EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
VISUAL ARTS
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Visual Art Art History
FA / VISA 2036 3.0 SECTION A
INTRODUCTORY FOUNDRY
FALL 2017 / WINTER 2018

Last Modified Date: 08/24/2017

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION
Explores a range of foundry techniques used in casting sculpture. Students are introduced to all aspects of casting and are required to take a work from the beginning to the final finishing stage. Small scale metal casting is introduced. Students receive instruction in lost wax and sand casting techniques and are expected to take a work through the entire casting process. Students develop a good understanding of what is required to finish a cast work, including work with air tools and patination. The history of bronze casting is provided through slide presentations of a range of examples from the 5,000 year history of the artform from ancient cast sculpture to recent contemporary works. Examples from China, the Middle East, Africa and Europe are examined in order to establish bronze castings' historical and continued relevance as an artform. Supplementary fees apply.

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INSTRUCTOR(S)
TBD

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS
This course explores the casting process through a variety of casting technics; sand casting, lost wax and ceramic shell. Students will gain a complete overview of foundry produce processes, including basic mold-making, gating and venting, and metal chasing, as well as the safe use of tools and materials associated with these techniques.

Organization of the Course
Students will be expected to keep a log book of their activities and general class notes based on material and technical demonstrations. The class will have two technical assignments introducing them to basic processes and demonstrating their knowledge of the techniques learned. These processes will prepare them for their individual major project in Lost Wax/ Ceramic Shell.

Craftsmanship and a demonstrated knowledge of materials and techniques are a major factor in this course. In order for students to be able to fully articulate their idea in a given material, they must understand the limits and possibilities inherent in foundry processes.

Lectures, demonstrations, group critiques and most importantly, hands on instruction are the essential means by which we will investigate foundry processes. The class will participate in material specific demonstrations and/or class critiques of finished work. Periodically there will be in class work periods, but it is expected that the majority of the assignments will be completed outside of class time.

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF
Course Projects and Assignments

Project 1: Cope and Drag Sand Casting

Students will be asked to cast a simple object of their choice, no larger than their fist, using the sand casting process. This assignment will give students the basic knowledge of two-part mold making, assessing part lines, and gating & venting systems. This assignment will allow students the opportunity to be introduced to the metal chasing techniques associated with the clean-up of the castings and tools related. This will ensure that they have the ability and understand of how to finish your Major Project. The metal chasing procedure will be worked on simultaneously while working on your Major Project.

Technical Assignment 1: Chasing and TIG Welding

Students will learn the TIG Welding process, through in-class demonstrations. Students will be asked to experiment and produce one (1) passable bead of TIG weld. This will inform the quality of your final project.

Technical Assignment 2: Building a flask, Spruing and Gating

Students must build a Vacu-Casting Flask, and demonstrate correct spruing and venting on your lost wax positive.

Project 2: Investment Casting/ Lost Wax Vacu-Cast

Students will be introduced to the art Lost Wax Casting through our Vacu-Casting system. Students will create a wax sculpture which could employ wax modeling/ organic burnout. They will then proceed with spruing, gating and venting their wax form. Once the gating system is approved they will invest their work in their casting flask. As this is an intro level class, this project focuses on the technical elements of casting and students have the freedom to cast whatever form they want, with the final approval of the instructor. All final pieces MUST be properly chased and finished in order to be excepted for grading.

Personal Class Log Book:

As this is a very technical and process heavy class, there will be a lot of information and technical demonstrations. Students will be asked to maintain a personal log book of all technical demonstrations and lectures, as well as a running log of their own work in progress. This book should act as a technical manual in the future, when referring back to the processes learned and explored. Much of the work you will be doing will be outside of class time, and it will be imperative to have this information at your fingertips.

Course Learning Objectives

Students gain a working knowledge of tradition foundry techniques, while developing an understanding of material behavior and characteristics. The ability to safely operate the tools and machines associated with a working foundry.

Students will gain the ability to create an informed dialogue between the interactions of form, mass and space. By the end of this course students should be able to demonstrate problem solving in relation to thought and action; as well as, the participation in critical group discussion. Students must address time-management in relation to the creative process and specified deadlines.

Student Responsibility In Class Etiquette
• Prepared and full attendance (attendance is mandatory) - Respect for others and for group dynamics
• Engaged class participation - Care and Maintenance of Sculpture Studio
• Completion of all assignments by the Due Dates - No Electronics During Class Time

GRADED ASSESSMENT

Evaluation/Grading Criteria
Evaluation Criteria encompasses Thought, Process and Execution
• Quality of the work produced and technical ability
• Engagement of the student in their research studies, as well as their curiosity and motivation to learn and achieve
• The student’s openness to new ideas
• The degree to which students can set challenges for her or himself
• The student’s willingness to engage in class discussions
• Attendance in class is imperative

Grade Breakdown
The final grade for VISA 3032E will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Grade Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project #1 (Sand Casting)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Week Six</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assignment #1 (TIG Welding)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Week Six</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assignment #2 (Building your flask)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Week Ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #2 (Lost Wax/ Vacu Cast)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Week Thirteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Class Log Book</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Week Thirteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation, Attendance and Professionalism</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 11, 2016*

York University Grading Scale
Assignments will bear a letter grade. For a full description of York grading go to:
http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04 5acadinfo.pdf:

Grade Grade-Point Per Cent Range Description
A+ 90-100% Exceptional
A 80-89% Excellent
B+ 75-79% Very good
B 70-74% Good
C+ 65-69% Competent
C 60-64% Fairly competent
D+ 55-59% Passing
D 50-54% Barely passing
E 40-49% Marginally failing
F 0-39% Failing

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the AMPD section of the Undergraduate Calendar - http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2015-2016/faculty_rules/FA/grading.htm

Assignment Submission: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Assignments are to be handed in during class time, to the Course Instructor.

Lateness Penalty: Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized one-half letter grade (1 grade point) per day that assignment is late. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter).

Missed Tests: Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor’s letter) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to AMPD.

Week One (Sept 11)
Class 1: Welcome
• Review of Course Outline
• Outline what they need for next class
• Intro to the Studio (foundry area)
• Intro to Project One

Homework
• Get a Log Book for next class
• Bring an object for next class
• And all required Safety equipment

Week Two (Sept 18)
Class 2: Project 1- Sand Casting Demo

Homework
• Proposal for Project in your Log Book (Sketches, diagrams, ideas, Objects…) DUE NEXT CLASS!

Students should bring a minimum of 3 objects that they are interested in casting.

Week Three (Sept 25)
Class 3: Review Project Ideas and Objects.
Students will break into two groups: half will cast and half will review Technical Demo (Welding and Chasing).

Homework
• Practice TIG Welding

Week Four (Oct 2)
Class 4: Students will break into two groups: half will cast and half will review Technical Demo (Welding and Chasing).
Homework
• Practice TIG Welding

Week Five (Oct 9)
NO CLASS- THANKSGIVING

Week Six (Oct 16)
Class 5: Work Class
DUE NEXT WEEK: Technical Assignment 1 & Project 1!!!!
Bring for review: Log Book and both technical assignments

Week Seven (Oct 23)
Class 6: Group Critiques: Due Technical Assignment 1 & Project 1- Sand Casting

Week Eight (Oct 30)
Class 7: Intro to Project Two
• Intro to Wax Studio Area
• Technical Assignment 2 Demo
• Assessment of Gating and Venting Systems, how to build your flask
• Building the Flask, mixing of investment material and pouring of flask
Homework
• Project 2 Ideas
• NEXT WEEK: Be Ready to Work

Week Nine (Nov 6)
Class 8: Review Student Project Ideas.
Casting Demo- Work Period
Homework
• Build Your Flask!!!!! Due Next Week!

Week Ten (Nov 13)
Class 9: DUE: Technical Assignment 2 (Flask)
Work Period
Patina Demo
Homework
• GET IT DONE!!!!!!

Week Eleven (Nov 20)
Class 10: Work Period
Casting Session
Homework
• Project 2

Week Twelve (Nov 27)
Class 11: Casting Session
Chasing and Finishing
DUE NEXT CLASS: Project 2 and Log Book
Homework
• Chasing and Finishing of Project
• Prepare for critiques next class.
• Make sure your Log Book is ready to be handed in next class!!!

Week Thirteen (Dec 4)
Class 12: Class Critique: PROJECT 2
Hand-In Log Book during class time.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Safety
Safety is an essential component of this course. Repeated failure to observe instruction on proper safety procedure will result in the instructor requesting a student withdrawal from the course. Many of the process utilized in this course can be hazardous to your immediate and long-term health; as such it is imperative that you observe all instruction and protocol when participating in this course. If you are unsure of the necessary safety precautions, ask the instructor or a technician.

Cell phones, earphone devices (Ipods, MPS players) and stereos are not permitted in the sculpture studio. These devices cause distractions and increase the chance of serious injury. Turn you cell phones off before entering class and/or the studio. Failure to comply with this rule will have an adverse effect on your final grade and could lead to failure of this class. The one exception is if you are required to call 911.

If you are pregnant, or plan on becoming pregnant in the next year is it suggested that you do not work in the sculpture studio. There are certain low levels of chemicals and airborne contaminates that circulate within this industrial work place that full grown adults can safely tolerate; however, a developing baby cannot tolerate these levels and their development may be adversely affected.

If you have an existing medical condition that may impact your ability to successfully complete this course, or could possibly impact your ability to use the studio in a safe manner it is strongly recommended that you speak with your instructor about the situation. If a student has environmental allergies or has a high degree of chemical sensitivity it is recommended you do not use the sculpture studio. Your instructor is available to discuss any health and safety related topic and will do so while respecting your right to confidentiality and discretion.

The Odette Sculpture Studio is a safe work environment that adheres to strict rules and regulations to ensure student safety. However, accidents do occur, if you or a fellow students is injured please notify the individual responsible for the studio immediately (faculty member, technician, or monitor) and follow their direction.
The studio is monitored by technicians and/or student monitors when a faculty member is not present, it is imperative that you treat these people with respect and follow their direction. Failure to do so will result in academic penalty.

This is a communal studio environment and in order to be successful in this course it is necessary for you to take responsibility for the studio. If you observe a student using tools in a dangerous manner please notify the studio supervisor. If you recognize that a tool is damaged and has become unsafe please bring it to the attention of the studio supervisor immediately in order to ensure other student’s safety is not put at risk.

Required Safety Equipment:
There are a few articles each student will need to purchase prior to participating in this course:
1. Safety Glasses - buy a pair and wear them in the studio for most activities.
2. A Pair of Leather work gloves to be worn at various stages in foundry processes; they must be tight fitting and free of any tears or holes.

Regarding Clothing:
1. Wear clothing that you don’t mind getting permanently stained and which is not readily flammable
2. Wear clothing you can wash easily and frequently, especially during the dusty aspects of the process.
3. Long hair should be held back.

Supplies:
The studio supplies most of the materials you will need, paid for by the material fee levied on each student and is paid with your tuition. Students are also required to sign a damage waiver highlighting your responsibility for the safe operation of studio tools. If students go over their material fee budget they will be charged any additional costs.

Academic Policies / Information
The Senate Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (ASCP) provides a Student Information Sheet that includes:
• York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures / Academic Integrity Web site
• Access/Disability
• Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants
• Religious Observance Accommodation
• Student Code of Conduct
Additional information:
• Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
• Alternate Exam and Test Scheduling
• Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for ‘full year’ courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade.
• Important University Sessional Dates (you will find classes and exams start/end dates, reading/co-curricular week, add/drop deadlines, holidays, University closings and more.
http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/index.htm
• "20% Rule" No examinations or tests collectively worth more than 20% of the final grade in a course will be given during the final 14 calendar days of classes in a term. The exceptions to the rule are classes which regularly meet Friday evenings or on Saturday and/or Sunday at any time, and courses offered in the compressed summer terms. Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.
Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University