ARTS 4327 - 001 | Adv. Sculpture - Casting

Semester: Fall 2020  
Days: TR  
Time: 2:00pm – 4:40pm  
Location: ARTS131

Professor: Eden Collins  
Office: Upper Art Studio 134  
Office Hours: by appointment via Zoom  
Email: eden.collins@sfasu.edu

COVID-19 MASK POLICY
Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.


Instructor Introduction
Eden Collins received her MFA in Studio Art from the University of Texas at San Antonio and earned her BA in Studio Art from Hope College in Holland, MI. Her work utilizes sculpture, installation, video, performance, and photography. Collins has been exhibited nationally, and she is part of the Krugzena Museum Permanent Art Collection at Hope College. She was awarded the 2020 Berlin Residency at the Künstlerhaus Bethanien thanks to the generosity of the Blue Star Contemporary Art Museum.

Program Learning Outcomes
1. Undergraduate students will demonstrate proficiency in studio foundation skills as they relate to the elements and principles of design.
2. Undergraduate students will exhibit a high level of proficiency in the use of materials, techniques and media.
3. Undergraduate students will demonstrate understanding of contemporary art issues through exploration of synthesis of content, problem solving and creativity.
4. Undergraduate students will define and state knowledge of Art Historical precedents.

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Student will learn process, technique, and mediums associated with mold-making and casting.
2. Student will confront the considerations and possibilities of working indirectly for replication purposes, both as a technical requirement and aesthetic possibility.
3. Student will critically analyze the successes and difficulties in artworks produced in the class. This practice will allow the students to self-evaluate their work in the future to judge the effectiveness of the artwork.
4. Student contributes to organization, cleanliness, and tool maintenance of the studio, which is essential to future practice in the field and the world. This participation will allow student to experience personal value and place in the program as a whole.
5. Student will learn to assemble, construct, fabricate and manipulate multiple materials using hand and power tools using traditional and contemporary techniques with consideration for safety rules.

Description
Students will learn the basics of casting and mold-making through hands-on exposure to a variety of approaches and applications. Processes to be introduced include Waste Molds, Piece Molds, Mother Molds, and Flexible Molds. Casting materials to be investigated include plastics, clay, putty, wax and gypsum. Additional mediums will be discussed as time and interest allow. If COVID-19 permits, we will explore bronze casting through the Lost Wax or Steam Casting process.

Since this is an advanced sculpture course, you will be asked to perform to high standards and to conduct yourself as a professional artist would. That means that you will be asked to work hard, think hard, attend weekly classes and Zoom sessions, attend all group critiques, and meet deadlines.

Reading Discussions
In addition to producing artwork, students will read and discuss materials relevant to casting and contemporary artmaking. Students and instructor will engage in reading discussions, which will occur throughout the semester. Students are expected to come prepared with ideas and questions related to the assigned reading discussions.

Grade Evaluation
70%: Development of Artwork
This portion of the grade is based on the instructor’s evaluation of the artwork you created during this period. I will evaluate the quality of your aesthetic decisions, creative expression, technical expertise, inventive use of materials, evidence of artistic growth, as well as the exploration and execution of original ideas.

20%: Participation/Effort
This portion of the grade is based on the instructor’s evaluation of your work ethic, personal growth, personal responsibility, evidence of research, maintenance of sketchbook, and motivation to improve your artwork both in and out of class time. The more you work, the higher your participation portion of the grade will be. The less you work, the lower your grade will be. Sincere effort, self-motivation, experimentation, focus and positive attitude are the path to success.

10%: Reading Discussions
This portion of the grade is determined by your engagement in group discussions of our agreed-upon reading materials. Reading the material and actively participating in discussion is pivotal to understanding complex ideas, critical theory, and the contemporary art world.

Grading Scale
A (90 – 100%)
B (80 – 89%)
C (70 – 79%)
D (60 – 69%)
F (0 – 59%)
NOTE
Critique is mandatory. Missing a critique will drop your grade for that respective project by a full letter grade.

Late Assignments
Late or incomplete work will result in strong grade penalties. Incomplete work presented for critique will result in an automatic 20% grade deduction.

Critique
On the set critique date, each student will present a finished artwork to the class, and we will engage in a group critique. Critique is a time to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of your concept, visual aspects of the form, as well as your craftsmanship and mastery of materials. These critiques are important learning opportunities that help students realize how and what their artwork is visually communicating to an audience.

Attendance Policy
Artists must maintain a consistent studio practice; therefore, attendance will be recorded each class session. Due to the nature of this semester, students may miss up to 6 classes before their grade is impacted. A grade deduction of 10% from the final grade will occur for each absence beyond the 6th. Students missing class are still responsible for information covered in class and are advised to email professor if they will be missing class.

Classroom Use
Use of the tools and the sculpture facility is for currently registered sculpture students only. There are to be no visitors using tools or the facility. Use of space and materials should be reasonable for each student. The sculpture facility houses shops, a classroom, and a few semiprivate studios for graduate students. Please respect the space, materials, and artwork of others. The sculpture facility is a shared space, so students are expected to clean up the classroom and shop after each use.

NOTE
Classes will take place in the Sculpture Studio (ARTS131) Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:40pm. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Sculpture Studio open hours will be restricted to normal business hours (Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm) and designated monitored hours during non-business hours. The monitor hours will be posted no later than the first Friday of the semester. The maximum capacity for the room is 13 students, so if the room is at capacity, you must find another location to work. You may work in the sculpture classroom during other classes only if you have received prior permission from the professor of that class. Do not disrupt other classes.

Use of the Foundry
The use of the foundry is for currently registered advanced and graduate sculpture students only. Students wishing to use the foundry should have completed a metals orientation and be respectful of the procedures and processes set up to maintain a safe and secure working environment. Students are required to keep the area clear for others and to clean up after themselves. They will also be required to help maintain and service certain equipment as a part of learning to use it. The use of the melting furnace and the burnout kiln is only by prior arrangement and can only be done with the supervision of Professor Collins or Ron King.
Safety
Students are expected to use safe shop and foundry procedures at all times. Students are responsible to replace tools and equipment in their proper order when work is completed. Students may not use a tool unless they have already received safety training on the tool. If student is unfamiliar with a tool, they must ask Professor Collins or Ron King to instruct them on proper use of the tool.

Report any equipment malfunction to Professor Collins or to Ron King, the shop supervisor, immediately. If we are not around, mark the particular equipment with a sign to protect other students and leave us a note explaining the circumstances or what you think is the problem.

Storage
This is a shared classroom. Shelves will be designated for supply materials. Use only the designated storage areas unless instructed otherwise. Any projects or materials remaining after the time allotted will be disposed. Lockers in the classroom are available. Do not store food or any found object (that could have food on it) in the locker. Additional lockers are available in the main Art Building. Sign up in the art office and bring your own lock.

Materials
The sculpture facility will maintain a basic supply of glue, screws, nails, sawblades, grinding discs, sandpaper, etc. as well as materials needed for casting, however, if you plan to use great quantities of any of these products, you will be responsible for purchasing them yourself. You will be required to purchase most of your primary materials. Always make sure that you mark your materials clearly with your name and class. Please respect the artwork and materials of the other students. Materials and artwork left after finals week will be disposed of or recycled.

Tools
You should begin to have your own tools for your studio after you leave school. At the very least you will need some of your own basic hand tools (listed below). Casting requires certain specific tools depending on the casting process. Be prepared to purchase or borrow tools.

- tape measure
- utility knife
- work gloves
- safety glasses
- pliers
- hammer
- screwdrivers
- scissors
- sketchbook and writing utensils
- a toolbox
- clamps (a set of 4 bar clamps or C clamps will be most useful for casting)
Policies

Academic Integrity Policy
http://catalog.sfasu.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=78#academic-integrity

Accommodation of Disabilities: Rights and Responsibilities of Students

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Student Support

Campus Police
http://www.sfasu.edu/life-at-sfa/health-safety/campus-police

Counseling Services
http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices/

Food Assistance and SFA Food Pantry
http://www.sfasu.edu/studentaffairs/1319.asp

Health Clinic
http://www.sfasu.edu/life-at-sfa/health-safety/health-clinic

Open SFA Guide to Fall 2020 (SFA COVID-19 Information)
http://www.sfasu.edu/fall2020

ZOOM Guide
http://www.sfasu.edu/life-at-sfa/health-safety/health-clinic/coronavirus/students/student-guide-for-zoom
**Course Calendar:** Tuesdays Face-to-Face, Thursdays Virtual via Zoom at 2:00pm Central

**NOTE:** The instructor reserves the right to change, delete, or add to the course requirements and schedule at any time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Tue 8/25</td>
<td>Class Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 8/27</td>
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<td>Reading assigned</td>
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<td>Thu 8/27</td>
<td>Reading discussion via Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Tue 9/1</td>
<td>Introduction to Waste Molds and Undercuts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 9/3</td>
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<td>Reading assigned</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thu 9/3</td>
<td>Reading discussion via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Tue 9/8</td>
<td>In-class workday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 9/10</td>
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<td>Critique via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Tue 9/15</td>
<td>Introduction to Piece Molds</td>
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<td>Thu 9/17</td>
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<td>Reading assigned</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thu 9/17</td>
<td>Reading discussion via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Tue 9/22</td>
<td>In-class workday</td>
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<td>Thu 9/24</td>
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<td>Class meeting via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Tue 9/29</td>
<td>In-class workday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 10/1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Class meeting via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Tue 10/6</td>
<td>In-class workday</td>
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<td>Thu 10/8</td>
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<td>Class meeting via Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Tue 10/13</td>
<td>In-class workday</td>
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<td>Thu 10/15</td>
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<td>Critique via Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Tue 10/20</td>
<td>Introduction to Mother Molds and Flexible Molds</td>
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<td>Thu 10/22</td>
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<td>Reading assigned</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thu 10/22</td>
<td>Reading discussion via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Tue 10/27</td>
<td>In-class workday</td>
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<td>Thu 10/29</td>
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<td>Class meeting via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Tue 11/3</td>
<td>VOTE!</td>
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<td>Thu 11/5</td>
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<td>In-class workday</td>
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<td>Thu 11/5</td>
<td>Class meeting via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Tue 11/10</td>
<td>In-class workday</td>
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<td>Thu 11/12</td>
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<td>Class meeting via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Tue 11/17</td>
<td>In-class workday</td>
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<td>Thu 11/19</td>
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<td>Class meeting via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Tue 11/24</td>
<td>No School – Thanksgiving Break</td>
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<td>Thu 11/26</td>
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<td>No School – Thanksgiving Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Tue 12/1</td>
<td>Workday at home, work-in-progress images due on D2L</td>
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<td>Thu 12/3</td>
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<td>Class meeting via Zoom</td>
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<td>Week 16</td>
<td>Thu 12/10</td>
<td><strong>Final Critique via Zoom at 1:30pm Central</strong></td>
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Final Exam Schedule: [http://www.sfasu.edu/registrar/194.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/registrar/194.asp)