignment submissions through OWL	30%
10 assignments – 4 at 2%, 5 at 3%, 1 at 7% of final grade	

VAS 1020 Materials and Safety Studio Lab Fee

There is a \$30.00 materials and safety equipment lab fee that will be collected at the beginning of the year, during your Studio Lab. The fee will cover communal materials for assignments and safety equipment for student use and other materials ordered for the Studio Labs that students could not easily purchase individually. The fee is DUE by the 3rd Studio Lab. Please pay your TA with cash or cheque to Western University – Visual Arts.

VAS 1020 Art Kit at Bijan's Art Studio

- I have created a **VAS 1020 art materials kit with the assistance of Bijan's Art Studio** (Richmond Street at Mill Street, 519- 439-1340)

- This is a highly recommended kit and ***includes all the art supplies/materials needed to create all the Studio Lab and Sketchbook Assignments*** in VAS 1020.
- The only other necessary supply that must be purchased is a ***sketchbook***. It is your choice as to which format you prefer.
- PLEASE SEE OUR OWL SITE – ART MATERIALS TAB – FOR A FULL LIST OF THE SUPPLIES/MATERIALS.
- **PLEASE NOTE: If you already have the art materials you need for the assignments in the course, by all means use the supplies you have! Feel free to discuss supplies with Prof. Johnson**

When purchasing your kit, please take the time at Bijan's to insure all your materials are included!

- We have another art supply store in London (however, they do not have a VAS 1020 materials kit) **Curry's Art Supplies** (Wharncliffe at Southdale, 519-649-4999)

Syllabus: Timeline for the Year (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Week of September 10

Lecture – Introducing course, Course Outline overview, Syllabus/Timeline overview, OWL information, Q & A about VAS 1020; Julia Beltrano Technical Manager presenting Visual Arts Building protocol, health and safety information

Studio Labs – Meet your TA, Studio Lab expectations, Locker distribution and time to shop for Art Supplies at Bijan's Art Studio

Week of September 17

Lecture – Line as graphic invention, Different line weights, Sighting for Proportion; Studio Lab Assignment Objectives with demonstration of techniques; Discussion & demonstration of Sketchbook #1 (***Sketchbook assignment #1 (2%) – Introduce Yourself with a Visual Collection – Due: September 24, 2:30 at Lecture – Please hand into Tricia***)

Studio Labs – Still-life drawing, focusing on line quality, sighting & proportion (***Contour Line Drawing Due: 3% of final mark***)

Studio Lab Materials – Drawing Board, newsprint, graphite pencils, eraser

Week of September 24

Lecture – Hand in Sketchbook #1 to Tricia; Value: theory and practice; Picture Plane, Baseline in Composition, Studio Lab Assignment Objectives with demonstration of techniques

Studio Labs – Value drawing focusing on additive/subtractive technique (***Value Drawing Due: 3% of final mark***) **Lab Material Fee \$30 cash/cheque DUE**

Studio Lab Materials – Drawing Board, newsprint, charcoal, vinyl eraser & additional erasers (Messy studio lab! Wear black or “studio clothes”)

Week of October 1

Lecture – History of drawing from the model, model etiquette, Discussion of Studio Lab Objectives & visual strategies drawing from the model; Discussion & Demonstration of Sketchbook #2 (***Sketchbook Assignment #2 (3% of final mark) – Inventive Figures – Due: October 15, 11:55pm on OWL***)

Studio Labs – 1st class with model, large group drawing exercise and shorter pose drawings focusing on technique (**1 Gesture drawing Due: 2% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – Drawing Board, newsprint, graphite pencils, conte

Week of October 8

No Lecture – Thanksgiving Monday – University closed

Fall Reading Week - NO CLASSES October 8 - 12

Week of October 15

Lecture – Human Proportion, Sighting the model, Figure/Ground, Positive/Negative Space, Studio Lab Assignment Objectives with demonstration, Discussion & Demonstration of Sketchbook #3 (**Sketchbook assignment #3 (2%) – Value to Create Space–Due: October 29, 11:55pm on OWL**)

Studio Labs – 2nd class with model, contour, and composition, proportion; (**1 Model drawing Due: 2% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – Drawing Board, newsprint and all drawing materials

Week of October 22

Lecture – Composition and Balance; Mark-making to create value and space, Studio Lab Assignment Objectives with demonstration

Studio Labs – 3rd class with model, contour, mark-making, composition, proportion; (**1 Model drawing Due: 2% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – Drawing Board, newsprint and all drawing materials

Week of October 29

Lecture – Linear Perspective, history and concepts, Studio Lab Assignment Objectives with demonstration of techniques and visual rules of linear perspective; Discussion & Demonstration of Sketchbook #4 (**Sketchbook Assignment #4 (3%) Fast Drawing –Due: November 12, 11:55pm**)

Studio Lab – Boxes and Planes with One-Point perspective (**Inked Boxes and Planes drawing Due: 3% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – Drawing Board, Mechanical Pencil, Eraser, Metal Ruler, and Illustration Board (supplied with paid 1020 Safety and Material Fee)

Week of November 5

Lecture – Perspective continued & other approaches to spatial representation; Process and visual strategies for Studio Lab assignment with demonstration of techniques

Studio Labs – Linear Perspective drawing of inside Visual Arts building (**Linear Perspective Drawing Due: 3% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – Drawing Board, Mechanical Pencil, Eraser, Metal Ruler, and Illustration Board (supplied with paid 1020 Safety and Material Fee)

Week of November 12

Lecture–Equivocal Space; Observation vs Imagination; Studio Lab Assignment Objectives

Studio Labs – 1st of 2 Studio Lab to work on Alternative Reality drawing

Studio Lab Materials – Canson Colorline paper (provided – one sheet), all drawing supplies, drawing board, newsprint and sketchbook

Week of November 19

Lecture – Subject, Form, Content Discussion; Visual Strategies to Finish Alternative Reality Drawing; Discussion and Demonstration of Sketchbook #5 (**Sketchbook Assignment #5 Drawing from artwork in ArtLAB Gallery (2%) Due: December 3, 11:55pm) AJE exhibition opens November 15**)

Studio Labs – Finishing Drawing assignment (*Drawing Due: 7% of final mark*)

Week of November 26

Lecture – Harmony & Variety, Repetition and Pattern; Printmaking as a Medium, Studio Lab Assignment Objectives, Printmaking demonstration of techniques; Safety tips for lino cutter

Studio Labs – Linoleum Block Design and Cutting

Studio Lab Materials – Linoleum Block, Lino Cutting Tool with Grooves, Pencil, Sharpie Marker, 1st studio lab of 2 for assignment

Please use caution when carving – carve away from your body

Week of December 3

Lecture – Inking and Printing demonstration

Studio Labs – Linoleum Block Printing Day (*Prints Due: 7% of final mark*)

Studio Lab Materials – Carved & Finished Linoleum Block, Canson Colorline paper (provided – one sheet each!) newsprint, green painters tape, disposable gloves provided by you! (Messy day, wear studio clothes)

One sheet of Canson per person -Print on newsprint first.

Winter Semester

Week of January 7

Lecture – Sculpture material definitions and concepts, Studio Lab Assignment Objectives with demonstration of techniques and methodologies/process with bamboo

Studio Labs – Bamboo skewer sculpture, 1st of 2 studio labs for assignment

Studio Lab Materials – Safety glasses, mdf base & bamboo skewers (provided), glue gun and glue sticks, scissors, olfa cutting knife, pliers (provided)

Students with long hair, please pull hair back when using Drill

Week of January 14

Lecture – Continuation of Sculpture, Texture in 2D and 3D, Discussion & Demonstration of Sketchbook #6 (*Sketchbook assignment #6 (3%) – Texture Photo –Due: January 28, 11:55pm on OWL*)

Studio Labs – Bamboo skewer & wood sculpture, 2nd of 2 studio labs for assignment (*Sculpture Due: 7% of final mark*)

Studio Lab Materials – Safety equipment, working drawing, mdf base & bamboo skewers (provided)

Week of January 21

Lecture – Sound and Audio as Art; working with a partner; Audio capture collection requirements

Studio Labs – Studio Lab partners, Audio Capture (*Audio captures Due: 2% of final mark download to Dropbox*)

Studio Lab Materials – To be discussed in Lecture

Week of January 28

Lecture – Audio Art objectives; using Audacity or Garage Band; how to upload on OWL, Discussion & Demonstration of Sketchbook #7 (*Sketchbook assignment #7 (2%)–Due: Feb 11, 11:55pm on OWL*)

Studio Labs – Audio Assignment; editing and finalizing audio assignment (*Audio Art Due: 4% of Final Mark. Upload to Dropbox*)

Studio Lab Materials – To be discussed in Lecture

Week of February 4

Lecture –Discussing GIF as a Medium, GIF Art objectives, demonstration of GIF making process; Best GIF Makers

Studio Labs – Creating storyboard, planning and organization (**Storyboard Due: 2% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – as discussed in lecture

Week of February 11

Lecture –Visual Strategies for Video, Discussion & Demonstration of Sketchbook #8 (**Sketchbook assignment #8 (3%) Due: February 25, 11:55pm on OWL**)

Studio Labs – Finishing GIF assignment (**GIF Due: 4% of final mark – Upload to OWL Dropbox**)

Studio Lab Materials – as discussed in lecture

Week of February 18

Conference Week – **NO CLASSES February 18 – 22**, University Closed February 18, Family Day (*Reading for after Spring Reading Week* – posted on OWL)

Week of February 25

Lecture – Colour Theory, basics and core concepts; Painting as a Medium; Studio Lab assignment objectives, Discussion & Demonstration of Sketchbook #9 (**Sketchbook assignment #9 (3%) Due: March 11, 11:55pm on OWL**)

Studio Labs – Painting color wheel and color exercises (**Colour Wheel and Value gradation Due: 3% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – Watercolor block, acrylic paint, masking tape and all painting supplies

Week of March 4

Lecture – Colour Theory vs. Colour Reality, Colour Schemes, Studio Lab Objectives for 19th century Reproduction painting with demonstration

Studio Labs – Painting from Reproductions of Famous Paintings (**Two 19th Century painting Translations Due: 3% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – Watercolor block, acrylic paint, masking tape and all painting supplies

Week of March 11

Lecture – Appropriation / Translation/ Reproduction/Forgery discussion; Studio Lab Objectives for 20th century Reproduction painting with demonstration, Discussion & Demonstration of Sketchbook #10 (**Sketchbook assignment #10 (7%) –Due: March 25, 11:55pm on OWL**)

Studio Labs – Painting from Reproductions of Famous Paintings (**Two 20th Century painting Translations Due: 3% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – Watercolor block, acrylic paint, masking tape and all painting supplies

Week of March 18

Lecture – Still Life Painting Objectives with Extensive demonstration of process and techniques

Studio Labs – Still – Life Painting Assignment, 1st of 3 Studio Labs for assignment, painting negative space and tablecloth (**Background painting Due: 2% of final mark**)

Studio Lab Materials – Acrylic Paint and all painting supplies, Masonite boards (provided)

Week of March 25

Lecture – Contemporary Painter and their methodology; Studio Lab assignment objectives for Panel Painting Still-Life with demonstration

Studio Labs – Still – Life Painting Assignment, painting initial still-life objects (***Composition and basic painted objects Due: 2% of final mark***)

Studio Lab Materials – Acrylic Paint and all painting supplies, Masonite boards (provided)

Week of April 1

Lecture – Resolving your painting using Artist’s methodology; Visual strategies for creating a focal point in panel painting; Instructor Teaching Evaluation

Studio Lab– Still – Life Painting Assignment 3rd of 3 Studio Labs for assignment (***Finished Paintings, including additional still-life objects Due: 6% of final mark***)

Studio Lab Materials – Acrylic Paint and all painting supplies, Masonite boards (provided)

Week of April 8

Lecture – Sketchbook Viewing Extravaganza, Final Lecture Exciting activities!

Studio Labs – as discussed in Lecture

Safety and Maintenance Sheet for Drawing and Foundations Courses

Faculty Responsibilities:

- Inform students about safe use of toxic materials and ensure that students are following safe procedures. In case of an emergency, call 911.
- Instruct students in the proper use of the spray booth in room 230 if they wish to use aerosol fixatives. (The door of the booth must be **closed** when in use.)
- At the end of each class, return props and drapes to the model closet.
- At the end of each class, return space heaters and skeleton to room 206A, and opaque projectors, slide projectors, etc. to room 244. In the case of evening classes, equipment may be stored in your office and returned the next day.
- Notify Marlene Jones of any burnt-out bulbs, broken or missing furniture, and broken window blinds, etc.
- Inform students about general cleanup (including removal of paint, etc., from table surfaces), about storage of work in progress, and removal of completed marked work.
- Supervise students’ adherence to the maintenance requirements listed below, under the heading “Student Responsibilities”.

Student Responsibilities:

- When using paint, remember that some pigments are more hazardous than others. Take special care with cadmium colours, cobalt colours, manganese colours, zinc white, flake white, cerulean blue, vermilion red, burnt and raw umber.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while painting since these activities may lead to accidental ingestion of paint.
- Use aerosol fixative only in the spray booth in Room 230 or outdoors. Fine mists from these sprays can penetrate deep into the lungs.
- Flammable fixatives must be stored in the flammable cabinet located in the spray booth in 230 and not in your locker.
- At the end of each class, remove work-in-progress from easels, A-frames and walls, and store these works in your locker or storage racks.
- At the end of each class, clean all table surfaces. Throw used jars and other containers, and dirty rags and paper towels, into the garbage containers.
- **Take home all completed graded work.**
- Replace drawing boards in the model closet.
- Wash your hands thoroughly when you are finished working with dry or wet pigments or inks. Use a good hand cream after washing with soap, in order to prevent damage to your skin’s natural defensive barrier.

Please note: According to University regulations guiding “Laboratory Use,” students who fail to respect the responsibilities listed above will not have their final course grades sent to the Registrar.