

Department of Visual Arts  
Western University

**Foundation of Visual Arts VAS 1020**

Welcome to Foundation of Visual Arts at Western. This course outline and syllabus contain pertinent information about the Lecture and Studio Lab components of VAS 1020 including art materials and a timeline of the assignments and media that will be covered. You will also find important information about learning outcomes, Western University's Grade Descriptors and your responsibilities as a student in VAS 1020. Please do read this document thoroughly and refer to it throughout the year.

*Tricia Johnson*

**Calendar Description**

A studio course designed to introduce students to the techniques and processes of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media; the formal and material concepts, which act as the foundation of direct studio practice, will be emphasized.

**Please Note:** Students are responsible for ensuring they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not taken an anti-requisite 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 is an introductory studio survey where students will learn, discuss and investigate the fundamental formal, material and aesthetic concepts of art making. Such concepts will be discussed in the Lecture and will be investigated through the creation of visual exercises and artworks in the Studio Lab Assignments and Sketchbook Assignments. The course focuses primarily on two-dimensional media, but three-dimensional and time-based disciplines will be explored. Students are also encouraged to take full advantage of all Visiting Artist talks presented by the department, exhibitions at the ArtLAB and events in the Visual Arts Department as a member of our community in Visual Arts.

**Course Information**

**Instructor:** Professor Tricia Johnson  
Office: Room 215, John Labatt Visual Art Centre  
519-661-2111 x 85721  
[tcjohnso@uwo.ca](mailto:tcjohnso@uwo.ca)

**Professor**

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 1:30 to 3:00 pm or by appointment

**Lecture:** Middlesex College (MC) room 110  
Monday 2:30 – 3:30pm

**Studio Labs:** John Labatt Visual Arts Centre room 302 or room 206

Studio Lab -002 Monday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 302)  
 Studio Lab -003 Tuesday, 8:30 – 11:30 am (room 302)  
 Studio Lab -004 Tuesday, 11:30 – 2:30 pm (room 302)  
 Studio Lab -005 Tuesday, 2:30 – 5:30 pm (room 302)  
 Studio Lab -006 Tuesday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 302)  
 Studio Lab -007 Wednesday, 8:30 – 11:30 pm (room 302)  
 Studio Lab -008 Wednesday, 11:30 – 2:30 pm (room 302)  
 Studio Lab -009 Wednesday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 302)  
 Studio Lab -010 Tuesday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 206)

**Teaching Assistants:**

Studio Lab 002 – Matthew Trueman [mtruema@uwo.ca](mailto:mtruema@uwo.ca)  
 Studio Lab 003 – Sharmistha Kar [skar2@uwo.ca](mailto:skar2@uwo.ca) Fall Semester  
    Michelle Wilson [mwils227@uwo.ca](mailto:mwils227@uwo.ca) Winter semester  
 Studio Lab 004 – George Kuberesli [gkuberesl@uwo.ca](mailto:gkuberesl@uwo.ca)  
 Studio Lab 005 – Zhizi Wang [zwan467@uwo.ca](mailto:zwan467@uwo.ca)  
 Studio Lab 006 – Lydia Santia [lsantia@uwo.ca](mailto:lsantia@uwo.ca)  
 Studio Lab 007 – Eeva Siivonen [esiivone@uwo.ca](mailto:esiivone@uwo.ca)  
 Studio Lab 008 - Joy Wong [jwong856@uwo.ca](mailto:jwong856@uwo.ca)  
 Studio Lab 009 - Kate Carder Thompson [mcardert@uwo.ca](mailto:mcardert@uwo.ca)  
 Studio Lab 010 - Johnathan Onyschuk [jonyschu@uwo.ca](mailto:jonyschu@uwo.ca)

**Teaching Assistants office hours – by appointment**

**Textbook referred to in Lecture:** *Art Fundamentals: Theory and Practice, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition* Ocvirk, Stinson, Wigg, Bone, Cayton

**Online:** To facilitate VAS 1020, students can access the VAS 1020 OWL site through <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

**Learning Outcomes**

Students will acquire a fundamental knowledge of the basic formal concepts and vocabulary of form, as presented and discussed during the VAS 1020 Lecture. Such concepts create the foundation for the design of artwork in 2D, 3D and time-based media.

Students will explore and apply this fundamental knowledge, discussed in the Lecture, in the creation of exercises and assignments, in the Studio Labs. Further independent exploration of formal and visual concepts will continue in the Sketchbook Assignments.

Students will recognize familiar and challenging formal approaches to subject matter throughout the course by applying different formal and technical strategies when creating subject matter observed directly from life, subject matter created through self-imaginative exploration and subject matter appropriated from popular culture.

Students will analyze their knowledge and experience in creating their studio assignments by discussing their own artwork and the artwork of others during Critique, an end of assignment class presentation and discussion of the artwork in the Studio Labs. The Critique orally assesses how each artwork responds to the specific assignment objectives. Various Critique strategies will be employed by the Teaching Assistant for students to become more familiar with this discipline specific method of evaluation.

### **Attendance in Lecture**

- **Full attendance is mandatory for the Lecture.** Under university regulations, if someone misses more than 15% of their classes (*15% is equivalent to missing 8 hours of Lecture and/or Studio Lab, due to absence or lateness, or a combination of both, per semester*) without written corroboration for health or bereavement, students can be debarred from handing in assignments for assessment and grading. 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; I will inform your Teaching Assistant to stop accepting assignments and such assignments will receive a mark of 0 (zero). Fair warning will be given through email, first by the TA and then by me, Prof. Johnson, to students if lack of attendance is persistent.
- **Attendance** is taken during Lecture by signing the attendance sheets. Your Teaching Assistant will have the attendance sheet for your Studio Lab. Please see your TA before Lecture begins in order to sign the attendance sheet. Leaving lecture immediately after signing the attendance sheet will be recorded as an absence.
- Do not sign the attendance sheet for another student.
- **Do not come late!** Lateness is disrespectful to the instructor and your fellow students. If you do come late to the lecture, please come in the rear doors quietly. And remember to see the T.A. to sign the attendance sheets at the end of Lecture or your Studio Lab (your lateness will be recorded)

### **Attendance in Studio Lab**

- **Full attendance is mandatory for the Studio Lab.** Under university regulations, if someone misses more than 15% of their classes (*15% is equivalent to missing 8 hours of Lecture and/or Studio Lab, due to absence or lateness, or a combination of both, per semester*) without written corroboration for health or bereavement, students can be debarred from participation in final evaluations and/or assignments. 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; I will inform your Teaching Assistant to stop accepting assignments and such assignments will receive a mark of 0 (zero). Fair warning will be given through email, first by the TA and then by me, Prof. Johnson, to students if lack of attendance is persistent.
- **Attendance** is taken during Studio Lab by your Teaching Assistant, using whichever attendance strategy they prefer. Your TA also keeps track of student lateness, students leaving early, student's commitment to Studio Lab assignments, including work ethic and preparedness with art materials.
- **Do not come late!** If you arrive to Studio Lab consistently late, you are threatening your Commitment mark and could be debarred from handing in assignments as written above. Be on time.
- **Locking door to 302.** After the Studio Lab has begun, it is often necessary that your Teaching Assistant will lock the doors to 302, so students will not be disturbed as they are working. If you

have come to class late, you will have to wait until break to enter Room 302 or 206. Locking the studio is mandatory when students are drawing from the model.

### **Classroom Conduct for Lecture**

- **Be respectful!** With 240+ students attending the Lecture, it can be a very noisy room if students chat with each other as I am speaking. It is also very disruptive to leave Lecture before I am finished. Out of respect for your time, I will start the lecture right at 2:30 – I will “Start with Art!” As soon as you see the first artwork on the screen, Lecture has begun.
- Listen during Lecture. All the important information you need to know is presented in Lecture. If you are distracted by another task during Lecture (checking Facebook, playing video games, streaming video etc.) you are not truly present and this could detrimentally affect your performance in Studio Lab that week and your Commitment mark
- Be prepared to answer questions with your cell phone, if I am asking polling questions.
- I promise to finish promptly at 3:15, leaving you more than enough time to get to your next class.

### **Guidelines for Students on the Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")**

- It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning.
- Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:
- The use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence.
- The possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence

### **Classroom Conduct for Studio Lab**

- **Be on time and be prepared to work.** Your Teaching Assistant will start each studio lab on time. In order to do this, I suggest you arrive for your Studio Lab BEFORE it begins, i.e. 5 minutes before class starts so that you can go to your locker, find a seat, set-up a drawing donkey etc. There will be one 10-15 minute break during each studio lab, which will be given by the Teaching Assistant, with their discretion as to when the break should occur.
- **Bring your art materials.** Please listen in Lecture, refer to the Syllabus Timeline and our OWL site to ensure you are informed of what is happening during Studio Lab and what supplies are needed. It is understood that you might not have your art materials for the first Studio Lab (September 14 – 16), but for the second Studio Lab (September 19-22) it is ***expected*** you have purchased and brought your art materials. Western Visual Arts does not supply students with art materials of which students are expected to purchase themselves.
- **Sit with your Studio Lab Small Learning Group.** Your TA will assign you to a Studio Lab small group of 3- 4 students per group during the first Studio Lab. These are the students you will share a locker with as well as sit with during Lecture. During Studio Lab, your group members are there to help one another, setting up, getting ready, and remembering objectives to the assignment.
- **Be respectful of one another and wait to take your turn.** There will be times during Studio Lab where you have to share equipment. Cutting the line, grabbing equipment from another student or any other disruptive and rude behavior is not acceptable. Your TA will ask you to refrain from such behavior; if the behavior continues, you will be asked to leave the Studio Lab and Prof. Johnson will be informed. Late penalties for work due will be applied and/or the assignment will not be accepted.

- **Do not chat with your neighbours while drawing from the still-life or the model.** Your conversation can be distracting to your fellow students as well as disrupting the model's concentration during a pose.
- **It is your TA's decision about headphone/earbud use in your Studio Lab.** It is your TA's decision whether to have a no headphone/earbud rule or to have a "one ear budded/ one ear free" rule.
- **Put away your cell phone when drawing around the model platform.** You can look at your cell phone during break. You will be more focused on your artwork if you are not constantly distracted by your phone. Also, there is a no cell phone rule when drawing from the model in the Studio, even during break. Please leave the studio during break to use your cell phone.
- **Come prepared to participate** in all class activities during the Studio Lab, including helping to set-up the class, fostering a good work environment for all by being courteous of your fellow student-artists, as well as willing to speak in Studio Lab when discussing Studio Lab Assignments or during Critiques.
- **Be prepared to clean up after at the end of every Studio Lab.**
- **Expect to leave room 302, or 206, 10 minutes before the next Studio Lab** so that the TA and students for the next Studio Lab can get organized and start promptly. For example, if your Studio Lab finishes at 11:30, you need to leave at 11:20.
- Students are generally expected to work on and complete their exercises and assignments during the Studio Lab but some Studio Lab Assignments will be finished outside of Studio Lab to be handed in the following Lab. Sketchbook assignments will be completed outside of Studio Labs.

### **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: Timeline in the Course Outline. All assignments, procedures and due dates are in the Syllabus: Timeline.
- Students are expected to complete all assignments, both Studio Lab Assignments and Sketchbook Assignments, on due dates. Failure to complete assignments or present completed work in scheduled critiques without prior consultation with the instructor could result in a failing grade.
- Students are expected to purchase the Art Kit at Bijan's Art Studio or have the equivalent materials in the kit. Visual Arts does not supply art materials to students except for materials mass purchased by the instructor through the Studio Lab fee.
- Students are also expected to pay the \$30 VAS 1020 safety and material fee. This fee includes basic safety equipment as well as communal supplies I buy for everyone, such as illustration board, Kraft paper, bamboo skewers, glue sticks, Masonite board and more! If you drop the course, the price of the safety equipment cannot be reimbursed.

#### **STUDIO LAB ASSIGNMENTS DUE DATE POLICY:**

- There are several Studio Lab assignments that are created during scheduled Studio Lab time and are due at the end of Studio Lab. Failure to attend a Studio Lab where an assignment is created and due will result in a grade of 0 (zero). Students can seek academic accommodation for such missed Studio Lab assignments with their academic advisor in their home faculty if they have appropriate documentation.
- Students cannot attend another Studio Lab to if they have missed a Lab where an assignment was created and due. Students can only attend the Studio Lab they are registered in.
- If a TA has scheduled a Critique for a Studio Lab, the assignments are due at the beginning of the lab. If a student attends without an assignment at the beginning of the Studio Lab, they will receive

a grade of 0 (zero). Assignments created during the critique will not be accepted and be given a grade of 0 (zero).

**STUDIO LAB ASSIGNMENTS LATE POLICY for Assignments created over 2-3 Labs:**

- If you choose to hand in Studio Lab assignments late YOU MUST INFORM YOUR TA OR PROF JOHNSON BEFORE THE DUE DATE. **2 marks 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.
- If you do not inform your TA or Prof. Johnson that your assignment will be late and you do not show up to Studio Lab to submit your assignment, your assignment will be graded as 0 (zero).
- You must submit work in person during Studio Lab. A friend or fellow 1020 student cannot submit work on your behalf. Assignments submitted as such will receive a grade of 0 (zero).
- Late work can be handed into your TA after Studio Lab with agreed upon terms for submission.
- If it is not possible to hand in a late assignment to your TA, DO NOT SUBMIT WORK TO OUR MAIN OFFICE.
- Late work can be handed in to PROF. JOHNSON AT HER OFFICE, TO HER PERSONALLY OR UNDER HER OFFICE DOOR Room 215 in the Visual Arts Building. Please sign the form on Prof. Johnson's door that you submitted work.
- No other submission of late work will be accepted, such as hanging your late artwork on display.
- **Two weeks after the due date, late work will not be accepted, unless the student has obtained academic accommodation. The student will be given a grade of 0 (zero) for assignments not submitted two weeks after the due date.**

**FINAL STUDIO ASSIGNMENT, OUTSTANDING ASSIGNMENT POLICY:**

- The final Studio Lab assignment is due on the specified Studio Lab in April, as outlined in the Syllabus: Timeline and no late assignments will be accepted without academic accommodation.
- Outstanding assignments with academic accommodation, or in the 2 week Late Policy period, not received on the Final Day of University Classes for the Academic Year, as listed in the Academic Calendar, will be given a mark of 0 (zero).

**SKETCHBOOK ASSIGNMENTS POLICIES:**

- Each Sketchbook Assignment will be created individually by students, in their sketchbook. Assignments will be photographed digitally, as JPEGs, and the digital photograph will be submitted under the correct Assignment Tool on OWL. Assignments should be photographed with good light, be in focus and photographed with the outside edges of the sketchbook visible. Students must upload a file size large enough in order to be assessed. No filtering or Photoshop adjustments of photographs should occur unless specified by Prof. Johnson and the assignment objectives.
- Each Sketchbook Assignment is due at **11:55pm** on the specified due date and will be submitted on OWL through Assignments. **Late Assignments will be accepted from 11:56 pm until 11:55 am on the next day.** Late Assignments will have 0.5 or 1.0 points deducted from the mark and will not receive the possible full 2 or 5 points.
- **After 11:55 am**, no Sketchbook Assignments will be accepted unless the student has received Academic Accommodation through their Academic Advisor in their home Faculty. I only mark Sketchbook Assignments submitted on OWL, by the timed dates. If you do not submit your assignment on OWL you forfeit the assignment and will receive a zero. I do not accept Sketchbook

Assignments by email, attached to a discussion link on our OWL site or in any other manner. If I receive such a submission, the assignment will receive a zero.

- Remember to submit Sketchbook Assignments early as OWL becomes busy from 10pm to midnight.
- Confirm you have submitted your assignment as well by checking your UWO email as well as our OWL site. Failure to confirm you submitted could result in non-submission status = 0. If it is not posted to OWL, I cannot mark your Sketchbook assignment.
- If there is a question about a Sketchbook assignment submission, Prof. Johnson may contact you to hand in your physical assignment in your sketchbook in order to assess it.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION:**

- 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. The instructor or department cannot grant academic accommodation.
- A student who cannot complete assignments totaling less than 10% for the whole course, due to medical reasons, must also apply to the Academic Counseling Office of their home Faculty and PROVIDE MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION. The instructor or department cannot grant academic accommodation. All assignments in VAS 1020 are worth less than 10% of the final grade and therefore need academic accommodation if missed.

### **SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES:**

- Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offense at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)
- Every Studio Lab and Sketchbook Assignment must be created specifically for the assignment, following the objectives. Previously created artwork cannot be submitted to VAS 1020 for assessment and such a submission could be considered a Scholastic Offense and/or Plagiarism.
- With the onset of Google Image Reverse Search, it is very easy for me to search any Sketchbook Assignment online as to whether you have created the assignment yourself.
- There are instances in VAS 1020 when you may partner with another student to create an assignment or when you might need to ask for a “studio assistant” to help with a technical issue, such as taking a photo while you are posing in the shot. However, it is expected that all other Studio Lab and Sketchbook Assignments are created individually by the student-artist without any further assistance. For example, students cannot share paint that is mixed for the colour wheel exercises or use the same props and wardrobe for the Cindy Sherman Sketchbook assignment. If such assistance is given, without consultation with Prof. Johnson, this could be considered a Scholastic Offense. If you have any questions about this, please ask Prof. Johnson.
- If you have any questions regarding any assignment, please consult with Prof. Johnson. I am always happy to clarify any questions, concerns and to offer advice before an assignment is due.

### **Departmental 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 anti-requisite 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, 7<sup>th</sup> ed., p. 1170). (Refer to [www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg113.html#](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg113.html#) with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.) This includes presenting the visual or aural work of another creator as your own. Visual or Aural Plagiarism may involve both hand-based media such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, as well as digital media such as photography, video and sound. It includes work subsequently manipulated or transferred between different media, as well as self-plagiarism – work submitted for assignments previously produced and graded for another course. Similar to textual plagiarism, all student work involving the visual or aural work of others must be appropriately cited/identified whether in print or orally. Failure to do so will lead to similar academic penalties as those identified in Western’s Academic Calendar.
- **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 Counseling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. The instructor or department cannot grant academic accommodation. 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/](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 10:00pm each night Monday to Friday. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00pm-5:00pm unless otherwise posted; access by side entrances only. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:00pm and 5:00pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours
- **Permission re: Promotion**  
You grant permission for Western University to reproduce your name, information describing your artwork, representations of your work and any other information you have provided for the purpose of display, promotion and publicity either now or in the future.  
By installing your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you grant Western University an irrevocable, perpetual, royalty-free world-wide license to photograph your artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, Flickr, Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Artlab Gallery or



Cohen Commons. As the area is open to the public, students, faculty, staff and other visitors will not be prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.

- **Artwork Installation Liability Release**

You understand that the area where your artwork will be hanging or displayed is unsupervised and is in a part of the building that may be open to the public, day and evening, whether or not the building is open. Western University accepts no responsibility for damage to, or loss of, artwork at any time while on display or while being transported to or from the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. By displaying your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you accept all risk of loss or damage to your artwork. Western University does not provide insurance for the artwork on exhibition. **If you wish to insure artwork, it is your responsibility to do so.**

- **Removal**

Western University reserve the right to dispose of artwork not picked up by April 15th of each year.

- **Please remember:**

One of the most important resources for course counseling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Prof. Cody Barteet (tel. 519-661-3440; [vaugc@uwo.ca](mailto: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](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca)) offers a wide range of useful services 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](http://www.lib.uwo.ca).
- Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program that offer part-time positions on campus for Western students. Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail, [finaid@uwo.ca](mailto:finaid@uwo.ca); or check out their website at [http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student\\_finances/financial\\_counselling.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html)

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- Students are expected to spend a minimum 1-hour outside of class for every one hour in class towards fulfilling course requirements.
- Some sessions may involve drawing from the nude (male or female) as a required component of the course; Students wishing to be excused from drawing from the model must consult Prof. Johnson. With permission, such student can create alternative assignments that take the equivalent amount of time spent with the model. The student to be excused will attend the beginning of Studio Lab with the model, in order to receive instruction, then will proceed to another area in the Visual Arts building to work on the alternate assignment. The student will hand in their assignment at the end of the Studio Lab when drawing from the model is finished.

**The anti-requisite for this course is VAS 020 and VAS 1025**

Students admitted to VAS 1020 may still enter the BFA program (Bachelor of Fine Arts, Honors Specialization in Studio Arts) **for possible acceptance into a limited number of spaces for the following year** provided they meet the admission requirements listed in the Academic Calendar and submit a portfolio of work for approval toward the end of the second term of the course.

### **Evaluation**

Assignments to be marked will be assessed and given a number grade based on specific grading rubrics pertaining to individual assignments. All grades will be posted to OWL under the Gradebook Tab. Students' artwork/assignments may be given verbal comments during critiques and may be given written comments when marks are posted to OWL. Commitment marks will be assigned at the end of each semester. Student's final course grades will be determined by combining the first and second term grades. The Gradebook will be hidden the following day of the last day of University scheduled classes in April in order for final marks to be submitted to the Registrar. Students will receive their final grade for VAS 1020 from the Registrar and the Gradebook will be available for view the first week of May.

### **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
- 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

### **Final Grade will be comprised as follows:**

Studio Lab Assignments (11 assignments – 1 at 3%, 1 at 4%, 1 at 5%, 1 at 6%, 6 at 7%, 1 at 10%)	<b>70%</b>
Sketchbook Assignment submissions through OWL (10 assignments – 5 at 1%, 4 at 2%, 1 at 7%)	<b>20%</b>
Commitment to Lecture and Studio Lab: <i>Which includes:</i>	<b>10%</b>

Attendance & Punctuality for Lecture and Studio Lab  
 Preparedness (bringing materials to Studio Lab)  
 Work Ethic in Studio Lab, including working diligently on assignments & cleaning up  
 Attention, Participation & Engagement in Lecture  
 Participation & Engagement during Studio Lab discussions & critiques  
 i.e. you are a student here to get the most out of VAS 1020!  
 (5 points allotted each semester in December and April)

### **Commitment to Lecture and Studio Lab marking Rubric**

5/5 - Outstanding  
 4/5 - Very Good  
 3/5 - Good  
 2/5 - Satisfactory  
 1/5 - Unsatisfactory  
 0/5 - Unacceptable

### **VAS 1020 Materials Fee**

There is a \$30.00 materials and safety equipment lab fee that will be collected at the beginning of the year. The fee will cover communal materials for assignments and safety equipment for student use and other materials ordered for the Studio Labs that students could not easily purchase individually. The fee is DUE by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Studio Lab. Please pay your TA with cash or cheque to Western University – Visual Arts.

### **VAS 1020 Art Kit at Bijan's Art Studio**

I have created a **VAS 1020 art materials kit with the assistance of Bijan's Art Studio**. This is a highly recommended kit and includes all the materials in order to create all the visual exercises in both the studio labs and the sketchbook assignments.

The kit price is still to be determined at the time of writing the course outline. I will post the price on OWL when it is available. There will be no further student discount on the kit. All the materials would be much more expensive purchased separately and Bijan's is discounting each item in the kit between 40 – 50%. The kit is available for purchase at the beginning of September (please call ahead to confirm). You will be expected to have bought the kit, or have the equivalent materials, for the second Studio Lab (week of September 18).

The only other necessary material that must be purchased is a sketchbook. It is your choice as to which format you prefer. Options will be discussed in Lecture.

**Kit includes:** Drawing Board, newsprint pad, Staedler pencils, blending stomp, conte, charcoal, eraser, kneadable eraser, mechanical pencil, set of 3 micron pens, 8 tubes of Bijan acrylic paint, 3 acrylic/oil brushes (sizes #0, #2, #6, #10), gesso brush, 32oz gesso, palette knife set, watercolor block, india ink, sumi brush, fine point sharpie, 18" metal ruler, glue stick, scissors, masking tape, painter's tape, Olfa cutting knife, mesh bag, linoleum block, linoleum cutting tool with grooves.

*For a more detailed list of the materials in the VAS 1020 Kit, please refer to our OWL site and the Art Materials tab on the left.*

***When purchasing your kit, please take the time at Bijan's to insure all your materials are included!***

***Bijan's Art Studio*** (Richmond Street at Mill Street, across from the "Ceeps" 519- 439-1340)

We have another art supply store in London (however, they do not have a VAS 1020 materials kit)  
**Curry's Art Supplies** (9 Southdale Road East, at Wharncliffe 519-649-4999)

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you already have the art materials you need for the assignments in the course, by all means use the supplies you have! Feel free to discuss your supplies with your TA or with Prof. Johnson

## **Safety and Maintenance Sheet for Drawing and Foundations Courses**

### **Faculty Responsibilities:**

- Inform students about safe use of toxic materials and ensure that students are following safe procedures. In case of an emergency, call 911.
- Instruct students in the proper use of the spray booth in room 230 if they wish to use aerosol fixatives. (The door of the booth must be **closed** when in use.)
- At the end of each class, return props and drapes to the model closet.
- At the end of each class, return space heaters and skeleton to room 206A, and opaque projectors, slide projectors, etc. to room 244. In the case of evening classes, equipment may be stored in your office and returned the next day.
- Notify Marlene Jones of any burnt-out bulbs, broken or missing furniture, and broken window blinds, etc.
- Inform students about general cleanup (including removal of paint, etc., from table surfaces), about storage of work in progress, and removal of completed marked work.
- Supervise students' adherence to the maintenance requirements listed below, under the heading "Student Responsibilities".

### **Student Responsibilities:**

- When using paint, remember that some pigments are more hazardous than others. Take special care with cadmium colours, cobalt colours, manganese colours, zinc white, flake white, cerulean blue, vermilion red, burnt and raw umber.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while painting since these activities may lead to accidental ingestion of paint.
- Use aerosol fixative only in the spray booth in Room 230 or outdoors. Fine mists from these sprays can penetrate deep into the lungs.
- Flammable fixatives must be stored in the flammable cabinet located in the spray booth in 230 and not in your locker.
- At the end of each class, remove work-in-progress from easels, A-frames and walls, and store these works in your locker or storage racks.
- At the end of each class, clean all table surfaces. Throw used jars and other containers, and dirty rags and paper towels, into the garbage containers.
- **Take home all completed graded work.**
- Replace drawing boards in the model closet.
- Wash your hands thoroughly when you are finished working with dry or wet pigments or inks. Use a good hand cream after washing with soap, in order to prevent damage to your skin's natural defensive barrier.

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