COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This lecture/tutorial course introduces upper level Visual Arts Majors to the contemporary art world and the professional practices that they will encounter as emerging visual artists giving them the knowledge and the practical skills to understand the extended art community and to navigate their own diverse paths within it. Course content includes lectures on the structure of art institutions, including artist residencies and how artists can leverage their abilities to navigate this system. The course content will expand student’s understanding of a professional studio practice, encompassing collaborative professional development with other disciplines (science, technology, engineering etc), artist driven curatorial projects, collaborative community based projects, and examining the possibilities for traditional research based practices (working with archives, educational institutions, etc.). Lectures, guest speakers, and field trips address a variety of topics such as an evaluation of graduate programs, grant writing, contracts, copyright/intellectual property, exhibition proposals, research practices and skills, networking, social media promotion, documentation archive, marketing and business development. Students evolve individual plans for transitioning from undergraduate study to post graduate study or work by researching and analyzing the requirements and limitations of opportunities relevant to their current practice and future goals.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
<th>Contact Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vickerd, Brandon J</td>
<td>Sec. A / STDO / F</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bvickerd@yorku.ca">bvickerd@yorku.ca</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIAL FEATURES

This seminar course introduces upper level Visual Arts Majors to the contemporary art world and the professional practices that they will encounter as emerging visual artists giving them the knowledge and the practical skills to understand the extended art community and to navigate their own diverse paths within it. Course content explores the structure of art institutions and the diverse strategies of how artists can leverage their abilities to navigate this system. Lectures, guest speakers, and field trips address a variety of topics such as an evaluation of graduate programs, grant writing, contracts, copyright/intellectual property, exhibition proposals, research practices and skills, networking, social media promotion, documentation archive, marketing and business development. Students evolve individual plans for transitioning from undergraduate study to post graduate study or work by researching and analyzing the requirements and limitations of opportunities relevant to their current practice and future goals.

Course Structure

Professional Practices for Artists consists of a weekly lecture by the course director, followed by a presentation from a Visual Arts studio faculty or other guest.
presenter discussing aspects of their professional art career. Additional online assignments, group discussions, group work, field trips and activities will explore material covered in the lectures and readings.

**LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF**

Course Learning Objectives
The purpose of Professional Practices for Artists is to assist students in a broader understanding of the role and practice of professional artists, the spectrum of issues confronting artists today, and the breadth of skills required for success as a contemporary artist. Specifically, students will gain an overview of the art institutions and there function; develop critical thinking skills allowing the students to analyze the opportunities and restrictions of the art institution / community; develop the skills related to research and writing as a professional artist; develop communication skills (written and oral) related to the professional aspects of a practice; develop long term and short term goals and implementation plans in relation to a creative practice.

Course Requirements and Expectations
Attendance at all lectures, presentations and field trips
Completion of all assignments by the due dates
Engaged participation and professionalism

Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties, Final Submission Date:
All assignments for this course must be received on the due date (see due dates below). Assignments are to be handed in on the due date to your course director at the beginning of the class (unless otherwise specified). Assignments submitted by email will not be accepted. There will be no extensions except for verified medical reasons. The graded assignments will be returned within three weeks.

Lateness Penalty: Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized onehalf letter grade (1 grade point) per day that the assignment is late.

Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness will be given consideration only if documentation such as a doctor’s letter is provided.

All work submitted for evaluation will be original work created in full by the student. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade. 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).

If a student is suspected of plagiarism it is their responsibility to present drafts of their writing and associated research material to prove otherwise – it is highly recommended you retain all relevant material.

A note on writing for course assignment – this is a university level course and it is expected that students’ writing will reflect this fact. All assignments will be written using full sentences and proper essay structure. Students are encouraged to have a clear and concise thesis, from which to base their writing on. Avoid the use of slang or improper English. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that their ideas can be understood based on their writing. It is suggested that you have a peer review your writing before submission.
Project One: Group Presentation on a selected exhibition/screening/performance venue chosen from a list determined by the Course Director. This presentation should critically evaluate the ‘type’ of venue, i.e. on-line gallery, public gallery, film/video festival, etc.

Project Two: A one-page (400 words) artist statement that describes the student’s own practice and relates it to contemporary art and ideas.

Project Three: A two-page synopsis of an interview with a practicing professional artist or art professional.

Project Four: One graduate program application to a Canadian or international school that includes the rationale for the selection of this program in relation to the student’s own work.

Or

A completed grant application to an arm’s length granting organization.

Project Five
Comprehensive five-year career plan

GRADED ASSESSMENT

Graded Assessment
Active participation in class and critique discussions 10%
Project One 18%
Project Two 18%
Project Three 18%
Project Four 18%
Project Five 18%

Failure to complete any project or to participate in discussion, lectures and readings will result in failure of this class.

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 Grade Point Per-Cent Range Description
A+ 9 90-100 Exceptional
A 8 80-89 Excellent
B+ 7 75-79 Very Good
B 6 70-74 Good
C+ 5 65-69 Competent
C 4 60-94 Fairly Competent
D+ 3 55-59 Passing
D 2 50-54 Marginally Passing
E 1 Marginally below 50 Marginally Failing
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 learning and serious ambition in the execution of all projects and assignments.

Important: Please note that attendance in all classes is mandatory. An absence is an absence - whether or not a reason or an ‘excuse’ is presented. Failure to attend classes will result in a 5% penalty on your final mark, and a second absence will result in a request that the student withdraw from the course.

It is imperative that students attend class on time; if you are late you may be penalized 5% for each offence. Exceptions to the absence/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).

NOTE: The last day to withdrawal from this course without receiving a grade is November 10th, 2017.

Cell phone use is not permitted during class time. Turn you cell phones off before entering class. Failure to comply with this rule will have an adverse effect on your final grade and could lead to failure of this class.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Access/Disability
York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials.

It is the student's responsibility to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Failure to make these arrangements may jeopardize your opportunity to receive academic accommodations.

Additional information is available at www.yorku.ca/disabilityservices or from disability service providers:
- Learning and Psychiatric Disabilities Programs - Counselling & Development Centre: 130 BSB, 416-736-5297, www.yorku.ca/cdc

Student Conduct
Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student
to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behavior by students in academic situations is available on the York website http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/harass.htm
York University’s Code of Student Conduct is available online at: http://www.yorku.ca/scdr/CodeOfConduct.html

Course Schedule
Week one Introduction to course; What do you want to know?
September 13th
Week Two Discussion of Project one, formation of groups
September 20th Guest lecture by José Vicente Martín, Departamento de Arte Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche
Week Three Artist Statements/Writing about art
September 27th Discussion of Project Two; assign peer review partners
Week Four Lecture on business planning/5 year plan
October 4th Guest lecture by Heather Phillips owner of Articulations Art Supply Store (York BFA Alumni)
Week Five Lecture on gallery Structure and how to navigate it.
October 11th Discussion of Project Three
Guest lecture by Caitlin Sutherland, Curator and Programming Director Hamilton Artists Inc.
Project Two Due
Week Six Lecture on Commercial Galleries and how to create ‘Value’
October 18 Guest lecture by Robyn Zolani, Sales Manager, Stephen Bulger Gallery (York BFA Alumni)
Week Seven Lecture on Grad School
October 25th Discussion of Project Four
Guest lecture TBA
Week Eight Lecture on Applying for Grant Funding;
November 1st How to Document your work
Guest lecture TBA
Week Nine Lecture on Taxes, Funding streams, and organizing finances;
November 8th Common Mistakes Artist Make
Project Three Due
Guest lecture TBA
Week Ten Lecture on Artist Residencies; The Internet and Social Media;
November 15th Discussion of Project Five
Guest lecture TBA
Week Eleven Lecture on Contracts and Copyright; Scams for Artists;
November 22nd Project Four Due
Guest lecture TBA
Access/Disability
York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical,
learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials.

It is the student's responsibility to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Failure to make these arrangements may jeopardize your opportunity to receive academic accommodations.

Additional information is available at www.yorku.ca/disabilityservices or from disability service providers:

- Learning and Psychiatric Disabilities Programs - Counselling & Development Centre: 130 BSB, 416-736-5297, www.yorku.ca/cdc

Student Conduct

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behavior by students in academic situations is available on the York website

http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/harass.htm
York University’s Code of Student Conduct is available online at:
http://www.yorku.ca/scdr/CodeOfConduct.html

Course Schedule

Week one Introduction to course; What do you want to know?
September 13th

Week Two Discussion of Project one, formation of groups
September 20th Guest lecture by José Vicente Martín, Departamento de Arte Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche

Week Three Artist Statements/Writing about art
September 27th Discussion of Project Two; assign peer review partners

Week Four Lecture on business planning/5 year plan
October 4th Guest lecture by Heather Phillips owner of Articulations Art Supply Store (York BFA Alumni)

Week Five Lecture on gallery Structure and how to navigate it.
October 11th Discussion of Project Three
Guest lecture by Caitlin Sutherland, Curator and Programming Director Hamilton Artists Inc.
Project Two Due
Week Six Lecture on Commercial Galleries and how to create ‘Value’
October 18 Guest lecture by Robyn Zolani, Sales Manager, Stephen Bulger
Gallery (York BFA Alumni)
Week Seven Lecture on Grad School
October 25th Discussion of Project Four
Guest lecture TBA
Week Eight Lecture on Applying for Grant Funding;
November 1st How to Document your work
Guest lecture TBA
Week Nine Lecture on Taxes, Funding streams, and organizing finances;
November 8th Common Mistakes Artist Make
Project Three Due
Guest lecture TBA
Week Ten Lecture on Artist Residencies; The Internet and Social Media;
November 15th Discussion of Project Five
Guest lecture TBA
Week Eleven Lecture on Contracts and Copyright; Scams for Artists;
November 22nd Project Four Due
Guest lecture TBA
Week Twelve Course Summation
November 29th Project Five Due
Course readings will be presented via Moodle, and will draw from some of the following sources:
Buckley, Brad & Conomos, John, eds. Rethinking the Contemporary Art School: the artist, the PhD, and the academy. Halifax, NSCAD Press, 2010.
Elkins, James, ed, Artists with PhDs, On the New Doctoral Degree in Studio Art, USA, New Academia Publishing, 2009
Information for Artists: A Practical Guide. Toronto, ON: CARFAC Ontario, 2005
www.carfaontario.ca
www.canadianart.ca
Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University