ARTS4326 – 001 | Advanced Sculpture

Semester: Spring 2024
Days: TR
Time: 2:00pm – 4:40pm
Location: ARTS131

Professor: Eden Collins
Office: ARTS134
Office Hours: Wednesdays by appointment
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 exhibited nationally and internationally.

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

Student Learning Outcomes
1. Student will define and state knowledge obtained about the history of the sculpture field, 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 Student will combine their knowledge of skills, craftsmanship, content drivers, historical references, and design principles to create and invent their own art forms.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 discuss, share, contrast and comprehend 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 the artwork.
4. Student contributes 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. This participation will allow student to experience personal value and place in the program.
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 Structure
The class will have three grading periods where you will group critique the artwork you have produced throughout the semester. Students are expected to produce a minimum of 1 artwork per grading period.

For each artwork your choice of materials and processes will be dependent on your direction as an artist and your intention for your sculptures. You will have the option of using wood, metal, stone, paper, paint, found objects, etc. Time-based formats like video and performance can be integrated as well. 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 critically, meet deadlines, attend weekly classes and all critiques, be punctual, and actively engage inside and out of class.

Sketchbook
Advanced Sculpture students will be required to maintain a sketchbook throughout the semester. A separate sketchbook is not required for this course. Students will be expected to record notes, drawings, and all ideas associated with their projects in their sketchbooks.

50 Sketches Project
Students will produce 50 “sketches.” These sketches help students go from ideation to execution quickly, process many ideas, find direction, and eliminate unhelpful thoughts. Students may create maquettes, small-scale sculptures, drawings of their sculptures (max 10), storyboarding for performance or video pieces, etc. This is NOT 50 drawings in a sketchbook. Students are encouraged to experiment and try any idea that comes to them. These should be thoughtfully executed ideas. This project will require self-discipline and time management to execute it well.
Reading Discussions
In addition to producing artwork, students and instructor will read and discuss materials relevant to sculpture and contemporary artmaking. Students are expected to come prepared with ideas and questions related to the assigned reading discussions. Reading the material and actively participating in discussion is pivotal to understanding complex ideas, critical theory, and the contemporary art world.

Artist Research
Students will be required to complete an artist research presentation. Students will be expected to independently research a contemporary artist working in sculpture and produce a 10–15-minute presentation on the artist of their choosing. The assignment parameters will be given in class during the semester.

Grade Evaluation
60%: Artwork Development and Effort (20% per grading period)
This portion of the grade is based on the instructor’s evaluation of the artwork you created during this period. You will be evaluated on 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, personal responsibility, evidence of research, maintenance of sketchbook, and motivation to improve your artwork both in and out of class time. Sketchbook submissions will be a regular part of this evaluation.

15%: 50 Sketches Project
15%: Reading Discussions
10%: Artist Research

Grading Scale
A (90 – 100%)
B (80 – 89%)
C (70 – 79%)
D (60 – 69%)
F (0 – 59%)

Late Assignments
Late or incomplete work will result in strong grade penalties. Incomplete work presented for critique will result in an automatic 10% grade deduction. Late work will result in a 10% grade deduction for each day it is late.

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.

NOTE
Critique is mandatory. Missing critique will automatically drop your grade for that respective grading period by a full letter grade.

Attendance Policy
Artists must maintain a consistent studio practice; therefore, attendance is expected. Due to the nature of the ongoing pandemic this semester, 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 always use safe shop and foundry procedures. 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 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 school. At the very least you will need some of your own basic hand tools.

**Basics include:**
- Tape Measure
- Utility knife and X-acto knife
- Work gloves
- Safety glasses
- Pliers
- Hammer
- Screwdrivers
- Scissors
- Sketchbook and writing utensils
- Toolbox

**SYLLABUS 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.

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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/counsellingservices
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: 1.800.392.8343S
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

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