ARTS 5327 - 001 | Graduate 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.


Professor 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 Kruizenga 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. Graduate students will demonstrate proficiency in studio foundation courses, which will prepare them for advanced coursework in their chosen field.
2. Graduate students will exhibit proficiency in the application of technical and problem-solving skills appropriate to their designated concentration, as well as developing individual creativity.
3. Graduate students will compare their progress against models of excellence in the visual arts, which are provided through high quality extracurricular and extramural art activities.
4. Graduate students will design and implement art activities for the larger art community appropriate to their designated field.

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Graduate students will learn process, technique, and mediums associated with mold-making and casting.
2. Graduate students will confront the considerations and possibilities of working indirectly for replication purposes, both as a technical requirement and aesthetic possibility.
3. Graduate students 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. Graduate students contribute to organization, cleanliness, and tool maintenance of the studio, which is essential to future practice in the field and the world.
5. Graduate students will demonstrate ability to perform original research and scholarship, which will contribute to the creation of an original body of work.
6. Graduate students will demonstrate the ability to professionally present their artwork visually, orally, and in written form.

Description
Students will learn the process and implications 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 a graduate 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 professor 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.

Graduate Artist Talk Presentation
Graduate students will give a 10-15 minute artist talk presentation at the beginning of the semester. When developing the presentation, the student is expected to consider their personal history as an artist, their undergraduate body of work, work created in their post-baccalaureate time, plans for future artworks, historical and contemporary influences, and current area(s) of research. Students will present the artist talk to the undergraduate students and professor and accept questions from their peers.

Research Presentations
Graduate students will pursue reading and research that supports their creative impulses and current area(s) of study. Students are expected to regularly do independent research. Twice during the semester, student will present and discuss their readings, research, and current areas of interest to professor.

Grade Evaluation

60%: Development of Artwork, Effort, and Professionalism
This portion of the grade is based on the professor'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. 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 will also be evaluated. Professional behavior as a graduate student will be expected (studio etiquette, Safety compliance, and General respect for the facilities, faculty, staff, and students).

20% Research Presentations
10% Graduate Artist Talk Presentation
10%: Reading Discussions

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 semi-private 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 of. Graduate students are expected to keep their artwork in their respective studios. If graduate students need to keep artwork in a shared space, permission from the professor must be granted.

**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**

Graduate students are expected to have tools that they need to complete their artwork with the exception of large and/or expensive equipment like welders, band saw, etc. 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 additional 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 professor 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 professor reserves the right to change, delete, or add to the course requirements and schedule at any time.

Week 1
Tue 8/25  Class Introduction
          Reading assigned
Thu 8/27  No Class - Hurricane Laura

Week 2
Tue 9/1   Reading discussion via Zoom
          Introduction to Waste Molds and Undercuts
          Reading assigned
Thu 9/3   Reading discussion via Zoom

Week 3
Tue 9/8   In-class workday
Thu 9/10  Critique via Zoom
          Graduate Artist Talk Presentation

Week 4
Tue 9/15  Introduction to Piece Molds
          Reading assigned
Thu 9/17  Reading discussion via Zoom

Week 5
Tue 9/22  In-class workday
Thu 9/24  Class meeting via Zoom

Week 6
Tue 9/29  In-class workday
Thu 10/1  Class meeting via Zoom
          Research Presentation 1

Week 7
Tue 10/6  In-class workday
Thu 10/8  Class meeting via Zoom

Week 8
Tue 10/13 In-class workday
Thu 10/15 Critique via Zoom

Week 9
Tue 10/20 Introduction to Mother Molds and Flexible Molds
          Reading assigned
Thu 10/22 Reading discussion via Zoom

Week 10
Tue 10/27 In-class workday
Thu 10/29 Class meeting via Zoom

Week 11
Tue 11/3  VOTE!
          In-class workday
Thu 11/5  Class meeting via Zoom

Week 12
Tue 11/10 In-class workday
Thu 11/12 Class meeting via Zoom
          Research Presentation 2

Week 13
Tue 11/17 In-class workday
Thu 11/19 Class meeting via Zoom

Week 14
Tue 11/24 No School – Thanksgiving Break
Thu 11/26 No School – Thanksgiving Break

Week 15
Tue 12/1  Workday at home, work-in-progress images due on D2L
Thu 12/3  Class meeting via Zoom

Week 16
Thu 12/10 Final Critique via Zoom at 1:30pm Central