

Department of Visual Arts
Western University

VAS 3330/4491a/4491b Advanced Print Media

Welcome to Advanced Print Media. Below you will find all the necessary information about this course including some important points concerning demonstrations, working in class and materials. All aspects of the course will be discussed in class, but please read the course outline and refer back to it throughout the semester.

Tricia Johnson

Calendar Description

A continuation of the study of print media.

Please Note: Students are responsible for ensuring they have successfully completed all course prerequisites (VAS 2236a or VAS 2236b) and that they have not taken an antirequisite 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 offers a continuation of print media allowing students to enhance their printmaking skills while learning more advanced techniques in the areas of relief, intaglio and screen as well as introducing students to the process of lithography. Student driven assignments will be the focus of both VAS 3330 and the 4th year Independent Projects.

Importantly, training and awareness of health and safety issues will be integrated into all studio practices and *strictly enforced*.

The Anti-Requisite for this course is VAS 330

Course Information

Instructor:	Professor Tricia Johnson Room 215, JLVAC 519-661-2111 x 85721 tcjohnso@uwo.ca
Technician:	Jessica Desparois jwoodwa5@uwo.ca
Class:	John Labatt Visual Arts Centre room 106 Thursday 2:30 to 6:00pm
Office Hours:	Tuesdays & Wednesdays 1:30 – 3:00 pm or by appointment

Online: To facilitate VAS 3330/4491a/4491b, students can access our OWL site through **OWL / Sakai Documentation** <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

Learning Outcomes

- *Depth and Breadth of Knowledge:* Students will acquire a range of advanced technical skills required to engage in the material practice of printmaking. Students will also become familiar with the historical genesis of and terms associated with the various print material areas being studied as well as contemporary discourses surrounding those materials.
- *Knowledge of Methodologies:* Students will gain a further understanding of print methodologies and visual possibilities of each media through practical applications.
- *Communication Skills:* Students will be able to communicate orally regarding their projects through critique and class discussion, including in response to instructor presentations and critiques.

Attendance, Preparedness, Working in Class

- VAS 3330/4491a/4491b is a Studio class, therefore all the instruction happens in the studio. **Full attendance is mandatory for students enrolled in either 3330 or as an Independent Study.** Under university regulations, if someone misses more than 15% of their classes (*4 classes per semester*) without written corroboration for health or bereavement, students can be debarred from participation in final tests, evaluations and/or critiques. 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. Fair warning will be given through email and departmental letters to students if lack of attendance is persistent.
- Students are expected to come **prepared to participate** in all class activities, lectures, work periods and critiques. This includes having all the necessary art materials you need for each specific class session. Students are expected to work on their art assignments during work sessions.
- Attendance is taken during each class by the instructor. Leaving the class early will be recorded.
- **Do not come late!** Lateness is disrespectful to the instructor and your fellow students. If you do come late, it will be recorded by the instructor and will adversely affect your commitment mark.

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 referring to the syllabus.
- Students are expected to complete all assignments on due dates for critique. Failure to complete assignments or present completed work in scheduled critiques without prior consultation with the instructor could result in a failing grade. If you choose to hand in work late, **2% per day will be deducted from the assignment** (Monday to Friday, weekend considered one day) and no written feedback will be given to late work. **One week after the due date, late work will not be accepted and the student will be given a grade of 0 (zero) for that assignment.** The final assignments are due on the last class in April. Assignments not received on the last class will be given a mark of 0 (zero).
- Students are expected to **clean-up after each work session.**

- **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 MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION.** Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.
- **A student who cannot complete assignments totaling less than 10% for the whole course, due to medical reasons, may speak with the instructor and arrange an extension of no more than two weeks to complete the assignments, WITH MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION.**
- **Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.**
- Students are expected to spend a minimum 1-hour outside of class for every one hour in class towards fulfilling course requirements.
- Students **must** take *detailed notes* during the demonstrations throughout the semester. Printmaking is a very involved process; it cannot be learned intuitively and it is imperative that you take detailed notes to refer to when you are working. As well, you are shown how to properly use the equipment and materials in the demonstration for your own safety as well as to maintain the equipment in the shop. When you have a technical problem, the instructor and the technician will want to refer to your notes as an aspect of assisting you. Not taking notes during a demonstration will negate your ability to ask the technician and instructor for technical assistance. **Reckless use of shop equipment as well as disregarding health and safety procedures are grounds for being removed from the class.**
- Demonstrations can often be 4 to 6 hours long and cover 2 full class periods. Demonstrations of such length can never be repeated. Attendance at demonstrations is mandatory in order for every student to understand the procedures of each print practice.

Departmental and University 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.
- **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/2013/pg113.html> or the 2013/2014 Western Academic Calendar, p. 19-21, with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.)
- **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 (Mr. Ben Hakala and Ms. Amanda Green are the counselors for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities).

- 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 www.registrar.uwo.ca/FinancialServices/index.cfm

Evaluation

Every Print Assignment given will have a corresponding grading rubric the instructor will use to assess the assignment. Each assignment will also have a final critique, using a range of critique methodologies. Assignments will be handed in for further consideration by the instructor and will be given a numerical grade and written comments, posted to OWL.

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 and the ability to express that understanding
- Degree of inventiveness and ambition of assignments
- Participation and commitment to process

Visual Arts follows Western University's Grade Descriptors as follows:

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

Fall Semester Grade (worth 50% of final mark)

Screen/Etching Practice Prints – 10% (5% each)
 Screen/Etching Assignments – 50% (25% each)
 Independent Project – 30%
 Commitment – 10%

Winter Semester Grade (worth 50% of final mark)

Stone Lithography – 20 %
 Independent Project – 50%
 Portfolio Print Exchange – 10%
 Presentation of Independent Proposal – 10%
 Commitment – 10%

Commitment Mark

The commitment mark is a combination of your attendance, punctuality, preparedness for class; your active participation in critiques and discussions; your ability to NOT use your cell phone during discussions, demonstrations; critiques and presentations (put your cellphone away!); your active listening skills; your thoughtful and respectful questions of the instructor, the technician and your peers; your work ethic, tidiness and cooperativeness during work sessions; your work ethic, tidiness and cooperativeness in the printshop outside of class time and your overall commitment to the course.

Printshop Access

The printshop is open with access Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 10:00 pm ***except during VAS 2236a/b which meets Mondays & Wednesdays from 8:30 to 11:30. I will not give you access to the printshop during 2nd year Print Media.*** The shop is open from 12:00 (noon) to 5:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Students must work in these specified times and **must** work with a buddy for safety reasons. If you somehow manage to work in the print shop outside the scheduled hours, you may be asked by Campus Police to leave the premise or face trespassing charges.

The printshop is open 80+ hours per week outside of the 10 hours of scheduled class time per week (including both 2nd year and 3rd year Print Media).

Printshop Conduct

Please be respectful of each other in the printshop inside and outside of class. Share the facilities equitably and also support a productive learning and working environment for everyone through your actions and words. Everyone who is registered in the course deserves to work in a respectful environment. As well, respect other people's time by using the shop, which includes the materials and presses, efficiently.

Materials/Supplies and Fees

All materials will be discussed on the first class and throughout the semester. Students will also be expected to purchase materials individually. Such materials are dependent on the student's intentions for the Independent project. In addition there is an ink fee of \$ 140.00 per student for the year. The printmaking technician will announce the specific amounts of materials that are covered by the fee (such as copper).

CAUTION: Lock your print drawer and place anything of importance in your other locker. Do not steal each other's lino tools, acetates, paper or anything else. Stealing is an offense and is grounds for being removed from the university, permanently.

Syllabus: Timeline for the Year (Subject to Change)

September 10	First Class: Discussion of Course Outline, Introductions, Students in 2 groups, Screen/Etching Relief Demos – Practice Print DUE: Sept. 17
September 17	Practice Print Critique, Introduce Screen/Etching Assignment; Screen And Etching Demos (advanced techniques)
September 24	Work Session
October 1	Work Session
October 8	DUE: Screen/Etching Assignment with Critique
October 15	Group switch to other medium; Etching/Screen Demos (advanced techniques)
October 22	Work Session
November 5	Work Session
November 12	DUE: Etching/ Screen Assignment with Critique
November 19	Introduction of Independent Assignment and Research Project
November 26	FIELD TRIP - tba
December 3	Discussion Day for Trial prints for Independent Assignment
January 7	Introduce Lithography - Stone Litho Demo Day 1 – 1 st step DUE: Jan 14
January 14	Stone Litho Demo Day 2 – 2 nd step DUE: Jan 21
January 21	Stone Litho Demo Day 3 – 3 rd step DUE: Jan 28
January 28	Stone Litho Demo Day 4 – Edition DUE: Feb 4
February 4	Critique of Stone Lithography Edition
February 11	Portfolio Print Exchange Assignment and Portfolio demonstration
February 25	Independent Proposal & Research Presentations with Discussion
March 3	Independent Proposal & Research Presentations with Discussion
March 10	Work Session
March 17	Work Session
March 24	Portfolio Production Work Period
March 31	Last Class- Final Critique of Independent Project – Print Exchange of Portfolio Prints