**ART5397-004 | Graduate Sculpture and Technology**

Semester: Fall 2023  
Professor: Eden Collins  
Days: MW  
Office: ARTS134  
Time: 11:00am – 1:40pm  
Office Hours: MW 10:00am – 11:00am & TR 1:00pm – 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, and she has been exhibited nationally and internationally.

**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 technologies available for the creation of sculpture, the history of sculpture, names of tools, historical context, content drivers, and conceptual motivations for artists.
2. Student will leverage technologies, practice sound craftsmanship, integrate compelling content drivers, historical references, and design principles to create and invent their own art forms.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**
The class will explore technologies available for the creation of sculpture. Students will explore additive and subtractive manufacturing processes, CAD and CAM, CNC, 3D modeling and vector-based design, circuitry, and more. Students will work with a variety of materials based on their individual projects. Some materials include cardboard, acrylic, extruded filament, resin, and wood. The class will leverage the School of Art technologies as well as the SFA Makerspace, located in the Steen Library.

The class will be divided into phases for each project: tutorials/demonstrations, ideation/digital creation, manufacturing, assembly, and finish. The class will have grading periods where students will group critique the artwork you have produced throughout the semester.

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 critically, attend weekly classes and all critiques, be punctual, 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 harder, take risks, and embrace failure as a learning tool. In this course you are expected to:

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

Course Structure

Development of Body of Work and Proficiency in Technologies
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 semester proposal that outlines the body of work which will be created.

You are expected to produce artworks at a rate of 1-2 pieces every other week (the exception being if you are working large-scale or with time-intensive processes).

In addition to creating your artistic work, you will learn the software, apps, and technology covered in this course.

Semester Proposal and Reflection
Graduate students will provide semester plan proposal to professor by the 4th class meeting. Students are expected to develop a plan for the artworks they intend to produce during the semester as well as an estimation of quantity, scale, materials, and medium. Areas of research and interest must be outlined in proposal. Students may diverge from plan during the semester, but the plan should act as a framework for the semester. At the end of the semester, graduate students will complete an end-of-semester self-evaluation reflecting their execution of the semester plan.

Semester Portfolio
Graduate students will submit an artist statement and digital images with an image list and of all works completed during the course via Dropbox on D2L.

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 focus on any number of the following: formal, conceptual, social, political, historical context of student’s artwork. Twice during the semester, students will informally 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 presentations during week 1 of class.*

Grade Evaluation:
40% Development of Body of Work & Professionalism

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.

This portion of the grade is also based on the instructor’s evaluation of your work ethic, personal growth and responsibility, evidence of research, and motivation to improve your artwork both in and out of class time. Graduate students are expected to model proper studio etiquette, safety compliance, and general respect for the facilities, faculty, staff, and students.

20% Proficiency in Technologies
Evidence of proficiency in software/apps and associated technologies.

10% Assignments
Successful completion of preparatory tutorials and assignments.

10% Semester Proposal and Reflection
10% Research Presentations
10% Semester Portfolio

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 is expected. Students may miss up to 3 classes before their grade is impacted. A grade deduction of 10% from the final grade will occur for each absence beyond the 3rd. Students missing class are still responsible for information covered in class and are advised to email professor in advance 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.

You cannot work in the sculpture classroom during other classes without first obtaining permission from the instructor 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:
ARTS131 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.

The SFA Makerspace does not have storage for your supplies, so any materials brought to the SFA Makerspace must be taken home when you leave.

Materials:
The sculpture facility will maintain a basic supply of consumables like 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

SYLLABUS NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to change, delete, or add to the course requirements and schedule at any time. If changes need to be made, instructor will notify students of changes immediately.

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University Policies and Information

Academic Integrity (4.1)
The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

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
Health and Wellness Hub (corner of E. College and Raguet) 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: 1.800.392.8343
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
| Week 1 | Mon 8/28 | Syllabus Introduction  
Visit SFA Makerspace  
Introduction to TinkerCAD  
Introduction to Semester Proposal |
|--------|----------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Wed 8/30 | Introduction to CAD, FDM & SLA 3D Printing – Additive Manufacturing Project  
Create TinkerCAD account  
TinkerCAD Tutorials: 3D Printing |
| Week 2 | Mon 9/4 | Semester Plan Due 11:59pm on D2L  
TinkerCAD Tutorials: 3D Printing assignment due  
3D Printer demo – class in SFA Makerspace |
| Wed 9/6 | Sketchbook ideas due  
Workday |
| Week 3 | Mon 9/11 | Workday |
| Wed 9/13 | Workday |
| Week 4 | Mon 9/18 | Workday |
| Wed 9/20 | Workday |
| Week 5 | Mon 9/25 | Additive Manufacturing Project Critique |
| Wed 9/27 | Introduction to Vector-based design – Subtractive Manufacturing Project  
Introduction to Laser Cutter  
Vector software (Adobe Illustrator, Inkscape, CorelDRAW) tutorials |
| Week 6 | Mon 10/2 | Vector software tutorial assignment due  
Laser cutter demo – class in SFA Makerspace |
| Wed 10/4 | Sketchbook ideas due  
Workday |
| Week 7 | Mon 10/9 | Workday |
| Wed 10/11 | Introduction to Vinyl Cutter – class in School of Art tech shop  
Workday |
| Week 8 | Mon 10/16 | Workday  
Research Presentation* |
<p>| Wed 10/18 | Workday |
| Week 9 | Mon 10/23 | Subtractive Manufacturing Project Critique |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Wed 10/25</td>
<td>Introduction to Circuitry – Light, Sound, Movement Project</td>
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<td>Introduction to Arduinos</td>
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<td>TinkerCAD Tutorials: Arduinos</td>
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<td>Mon 10/30</td>
<td><strong>TinkerCAD Tutorials: Arduinos assignment due</strong></td>
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<td>Arduino demo – class in SFA Makerspace</td>
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<td>Wed 11/1</td>
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<td>Wed 11/15</td>
<td><strong>Light, Sound, Movement Project Critique</strong></td>
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<td>Introduction to Final Project</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Mon 11/20</td>
<td><strong>No School – Thanksgiving Break</strong></td>
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<td>Wed 11/22</td>
<td><strong>No School – Thanksgiving Break</strong></td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Mon 11/27</td>
<td><strong>Sketchbook ideas due</strong></td>
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<td>Final Project demo</td>
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<td>Wed 12/6</td>
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<td><strong>Mandatory Shop Clean-up</strong></td>
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<td>Finals</td>
<td>Wed 12/13</td>
<td>Final Project Critique</td>
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<td>Semester Portfolio Due 11:59pm on D2L</td>
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<td>Semester Proposal Reflection Due 11:59pm on D2L</td>
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*Note – these dates are tentative and will be determined by graduate students and professor by the end of week 1 of the semester*

**Note – 1:1 Meeting dates will be determined by graduate students and professor by the end of week 1 of the semester**