

**Western University
Department of Visual Arts**

**Studio Arts 2602A
Studio Seminar 1**

Term/Session: Fall 2020
 Time: Thursdays 9:30am - 1:30pm
 Location: WSC Rm. 55 and Online
 Professor: David Merritt; dmerritt@uwo.ca
 Teaching Assistant: Emily Dickson; emily.dickson@student.ocadu.ca
 Office Hour: Tuesdays 9:30 (Zoom Meeting ID)

Technical Requirements:

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
|  | Stable internet connection |  | Laptop or computer |
|  | Working microphone |  | Working webcam |
|  | UWO Zoom Account |  | Camera (or Camera Phone) |

Prerequisites: Registration in years 2-4 of the Honours Specialization in Studio Arts module, or permission of the Department.

Antirequisites: the former VAS 2282A/B

Calendar Description: A studio/theory seminar required for students in the second year of the Honours Specialization in Studio Arts Program. As a forum for engagement with methods and practices of professional artists it will help students prepare a portfolio review for the completion of the requirements of the BFA module.

Course Description: SA 2602 is blended in-person/synchronous online studio/theory seminar course required for students taking an Honours Specialization in Studio Arts. The focus of the course is the development of an informed, self-directed studio practice in the context of an introduction to the methods and practices of professional artists. Structured around workshops, seminars, research presentations and critiques, this course is intended to assist students to begin preparations for the portfolio review required for admission into Practicum (the BFA Capstone course).

Delivery Mode	Dates	Time	Frequency
Blended In-Person/Virtual Synchronous	Fridays	9:30am-1:30pm	weekly
Virtual asynchronous		4 hours	weekly

- Asynchronous pre-work must be completed prior to their scheduled synchronous sessions
- Participation and Engagement in both in-person and synchronous sessions are required
- Missed in class work due to illness should be completed within 48 hours
- Cameras must be on during all synchronous class and break out room activities.

All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the [OWL Help page](#). Alternatively, they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#). They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

[Google Chrome](#) or [Mozilla Firefox](#) are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click her

Learning Outcomes

1. Knowledge of Methodologies

Students will gain an understanding of the critical and creative potential of artmaking processes and be able to identify various ways artworks operate critically, and apply this understanding to the development of self-directed and collaborative artists' projects.

2. Application of Knowledge

Students will use their capacities with selected artists' materials as a critical, discursive and expressive tool to develop creative works; understand the potential viability of their works, and will utilize their reflections on their works to explore and develop further projects in order to create a body of work.

2. Communication Skills

Students will begin to be able to communicate in writing and orally assessments their own and other artists' work across a range of media, utilizing appropriate analytic vocabulary and relate this work to relevant art and culture.

4. Autonomy and Professional Capacity

Students will be able to identify a range of research and creative problemsolving strategies relevant to the production of artworks and will begin to identify a range of opportunities for artists within and beyond the academic setting. They will have a foundational understanding of the routes available to further advance their studies and/or professional practice and the appropriate means by which artists communicate with their peers, advance their careers etc.

Course Requirements

Required Materials:

Students will be expected to provide their own materials to complete studio assignments. Course readings and support resources will be made available through the Course OWL website.

Attendance:

The teaching methods used will include in-person and synchronous online class discussions, critiques, lectures and workshops. As such attendance, punctuality and preparedness for the class will be critical. Be sure to familiarize yourself with current academic consideration policies (below) concerning procedures for requesting accommodations for reasons of health or bereavement. Under university regulations, students can be debarred from participation in final evaluations and/or assignments if they misses more than 15% of their classes without written corroboration for health or bereavement (*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*).

In-Person and Online Participation and Engagement:

- | Students are expected to participate and engage with all course content as much as possible
- | Students can participate during online sessions or post comments to recordings to Owl Forums or VoiceThread as required.
- | Students can also participate by interacting in the online Forums with their peers and instructors

Studio Work:

Students are expected to work synchronously online from their home work environments during scheduled class times, plus a minimum additional 4 hrs/wk asynchronously out of class. In addition to studio exercises and assignments students are required to develop a research dossier supportive of their developing studio interests over the term.

All work for this course must be entirely the student's own and all sources used in research assignments must be properly cited. All course work must be done specifically for this class alone and be completed punctually as scheduled over the duration of the course.

Evaluation

Course Assignment Evaluation Criteria:

All grades will be based on the student's ability to clearly demonstrate:

- Understanding of assignment concepts and ability to communicate that understanding
- Ambition, resourcefulness, inventiveness
- Technical development
- Investment in production and resolution of outcome
- Development and maturity of ideas
- Attendance and engagement in project development activities

Course Evaluation Breakdown:

Attendance/Punctuality*	5%
Reading Reports**	5%
Assigned Presentation/Posts	5%
Participation in Discussions	10%

Studio Projects

Derive 1	5%
Derive 2 Collaborative	10%
Collection Display Project	20%
Dossier 1	15%
Dossier 2	25%

*Attendance: Attendance records are kept for all students. Grades for attendance will be calculated accordingly: Perfect attendance= 5%, 1 absence= 4%, 2= 2%, 3=1%, 4 = 0%. Note 3 absences in a semester could lead to being debarred from the class.

2 Lates=1 Absence. Students missing more than half a class on a given day are considered absent.

** All assigned readings will be discussed in class and completion of reading reports and informed engagement with these discussions will greatly influence participation grades.

(See course requirements for more detail regarding attendance policy)

Below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors:

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which 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	Fail

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations university grading. The table

Information about late or missed evaluations:

Failure to complete assignments without prior arrangements with the instructor will result in a failing grade. With prior approval, students may hand in late work with a 2% per day deduction from the assignment. In situations of serious health and bereavement, extensions for major assignments will be granted upon receipt of official notification from the student's faculty advisor.

- Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report
- An assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class; [an alternate assessment will be assigned] OR [the weight will be transferred to the final grade]
- If a make-up assessment is missed, the student will receive an INC and complete the task the next time the course is offered.

Course Communications

- Students should check the OWL site every 24 – 48 hours
- Weekly updates will be provided on the OWL announcements as required
- Students should email their instructor using OWL "messages"
- Emails will be monitored regularly; students will usually receive a response within 24 – 48 hours,
- This course will use Zoom for synchronous course delivery
- This course will use the OWL forum and Voice Thread for class discussion and critiques
- Students should post all course-related content on the discussion forum so that everyone can access answers to questions
- The discussion forums will be monitored regularly by instructor

Professionalism and Privacy

Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

- Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations provided on OWL
- All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared
- Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission
- Permitted recordings are not to be distributed

All recorded sessions will remain within the course site or unlisted if streamed

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). 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.

Academic Consideration:

The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by extenuating circumstances, including short-term illness or injury. Reasonable academic consideration is a cooperative process between the University, the student, and academic staff. All participants in the process must act in good faith, and fulfil their respective obligations, if it is to succeed. Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements, may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

- (i) Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form, provided that the conditions for submission are met;
- (ii) For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or
- (iii) For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration, in order to be eligible for academic consideration.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- Are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in their work;
- Are encouraged to make appropriate decisions, based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (e.g., upset stomach) or upsets (e.g., argument with a friend) are not normally an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;
- **Must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence;
- **Are advised that all necessary documentation, forms, etc. are to be submitted to academic counselling within two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities**

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less. The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

- a. Students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April, and one self-reported absence between May and August;
- b. The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30pm;
- c. The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period, should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (e.g., write a test, submit a paper) during that time;
- d. The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30am on the day following the last day of classes each semester, regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;
- e. Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations
- f. Self-reporting may not be used for assessments (e.g., midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course;
- g. Students must be in touch with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed

Mandatory 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. https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/code_of_conduct.pdf

Normal Building Access (September 1st to April 30th) (Subject to change):

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.

For the 2020-2021 academic year the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be available by card access only for students who have in-person classes in the building.

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 licence 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.

Artwork Removal:

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

Academic Sanctions:

In instances of non-payment of prescribed tuition and other fees, the University shall seal the academic record. When an academic record is sealed, the student will not be able to: a) view grades; b) register in future courses; c) receive transcripts or a degree diploma; d) obtain admission or readmission.

The above prohibitions shall be in force until such time as indebtedness to the University, including payment of fee for removal of the seal, has been cleared to the satisfaction of the University.

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&Keywords=academic%20sanctions&SubHeadingID=169&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_169

Electronic Devices (instructors may remove note surrounding recording if desired):

During Exams: Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any electronic devices during any tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations.

During Lectures and Tutorials: Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in class. **Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures – nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.**

Support Services:

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Student Development Centre -- <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>
2. Student Health -- <http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html>
3. Registrar's Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

5. Mental Health -- https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/

Health and Wellness:

Western offers a variety of counselling services and several mental health resources for students. If you or a friend are feeling overwhelmed, confused or unsure of your mental health state, please don't ignore it. There are steps you can take to help yourself or help others. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre. Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca/>. If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health Support at Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Gender Neutral Bathrooms:

There are two gender neutral bathrooms in the JLVAC. One is located in the Artlab and is open only during Artlab hours. A second single stall gender neutral bathroom can be found on the third floor of the JLVAC. Here is the full list of inclusive washrooms at UWO: http://www.uwo.ca/equity/doc/inclusive_washrooms.pdf. Please contact the Media Lab Technician, Jennifer Slauenwhite (jslauen@uwo.ca), for card access to the elevator and stairs if you are in need of the 3rd floor gender neutral/accessible washroom for the academic year.

Academic Counselling and Support Services:

One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Professor T. Johnson (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. Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the academic counselors in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities located in IGA Building, Room 1N20.

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; 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.

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