

AR 101: Introduction to Visual Arts

Course Meeting Time: Fridays, 4:30 pm – 9:40 pm

Kaneohe MCB

Instructor: Melissa Rand

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Keiffer 4, CUH Campus

Office Ph: TBA

Fall '13 Office Hours: By Appt.

Course Description

This course is part lecture, part studio. It is intended for students who have no or limited prior experience in the visual fine arts. This course is designed to introduce students to the very basic components of art. Additionally, it is designed to help students develop a "visual literacy," or an ability to interpret and make meaning out of images (art). Students will learn about several different forms of art, the role of artists, how to interpret artworks and create meaning, and how to verbally express their thoughts about art. Additionally, we will look at the ways in which an artwork's meaning can be shaped by people or place. A cultivation of critical thinking skills will be encouraged for application in the classroom and beyond. Students will also have the opportunity to engage in the art-making process using a variety of media. Given the brevity of this course, we will primarily focus on two-dimensional art forms.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, student should:

- Demonstrate an appreciation for the visual arts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic art terminology and understanding of the elements of art and principles of design.
- Demonstrate knowledge of 20th century art movements and their influence on contemporary art.
- Demonstrate knowledge and technique working with several different art media.
- Be able to create their own art and analyze and discuss their process.

Required Readings

Sarye, Henry M. *A World of Art, 6th Edition*. Pearson Publishing, 2009.

Additional readings/handouts to be distributed in class or as PDF file.

Required Supplies

A list of required art supplies will be distributed in class.

**Syllabus Responsibility*

The student is responsible for reading, comprehending and abiding by the terms and directions of this syllabus and cannot claim ignorance of its contents as an excuse.

Required Work

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is mandatory since this class only meets for 9 sessions. An unexcused absence will result in the lowering of the final overall grade.

SKETCHBOOK: Students will be asked to maintain a sketchbook throughout the course. Most in-class studio work and projects will be done in the sketchbook. Your sketchbook should include sketches and process work for in-class assignments and projects. In addition, weekly sketchbook assignments will be given.

STUDIO WORK: The second part of each class session will be dedicated to instructional studio work – students will be instructed on using a variety of media. Any remaining class time will be spent working on in-class projects. Please be prepared and bring your materials to class.

PROJECTS: We will have four graded studio projects throughout the semester. These projects differ from instructional studio work in that they require more thought, planning, and time. You will be given studio time to work on these projects, but some out-of-class time may be required to complete them.

MIDTERM PAPER: A midterm paper will be due on November 8th. You will be required to go see the *Artists of Hawaii 2013* exhibition at the Honolulu Museum of Art and write a 3 -4 page response paper about the exhibition and included art. The exhibition runs from September 19 – November 24, 2013. You will be given free admission to the museum for the purposes of this assignment (You must tell them you are a student in this course and will have to “sign in” when you arrive). More details about the midterm assignment will be given in class.

FINAL PAPER: A final paper will be due on the last day of class (December 13). The paper topic and additional details will be given in class.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: All paper assignments must be typed – double-spaced, maximum 12 pt. type, and 1” margins. Spell-check your work before submitting. Please cite your references – either footnotes or endnotes. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism (or the submission of another’s work as one’s own) is a serious offense. Consult the Chaminade University Student Guidebook section to see the University policy on plagiarism. If you are unsure about something, just ask!

GRADING:

Final grade for the course will be assessed according to the following percentages:

Attendance, In-class Participation and In-class studio work	20%
Sketchbook, weekly sketchbook assignments	20%
Studio Projects	20%
Midterm Paper	20%
Final Paper	20%
Total	100%

Grading is subjective; especially with art - as a guide I've adapted CUH's grading policy (as outlined in the student handbook) for this course:

- A – Outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative. (Exceptional work & craftsmanship, followed all requirements, time & effort evident, going above and beyond the mere requirements of project)
- B - Superior work done in a consistent and intellectual manner.
- C – Average grade indicating a competent grasp of subject matter/assignment.
- D – Inferior work of the lowest passing grade, not satisfactory for fulfillment of prerequisite course work (or assignment)
- F – Failed to grasp the minimum subject matter; no credit given (no work submitted)

ADDITIONAL COURSE CONSIDERATIONS:

Cellphones: Please no talking, texting or tweeting in class. If you have particular circumstances in which you must be able to access your phone during class, please leave it on vibrate and leave the room if you need to take a call.

Studio Time: Come prepared to get dirty! We will work with some media that are a little messy, so don't wear clothing you don't want to get dirty. Also, I recommend you bring a roll of paper towels or some wet wipes to clean your hands with during class

Please respect the facilities and keep your desk/work area clean. Since these are classrooms and not studios, we need to make sure we leave the room in the same condition as when we arrived. Please help clean up at the end of class.

Class Schedule

The first hour of each session will be lecture format with slides. You should bring a notebook to take notes. The second half of the session will be for studio exercises and working on projects.

Note: Readings listed under a particular session, should be completed prior to that session.

Session 1 - October 11

Lecture: Introduction; What is art?; Elements of Art

Studio: Beginning Drawing exercises

Readings: N/A

Session 2 – October 18

Lecture: Elements of Art continued; Drawing – materials & techniques

Studio: Drawing continued

Readings: *A World of Art*: p. xx-xxi

1. Skim Chapter 4 Line p. 55 - 74
2. Chapter 5 Space p. 75 - 92
3. Chapter 6 Light & Color p.93- 122
4. Chapter 7 Other Formal Elements p. 123-140
5. Skim Chapter 9 Drawing

Session 3 – October 25

Lecture: Principles of Design; Painting – materials & techniques

Studio: Color – soft (chalk) pastels

Readings: *A World of Art*

1. Chapter 8 Principles of Design p.141-168
2. Chapter 11 Painting p. 220-253

Session 4 – November 1

Lecture: Understanding Art; Visual Literacy; Constructing Meaning; Formal Analysis

Studio: Intro to oil pastels, Oil pastels project

Readings: *A World of Art*:

1. Chapter 2 Visual Literacy p.19-39
McCloud, Scott. *Understanding Comics*. (Handouts/PDF's)
2. Chapter 2 Vocabulary of Comics
3. Chapter 5 Living in Line

****Midterm Paper Assignment Given (Due November 8)**

Session 5 – November 8

Lecture: Seeing Value in Art; Art & Controversy; Museums & Galleries; Printmaking – materials & techniques

Studio: Oil pastels critique/discussion; Beginning block printing

Readings:

A World of Art

1. Chapter 3 Seeing the Value in Art p. 40 - 54
2. Chapter 10 Printmaking p. 193-219
3. Fred Wilson's *Mining the Museum* (In Chapt 14) p. 334-335
Guide to Writing about Art. (Handout)

Session 6 – November 15

Lecture: Developments in 19th & 20th century Art (Realism, Impressionism, Post Impressionism, Cubism, German Expressionism)

Studio: Block Printing cont.

Readings: *A World of Art*

1. Chapter 20 The Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries p. 477-497
Realism – Post-Impressionism
2. Chapter 21 From 1900 – Present p. 498-501

Session 7- November 22

Lecture: Developments in 20th century Art continued (Futurism, Dada & Surrealism, Modernism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Minimalism)

Studio: Block printing critique; Painting? (TBD)

Readings: *A World of Art*

1. Chapter 21 From 1900 – Present p. 502-512

***Final Paper Assignment Given. (Due December 13)*

November 29 – No Class

Session 8 – December 6

Lecture: Post-Modernism, Contemporary Art, Contemporary Issues

Studio: Collage project

Readings: *A World of Art*

1. Chapter 21 From 1900- Present p.513-525

Session 9 – December 13

Lecture: None – Film (TBD)

Final Paper Due + Collage critique.