

**The University Of Western Ontario
Department of Visual Arts**

Course: Visual Arts 2236b

Title: Introduction to Print Media

Term: Winter 2016

Time: M/W 8:30-11:30am

Professor: Colin Carney

Location: JLVAC 106

Office Hours: M/W 12 - 1pm VAC 241B

Email: ccarney@uwo.ca

Course Description/Objectives:

This course will serve as an introduction for students to various printing techniques, historical contexts and critical concerns which surround contemporary printmaking. The course will specifically chart a path spanning relief printing, etching, and screen printing. Students will work toward executing a highly considered suite of technically accomplished and conceptually considered prints. A balance of both critical concern and technical skill will be fostered throughout this course.

Major assignments in each of the three disciplines will be introduced through a combination of lectures, slide presentations and demonstrations. Preliminary exercises in each discipline have been factored in the participation component of the evaluation breakdown. Readings will be assigned with each introduction. In class follow up discussions will lead students toward their preliminary designs. Students will consult with the instructor during the development of each major interpretive work. Formal critiques will occur after each major assignment.

Through the course of the semester, health and safety guidelines along with terminology specific to the printshop will be clearly explained and adhered to at all times.

Learning Outcomes:

Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

- A general knowledge and understanding of some key concepts, techniques, and theoretical approaches and assumptions in printmaking.
- Some detailed knowledge of the history in an area of printmaking

Knowledge of Methodologies

- An understanding of specific techniques in printmaking that enables the student to devise and sustain arguments or solve problems using these skills.

Communication Skills

- The ability to orally communicate information, arguments, and analyses accurately and reliably, through presentations, critiques and collaboration.

Course Requirements/ Evaluation:

-Students are expected to attend all class sessions and be prepared for and participate in all lectures, discussions and/or critiques. Under University regulations, if a student misses 15% of their classes, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, they can be debarred from participation in final tests, evaluations and/or critiques. If a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for one hour, they will exceed the 15% cut off.

-Proper conduct, safety consideration and relative cleanliness in the shop are demanded of all print students at all times. Negligence of any of these may result in a student's removal from the course.

-Students are expected to complete all assignments on time. Failure to complete assignments without prior arrangements with the instructor will result in a failing grade. With prior discussion, students may hand in late work with a 2% per day deduction from the assignment. Extensions will be given upon official notification from the student's faculty advisor due to documented serious health and bereavement reasons.

-Evaluation of major course works will be balanced between technical execution of a printmaking skill or skills and critical care in the development of content therein.

Evaluation Breakdown:

Printing: 80%

Relief 25%

Etching 30%

Screen 25%

Written Responses: 10%

Attendance, Participation: 10%

Text:

Various handouts and safety sheets will be provided throughout the semester. It is the student's responsibility to ensure their assorted class notes and copies are complete.

Materials List: Lab Fee: \$90.00

Included in the lab fee:

2 copper plates
all etching inks
tarleton

rags and solvents
all cleaning supplies

screen emulsion
all etching grounds

To be purchased by the student:

Basic:

apron

pencils

permanent marker

xacto knife

metal ruler

scissors

masking tape

neoprene gloves (available from the Chemistry Supply Store)

safety goggles (splash goggles for acid etching are supplied by the department)

Etching: *Options will be discussed in class. Purchase supplies following that discussion.*

burnisher
scraper
etching needle
newsprint
editioning paper

Screen:

ink - permanent acrylic water based or fabric water based
acetate
spatulas
containers with lids for ink
newsprint
editioning paper

**Western University
Visual Arts Department**

**Safety and Maintenance Sheet
Printmaking Studio, Room 106**

Faculty Responsibilities (in cooperation with the Technician):

- Inform students about safe use of toxic materials, acids, and solvent storage and ensure that students are following safe procedures.
- With technician, demonstrate proper use of presses, etching booths, exposure unit and other major technical equipment.
- Ensure that ventilation is operative and notify physical plant if a failure occurs.
- Inform students of general clean up duties and proper storage procedures for equipment and student work.
- Notify maintenance person concerning broken equipment and unsafe occurrences; assist with appropriate treatment of chemical spills.
- In case of an accident, notify emergency help at 911.

Student Responsibilities:

- Adhere to all safety practices in room 106 and the silk screen area; never work alone when supervision is out of close reach.
- Use tools and equipment appropriately and return everything to its rightful place.
- Follow all procedural guidelines as demonstrated by faculty and technician; notify faculty or technician concerning malfunctioning equipment.
- Store all work in drawers when dry; remove work from the room after it has been marked.
- Store or remove all plate materials; store screens in racks and remove other belongings from the screen area.
- Never remove equipment from room 106 or the screen area without written permission.
- Abide by directives from faculty, technician and approved monitors and work bursaries.
- If an accident occurs and emergency assistance is required, call 911.

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

Technician Responsibilities:

- Support the pedagogical and technical goals of the program.
- Ensure that all equipment and supplies are available and well maintained.
- Oversee the delivery of technical demonstrations.
- Organize the exchange of materials and money when appropriate.
- Oversee the proper allotment of drawers and storage space.

The University of Western Ontario Visual Arts Department

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 antirequisite 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 <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg113.html> or the 2015/2016 Western Academic Calendar, with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.)

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 Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. 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 10:30 pm each night. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00 noon-5:00 pm. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:30 pm and 5:00 pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

Please remember:

One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Prof. David Merritt (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 IGA Building, Room 1N20 (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 to students 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 which 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