EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

VISUAL ARTS

School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Visual Art Art History

FA / VISA 2039 3.0 SECTION A
INTRODUCTION TO METAL SCULPTURE
FALL 2017 / WINTER 2018

Last Modified Date: 08/24/2017

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

designed to engage students in creating three-dimensional, non-representational sculpture in steel. The course assignments stress individual approaches to creative problem solving. Fundamental concepts relevant to traditional and emerging sculptural production such as weight, mass, volume, context and space will be discussed in class and experienced through the execution of individual projects. The sculptural processes of basic metal fabrication will introduce students to a range of sculptural methodologies and skills employing forming, cutting, welding, chasing and finishing. Through in-class demonstrations students will be introduced to a range of skills and tools to be utilized in the production of their studio projects. Assignments will consist of series projects exploring different working processes and sculptural methodologies. In addition to these projects there will be in-class discussions, technical assignments and readings that will engage students in the dialogue surrounding contemporary concerns associated with abstraction and spatial awareness. Craftsmanship and a demonstrated knowledge of material 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 the construction process. It is expected that each student will develop a degree of sophistication and competence when working with this material. Lectures, demonstrations, group critiques and most importantly, hands on instruction are the essential means by which we will investigate sculptural problem solving. 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.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

TBD

SPECIAL FEATURES

This course is designed to engage students in creating three-dimensional, non-representational sculpture in steel. The course assignments stress individual approaches to creative problem solving. Fundamental concepts relevant to traditional and emerging sculptural production such as weight, mass, volume, context and space will be discussed in class and experienced through the execution of individual projects. The sculptural processes of basic metal fabrication will introduce students to a range of sculptural methodologies and skills employing forming, cutting, welding, chasing and finishing. Through in-class demonstrations students will be introduced to a range of skills and tools to be utilized in the production of their studio projects. Assignments will consist of series projects exploring different working processes and sculptural methodologies. In addition to these projects there will be in-class discussions, technical assignments and readings that will engage students in the dialogue surrounding contemporary concerns associated with abstraction and spatial awareness. Craftsmanship and a demonstrated knowledge of material 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 the construction process. It is expected that each student will develop a degree of sophistication and competence when working with this material. Lectures, demonstrations, group critiques and most importantly, hands on instruction are the essential means by which we will investigate sculptural problem solving. The class will participate in material specific
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TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Technical Assignments

Assignment 1: Every student must oxy acetylene weld 3 pieces of pencil rod together, and with stand the drop test.

Assignment 2: Every student must be able MIG weld a T joint creating an acceptably uniform bead of weld.

Projects

Project 1: Representational Form
Using a minimum of 20 feet to a maximum of 40 feet of ¼ round mild steel rod (in 10 foot lengths), recreate a representational object into a sculptural form that delineates space. Students must use the metal forming processes introduced in demonstrations, such as welding, cutting, bending and rolling.

Project 2: Abstract (Organic/Geometric)
Using the principles of assemblage, and the tools and techniques of metal work, each student will be asked to creatively problem solve their way through the strict guidelines of this project.

Guild Lines:
1. Use the entire 2x2 foot square sheet metal piece (no pieces left over).
2. Sculpture must stand on three points (planar edge counts as one point).
3. Volume of form must be open (no completely closed forms).
4. Use three lines minimum, max 1 length (10 ft.) 1/4" rod.
5. Use both welding and minimum of three pop-rivets.
6. Include minimum of three curves (lines, planar, or edges).
7. Surface finishing: torch colouring, sanding, grinding, etc. (no paint)

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

Course Learning Objectives

Material Awareness: Development an understanding of material behaviour and characteristics, safe handling procedures and material appropriateness in relation to sculptural concept and form.

Technical Skills: The ability to safely operate the tools and machines associated with the working of wood and mild steel.

Spatial Awareness: Ability to create an informed dialogue between the interactions of form, mass and space.

Critical Thinking: Demonstration of problem solving in relation to thought and action; as well as, the participation in critical group discussion.

GRADED ASSESSMENT

GRADING CRITERIA

• Quality of the work produced, including the student’s sensitivity to materials
• 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 Break Down

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Grade Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assignment 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Week Six</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #1</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Week Six</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assignment 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Week Twelve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #2</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Week Twelve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation and Professionalism</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 100%

Failure to complete any project or to participate in discussion, lectures and readings will result in failure of this class. Attached is a schedule for the completion of assignments - it is mandatory for all students to adhere to this schedule.

The evaluation will be based on cumulative achievement, regular attendance and the student’s participation in discussions and critiques. You are expected to show a commitment to experimenting with the medium and serious ambition in the execution of all projects and assignments. It is expected that students will generate creative solutions to assignments based on process and consistent work habits both in class time and outside of class time.

*Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 11, 2017*

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/calug045acadinfo.pdf:

Grade Grade-Point Per Cent Range Description

A+ 9.00-100% Exceptional
A 8.80-89% Excellent
B+ 7.75-79% Very good
B 6.70-74% Good
C+ 5.65-69% Competent
C 4.60-64% Fairly competent
D+ 3.55-59% Passing
D 2.50-54% Barely passing
E 1.40-49% Marginally failing
F 0 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 -

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.

Course Schedule

Week One Introduction to the course, Introduction to the studio and safety
(Sept 8) procedures
Week Two Presentation of ideas and preliminary drawings to instructor
(Sept 15) Welding demo in metal shop
Week Three Continuation of demo
(Sept 22)
Week Four Work Period
(Sept. 29)
Week Five Work period
(Oct 6)
Week Six First technical assignment and Project due, group critique
(Oct 13)
Week Seven Intro to Project Two.
(Oct 20) Demo in metal forming
OCT 27 Fall Reading Days – No Class
Week Eight Presentation of preliminary drawings for second project.
(Nov 3) Continuation of Demo
Week Nine Work Period
(Nov 10)
Week Ten Work Period
(Nov 17)
Week Eleven Work period
(Nov 24)
Week Twelve Final technical assignment and Project due, Final group critique
(Dec 1)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Course Work
Work to be marked for course credit will be submitted in the sculpture studio on the scheduled date. There will be no extensions except for verified medical reasons. All work submitted for evaluation will be original work created in full by the student. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade. In terms of this class, having another person (student, friend, father, hired hand) produce or assist in producing your work will be considered plagiarism. York students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/acadhone.htm).

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 affect 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.

Required Safety Equipment:

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 fabrication 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.
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