

Art 225

Visual Studies

@ Andover

Instructor Renee Silva

rsilva@andover.edu

Rm 115, Elson Art Building

Course Description

What is the purpose of art? What does it mean to be an artist? What role does art play in my life? How do I interact with and access art? These may be some questions on your mind as you move through the world and as you enter this class.

“When any civilization is dust and ashes, art is all that's left over. Images, words, music. Imaginative structures.

Meaning—human meaning, that is—is defined by them” taken from Margaret Atwood’s dystopian sci-fi novel *Oryz & Crake*. This course is an introduction to contemporary art and it’s methods. We will explore weekly themes, writings, and artists to inspire discussion and response through the making of art objects.

Weekly workshops will skill-build practices of sculpture, drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, sound, and video, as well as make use of new media and collaboration via the maker’s space and print labs. Art objects you create act as ideas that can be combined, reiterated, and reconstructed for an end of term final. In order to foster a community of artists, we will use constructive criticism, on a bi-weekly basis, to help better articulate work and provide feedback that is beneficial to fellow peers. There is a visual journal component to your class that will house and foster your art practice through daily and weekly prompts. As a collective, we will create a vulnerable yet safe space for both creative and intellectual curiosity.

The emphasis of the class is on a daily practice of process, choice, and momentum to empower you to feel confident and connected to your own making as a tool for thinking and communicating. From this class you will build a personal practice of reflection with both yourself and your community. This process of archiving, thinking, responding, inventing, communicating and problem-solving are useful tools for creativity you can apply to your future endeavors. My hope is you gain a better understanding of art and its vast and impactful purpose, and that you feel you can access its use moving forward.

Expectations

- * Punctual arrival to class * Arrive prepared to class with supply kit, journal, and devices
- * Phones & Devices on-task work only, off-task use will result in losing access to them during class
- * Work on assignments with thought and care * Turn in completed assignments on time
- * Push beyond your skill set / comfort zone * Make mistakes, fail forward
- * Ask questions and for help often * Be supportive of one another and share knowledge
- * Maintain complete portfolio with ALL work from entire course
- * Respect materials, equipment, the studio workspace, and artwork
- * Participate thoughtfully in class discussions * Step up / Step back as needed
- * NO speaking/texting/reading while others are speaking
- * Respectfully engage with differences in taste, opinion, belief and identity
- * Adhere to Blue Book “Academic Expectations and Policies”

Assessment & Grading

- You are required to complete weekly visual journal assignments, readings, and art object prompts to be submitted to Canvas on time each week. **Points will be deducted for late submissions unless an extension is requested.**
- Visual Journal entries are due throughout each week on canvas and are 30% of your grade. These are graded pass/fail unless you are missing part of the assignment (in which half credit is given).
- 40% of your final grade are Projects, they will be assessed based upon the following criteria: time and care put into the assignment, the level of experimental risk taken, the level of critical and creative thought reflected in the process, and the quality of craftsmanship. **All projects may be revised and resubmitted for a higher grade up until the end of the term.**
- 15% of your grade is your participation in the studio, this includes participating in class discussions, critiques and small group work as well as maintaining a clean work space, being mindful of shared supplies, and a supportive studiomate.
- Art 225 follows a pass/fail model- the line for passing is a 4: a 78 and above. A grade below 78 (or 1, 2, or 3) is failing.

Grade Weights

15% Studio Participation

15% Readings

30% Visual Journal

40% Weekly Projects

Grading Scale

6: 96-100

5: 88-95

4: 78-87

3: 66-77

2: 60-65

Art 225 Project Rubric

POINTS	6 - Exceeding	5 - Excelling	4 - Meeting	3 - Developing	2 - Emerging
Craftsmanship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Artwork is exceptionally well done, shows mastery of materials - Craftsmanship is excellent, neat, consistent throughout, no parts were rushed - Very creative. Excellent use of materials, ideas and medium -Effort goes above and beyond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Artwork is well done. With a little more effort it could be outstanding! - Above average quality. Attention to details, but some areas may feel rushed or slightly messy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Artwork is okay. Some areas could have been done better and/or you didn't try as hard you could have - Rushed through parts of the project with some messy results - Did just enough to meet requirements, very little thought or creativity went into your artwork 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produced very low quality work (scribbled, painted far outside the lines, messy) - Showed a lack of care for the artwork - Rushed at the end, finishing in 1-3 days instead of using each class period to work on it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produced NO work OR - Incomplete: project requirements were not met OR - Very Late: turned more than 2 weeks late
Concept and Material Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applied ALL concepts and objectives -Concept is strong, thoughtful and connected to project prompt. Work extends beyond material and concept exploration -Strong demonstration of experimentation, risk and personal voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concepts discussed are evident, but could be developed more clearly -Work meets expectations of material and content exploration -Demonstration of experimentation, risk and personal voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence of concepts discussed is weak OR - Only some concepts are evident --Lacks voice and experimentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very little evidence of concepts discussed - Followed very few of the steps laid out for the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No evidence of concepts discussed - Lacking material and thought
Execution and Intentionality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Process of creating is strongly tied to concept; the material is used in a thoughtful and clear way to communicate my idea -There are many layers of intentionality, every decision connects back to my concept/material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Process of creating is tied to concept; the material is used in a thoughtful and clear way to communicate my idea -There are a few layers of intentionality, most decisions connect back to my concept/material. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Process of creating is somewhat tied to concept; the material is beginning to communicate an idea -Decisions in a project could use more intentionality and connection to concept. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Process of creating is loosely tied to concept; the material is beginning to communicate an idea -Decisions in a project could use more intentionality and connection to concept. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Process of creating is not yet tied to concept; the material does not yet communicate an idea -Decisions in a project could use more intentionality and connection to concept.
Participation and Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always participate in class discussions and small group work. -Respectful of materials and the space. Always clean my work area and return material neatly. -Goes out of way to help others and the whole community. -Comes to every class prepared with all materials asked and passed in all parts of assignment on time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Often participated in class discussions and small group work. -Often respectful of materials and the space. Often clean my work area and return material neatly. Came to most of classes on time -Arrived to most classes prepared with all materials asked. -Passed in most of my assignment on time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sometimes participated in class discussions and small group work. -Respectful of materials and the space. Sometimes clean work area and return material neatly.- came to some of my on time -Arrived to some classes prepared with all materials asked. -Some or all of project is late. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rarely participate in class -Often late to class, disruptive, and unengaged -Sometimes respectful . Arrived most of my classes my late -Rarely arrived prepared with all materials asked. -Project is passed in late 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Had to be constantly reminded of proper use of materials -Never cleaned up workspace - Did not participate in class and did not use my time well
Artist Statement/Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Well written and answered in complete sentences - Reflected deeply on the creative process and my concepts - Explained and described in detail what was made 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Well written and answered in complete sentences - Reflected on the creative process and my concepts - Explained and described in detail what was made 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Used complete sentences, but effort was not there - Somewhat explained and described what was made 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did not use complete sentences - Effort was low - Less than 1 sentence - Little or no reflection on the creative process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did not write an Artist Statement

Participation Rubric

Grade	Term	Description
6	Exceeding	Positively impacts class culture. Always participates in full class discussions. Always participates in small groups, partners, and group projects. Works actively during class time and uses out of class time to create. Respectful of the space, peers, and supplies. Fully cleans up after working and is a supportive studiomate. Comes to class on time and is prepared.
5	Excelling	Frequently participates in full class discussions. Always participates in small groups, partners, and group projects. Works actively during class time and uses out of class time to create. Respectful of the space, peers, and supplies. Fully cleans up after working and is a supportive studiomate. Comes to class on time and is prepared.
4	Meeting	Sometimes participates in full class discussions. Frequently participates in small groups, partners, and group projects. Works actively during class time and uses out of class time to create. Respectful of the space, peers, and supplies. Fully cleans up after working and is a supportive studiomate. Mostly comes to class on time and is prepared.
3	Developing	Never participates in full class discussions. Sometimes participates in small groups, partners, and group projects. Sometimes works actively during class time. Is somewhat respectful of the space, peers, and supplies. Sometimes cleans up after working and is a supportive studiomate.
2	Emerging	Never participates in full class discussions. Does not participate in small groups, partners, and group projects. Does not work actively during class time and uses out of class time to create. Lacks respect for space, peers, and supplies. Does not clean up after working and is not a supportive studiomate.

Materials & Resources

You will begin the semester with a basic materials kit which will be your responsibility to maintain, bring to class each day, and use for homework assignments. This includes a visual journal that you will keep throughout the term, within which you will complete prompts and make further notes and sketches in class. Please bring your laptop and smart phones to class each week as we will be utilizing various apps and programs. You may use the studio outside of class time in the evenings before check-in time. The expectation is you cannot bring students with you who are not in our class and you remain mindful and respectful of the space and materials. See studio agreement.

The following spaces are available resources we will utilize in class for work space, supplies, and digital technology, please see hours below:

Elson Studio hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am until 9:30pm, Sunday and Saturday 9:00am-6:30pm

The Polk-Lillard Center (computer/print lab) hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 8:00-3:00 PM, 6:00-9:15 PM, Wednesday 8-1 PM, 6:00-9:15 PM, Friday 8:00-3:00 PM (no evening hours), Saturday closed, Sunday 1:30-7:45 PM.

Art Store: Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30 PM

Nest Makers Space: Monday-Friday 11-6 PM, Saturday Closed, Sunday 1:30-6:00 PM.

Weekly Timeline *subject to change

Week 1: Community Structures

Week 2: Community Structures

Week 3: Material Exploration & observation

Week 4: Public and Activist Art

Week 5: Logo Design

Week 6: Principles of Design Collage

Week 7: MakerSpace Art

Week 8: MakerSpace Art

Week 9: Final Part One: What is Art? Artifact of learning

Week 10: Final Part Two: Performance and Identity on Video

END OF TERM: Final Presentations

Communication

If you have *any* questions about assignments, readings, written reflections, technical problems or course materials, please don't hesitate to ask. Some assignments are experimental in nature and may be confusing at first; don't be ashamed if you "don't get it." Always feel free to approach me, message me on Canvas, or email me to find a time to meet outside of class if you are struggling or just need some clarification. I will attempt to answer emails promptly, but please note that late night emails in particular may not be received or returned until the next day. **Avoid losing points on late submissions by communicating extension requests to me ahead of time***

Attendance

If you are not in class, you will be marked absent. If you are late because of another class, bring a teacher's note. Erroneous cuts must be brought to my attention and corrected within a week. Multiple absences without followup will make it difficult to pursue high quality projects and may thus affect your grade.

Academic Integrity

Honesty is the basic value on which this community rests. Academic honesty is demanded by the very nature of a school community. Honesty in the academic area means claiming as one's own only that work which is one's own. All scholarship and artistic production builds upon the ideas and information of others; the honest person makes clear in written work exactly what the source of any borrowed information or idea is, whether it be library materials, a museum exhibition, the Internet, classmates, or family members.

In visual art, you will not be in danger of dishonesty as long as you closely follow these guidelines: do all the work on your projects yourself; if you are influenced by someone else's ideas, provide written citations; if your work incorporates any text, images, music, or other materials that you did not create yourself, provide written citations; if you are ever in doubt, consult with your instructor. Instructions for submitting citations for your work will accompany all major assignments.

In addition, work done for one course may not be used to secure credit in another. It is not acceptable to submit one piece of work (e.g. photographs, videos, notes, papers, etc.) to more than one course without prior consultation with and written permission from all instructors involved.

--adapted from *The Blue Book* written policy

Diversity and Inclusion

As a teacher at Andover, I am committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of all students. If you anticipate or experience any barriers to learning in this course, please share your concerns with me so you have what you need to succeed. If you have a disability and/or are approved for accommodations, please connect with me. You can contact Laura Warner, Director of Student Accessibility Services (Pearson Hall/lwagner@andover.edu) if you have further questions. Additionally, please inform me of your preferred names and pronouns.

Land Acknowledgement

We are on Native land. We acknowledge Phillips Academy's presence on land once inhabited by the Pennacook and Pawtucket Peoples, as well as the modern-day Abenaki, Massachusetts, Wampanoag, Wabanaki, Pokanoket, and Nipmuc Nations. Phillips Academy honors all indigenous peoples who are here now, have been here for time immemorial, and will be here in the future.

Studio Agreement

Art 225

Elson 115

Fall 2022

Being in an art class means you are a member of the art studio. Studio use corresponds with non-sibi notions of responsibility, respect, collaboration, care and teamwork. This serves as an agreement and acknowledgement of understanding of studio expectations between Ms. Silva and _____ for what it means to be a good studio mate. The expectations are as follows:

1. The Elson Studio is available to your use outside of class time Monday-Friday 8:30am until 9:30pm, Sunday and Saturday 9:00am-6:30pm.
2. You must sign in and out every time you use the studio outside of class time.
3. Students / guests outside of our class are not allowed to come with you to the studio.
4. Your space is strictly inside 115, please do not work in the other classrooms or spaces unless given permission.
5. It is your responsibility to clean 100% up after yourself. This means finding the space exactly if not better than how you found it. Brushes get cleaned thoroughly, paint palettes tossed, scraps thrown away, all supplies returned. Cleaned brushes and other materials need to be put back in their proper spot, not left in the sink or counter.
6. Plan your time wisely. Always stop working and clean up 5-10 minutes before you have to leave so you are cleaning up properly.
7. Use the poster board mats for wet media to keep cleanup easier, use lysol spray to clean table after use.
8. Use all materials appropriately and safely.
9. You may check out materials to your dorm or home using the sign out sheet, with the exception of the x-acto blades. All materials must be returned by the end of the term unless asked to return sooner.
10. Maintain positive relationships and interactions with your studio mates. Be considerate and respectful at all times.

Failure to uphold this agreement can impact your studio participation and/or project grades, or call for disciplinary action.

I, _____, acknowledge, understand, and agree to the studio terms above this term in Art 225

Signature: _____

Date: _____