ART5328-001 | Advanced Sculpture: Installation

Semester: Fall 2021                  Professor: Eden Collins
Days: MW                              Office: ARTS134
Time: 2:00pm – 4:40pm                  Office Hours: MW 10:00am – 11:00am, TR 1:00-2:00pm
Location: ARTS131                   Email: eden.collins@sfasu.edu

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 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.

Course Catalog Description
Advanced work in sculpture. Exploring various approaches in installation art.

Course Structure, Objectives, and Evaluations
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. Student will define and state knowledge obtained about the history of sculpture, names of tools, historical context, content drivers, and conceptual motivations for artists.
2. Student will combine their knowledge of skills, craftsmanship, content drivers, historical references, and design principles to create and invent their own art forms.
3. Through the practice of working critiques and final critiques, student will be able to comprehend and discuss the successes and difficulties in each work. This practice will allow the students to self-evaluate their work in the future to judge the effectiveness of their artwork.
4. Student will contribute to organization and cleanliness of the studio. The practice of tool maintenance and cleanliness is essential to future practice in the field and the world.
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.

Course Expectations
This course is structured to challenge and coach aspiring professional artists as they develop a new body of contemporary artwork. I will ask you to conduct yourself as a professional artist. That means that you will be asked to work hard, think hard, attend weekly classes, attend all group critiques, and meet deadlines. Most of this course will be comprised of one-on-one meetings to discuss your progress and ideas. I will challenge you to dig deeper, push a little harder, take risks, and embrace failure as a learning tool. We will also have two rounds of mandatory group critiques. In this course you are expected to:

• take risks                     • push conceptual boundaries in ways that have significance (personal, cultural, historical, intellectual, emotional, etc.)
• embrace intellectual curiosity • be open to new ideas, new aesthetics, and new ways of making
• be innovative                      • engage in critical discourse with your peers
• engage in independent research
• experiment with materials and process
• explore new visual/formal possibilities
Course Structure

Development of Body of Work
Students will conduct independent research to develop a body of work which they will create over the 16 weeks of this course. Students will use their research to produce a proposal that outlines the body of work which will be created.

The class will have a midterm and final grading period where you will group critique the artwork you have produced throughout the semester. You are expected to produce at least 3 new works per critique period (the exception being if you are working large-scale or with time-intensive processes).

In addition to creating your artistic work, you will participate in reading discussions, research presentations, and present your graduate work to your undergraduate peers.

Reading Discussions
Students will read and discuss materials relevant to sculpture, installation, and contemporary artmaking throughout the semester. Students are expected to read and comprehend materials assigned to them. This is a graduate class; thus, you may need to read the material multiple times to understand the theories and concepts. Students will come to reading discussions prepared to unpack the readings with their instructor and classmates. There will be 3 reading discussions. As a graduate student, you will facilitate one of these discussions during the semester.

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. Research may be focus on any number of the following: formal, conceptual, social, political, historical context of student’s artwork. Twice during the session, student will present and discuss their readings, research, and current areas of interest to professor and graduate student peers. Students and professor will agree upon the date of presentation during week 1 of class.

Graduate Artist Talk Presentation
Graduate students will give a 10 – 15-minute artist talk presentation at the beginning of the semester outlining their research and body of work. 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 professor and classmates and accept questions from their peers.

Grade Evaluation:
50%: Development of Body of Work
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%: Professionalism and Effort
This portion of the grade is based on the instructor’s evaluation of your work ethic, personal growth, personal responsibility, evidence of research, 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. Studio etiquette, Safety compliance, and General respect for the facilities, faculty, staff, and students will be considered.

10%: Reading Discussion Facilitation
10%: Research Presentations
10%: Graduate Artist Talk Presentation
Grading Scale:
A (90 – 100%)
B (80 – 89%)
C (70 – 79%)
D (60 – 69%)
F (0 – 59%)

NOTE:
Critique is mandatory. Missing midterm and/or final critique will drop your grade for that respective grading period 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 the ongoing pandemic 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.

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. In some cases, you will need to purchase your own special hardware or fasteners for a specific purpose. 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 graduate school. At the very least you will need some of your own basic hand tools.

Basics include:
• tape measure
• utility knife
• work gloves
• safety glasses
• pliers
• hammer
• screwdrivers
• scissors
• sketch book and writing utensils
• a toolbox

University Policies and Information

Academic Integrity (4.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-academic-dishonesty-4.1.pdf.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (5.5)
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. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Mental Health and Wellness
SFA values students' mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students' mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:

SFA Counseling Service
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
Rusk Building, 3rd Floor
936.468.2401

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services, Room 202
936.468.1041

Crisis Resources
Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343S
Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Campus Police
Emergency: 936.468.9111
Non-Emergency: 936.468.2608

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

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

Course Calendar on next page >>>
Course Calendar:
NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to change, delete, or add to the course requirements and schedule at any time. COVID-19 may impact the course calendar, and if changes need to be made, instructor will notify students of changes immediately.

Week 1
Mon 8/23  Syllabus Introduction
Overview of semester proposals
November exhibition introduction
Wed 8/25  Studio workday

Week 2
Mon 8/30  Graduate Artist Talk Presentations
Semester Proposal due
Wed 9/1

Week 3
Mon 9/6  1:1 with instructor
Wed 9/8  Studio workday

Week 4
Mon 9/13  1:1 with instructor
Wed 9/15  Reading Discussion 1*

Week 5
Mon 9/20  1:1 with instructor
Wed 9/22  Studio workday

Week 6
Mon 9/27  1:1 with instructor
Wed 9/29  Studio workday

Week 7
Mon 10/4  1:1 with instructor
Wed 10/6  Midterm Critique

Week 8
Mon 10/11  Midterm Critique
Wed 10/13  Studio workday

Week 9
Mon 10/18  Reading Discussion 2*
Wed 10/20  Studio workday

Week 10
Mon 10/25  1:1 with instructor
Wed 10/27  Studio workday

Week 11
Mon 11/1  Exhibition installation week
Wed 11/3  Exhibition installation week
Fri 11/5  Exhibition opening

Week 12
Mon 11/8  1:1 with instructor
Wed 11/10  Studio workday

Week 13
Mon 11/15  1:1 with instructor
Wed 11/17  Reading Discussion 3*

Week 14
Mon 11/22  No Class, Thanksgiving Break
Wed 11/24  No Class, Thanksgiving Break

Week 15
Mon 11/29  1:1 with instructor
Wed 12/1  Studio workday

Fri 12/10  Final Critique, 8:00am – 10:00am