

# ART 4303: ADVANCED STUDIO CONCENTRATION AND CAPSTONE

2-4.50pm, Tuesday and Thursday | Jan - May, 2020 | Room BAB 303, SRSU

Avram Dumitrescu [adumitrescu@sulross.edu](mailto:adumitrescu@sulross.edu) 432-837-8380 Office: FAB 07

Office Hours: **MW: 10.30-11.30am TR: 9-9.25am**, and by appointment

## Course Introduction

This class will allow you to create artwork in your discipline and prepare for a professional level exhibition. You are to continue creating work once your exhibition has been installed.

## Learning Objectives

In this course, you will:

- Create enough artwork in your discipline to comfortably fill the SRSU art gallery
- Install a professional-quality exhibition
- Publicize your exhibition
- Research contemporary art practices and vocabularies via a number of essays

## Grading and Evaluation

Each student will work with the professor to create an Excel sheet onto which grades will be kept. This is due to every student doing very different work from each other. Each student must complete the following written projects. More details can be found under the *Important Dates* section.

- *Production of artwork and installation of exhibition – 75%*
- *Artist Statement, resume, press release, promotional items, three essays – 25%*

## Materials and Text

- 4GB (at least) jump/flash drive
- Online account to back up your data (e.g. Google Drive)
- Framing supplies
- Postcards

No textbook is required for this course. but a jump-drive is essential for saving your work. Back up your projects to another location, such as at a free service like [www.dropbox.com](http://www.dropbox.com) or [www.google.com/drive](http://www.google.com/drive). Not submitting a project because you lost your jump-drive or some other technical difficulty will not be accepted as an excuse and will earn you a zero for that project.

## \*\*\* NEW \*\*\* Gallery Exposure

In an effort to give you more gallery exposure, each semester you are to create and frame two pieces of art for either the Annual Juried Art Exhibition at Sul Ross or Alpine's Artwalk.

## Reference Material

It is NOT acceptable to use only the internet for reference material (you may use a small portion, however). You MUST find your own via books of illustration, paintings, and photography at the library or take your own photographs.

## Gallery Contents

The professor reserves the right to edit the contents of the gallery space.

## Tobacco Products

Tobacco products of any kind and e-cigarettes are not allowed in the classroom.

## Email

Check your email account EVERY day. This is the account registered at Blackboard and is usually your Sul Ross email account.

## Rules and expectations

Attendance is **compulsory**. If you must miss a class for a school-related activity, the absence must be discussed (and arrangements made regarding coursework) **prior to the absence**. If you must miss a class for an emergency or illness, please contact me **by email or phone as soon as possible**. Six (6) absences result in you being dropped from the course with a grade of “F” as per Sul Ross State University policy. Five (5) unexcused absences will result in a zero for your attendance and participation grade. Arriving to class **on time** is also essential – **arriving late more than two times will be counted as one absence. Lateness is defined as 15-minutes after the start of class. Leaving before class ends will result in you being marked absent for that day.**

Below is a guide to how much each absence impacts your attendance and participation grade.

- |                                 |      |                                |        |
|---------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|--------|
| • One (1) unexcused absence:    | -20% | • Four (4) unexcused absences: | -80%   |
| • Two (2) unexcused absences:   | -40% | • Five (5) unexcused absences: | - 100% |
| • Three (3) unexcused absences: | -60% | • Six (6) unexcused absences:  | FAIL   |

No cell phone usage. No social-networking websites. No instant-messaging. No checking personal emails. Headphones and earbuds are allowable **ONLY** when you are working, but not when the professor or a fellow student is speaking. **Doing any of these, or anything I consider disruptive to the class, will drastically drop your attendance and participation grade. You may be also asked to leave the class and will be marked absent for that day.**

**Late work** will not be accepted.

**Plagiarizing, cheating, or any other dishonest behavior in the classroom will not be tolerated.** Rules and regulations regarding plagiarism, dishonesty, and other issues concerning classroom participation can be found in University Rules and Regulations and Student Handbook.

## ADA Needs

It is Sul Ross State University policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If a student would like to request such accommodations because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the ADA Coordinator in the Ferguson Hall, room 112 or call (432) 837-8691. Please relate all requests for special accommodations to the instructor by the third class period.

## SLOs

1. Students will expressively communicate an original idea or concept visually through an original artwork.
2. Students will demonstrate proficiency in writing within the arts discipline.
- 3d. Students with a concentration in Digital Art will be able to demonstrate knowledge and familiarity of digital image creation and knowledge of professional practices in digital art.
  - a. Demonstrate the ability to produce a cohesive professional thematic capstone project which is well crafted and has a defined technique or personal style.
  - b. Demonstrate technical mastery of digital skills as they apply to the selected media.
  - c. Ability to produce a professional portfolio that meet current industry standards.

- d. Ability to work in a timely manner.

## DELIVERABLES

The text in this section is courtesy of Carol Fairlie

### **Three papers due on Jan 28, 2020**

#### 1. Written Assignment #1:

List the basis for your work and its historical basis? Elaborate on one of the concepts you have investigated and relate it into contemporary trends within your medium. 500 words.

#### Written Assignment #2:

When viewing your chosen medium how does one make an aesthetic critique of art? As an example, what qualities do we look for when viewing sculpture? What about jewelry, painting, ceramics and photography? Be prepared to explain this to the group at critique. 500 words.

Written Assignment #3 – Who are your contemporary influences? Who were their influences. Create a “tree” of influences. Must contain at least 16 artists.

### **Statement due Jan 21.**

Submit an artist’s statement for review by the committee.

This discusses your work, its development and its relationship to the contemporary art scene must accompany your exhibition. The statement should cover your *personal approach to the issues surrounding the development, and presentation of your work. This statement will attempt to justify your aesthetic investigations in relation to ideas of Contemporary Art (since 1970), the heritage of World Art, and issues of socio-politic importance.*

### **Up to a month before your show:**

Work with your *major advisor* /instructor(s) within your area of specialization to create a body of work reflecting your thematic concepts and maturity within your area of specialization. The concept of the show and the work involved in it will be written up as an “Capstone Exhibition Proposal” and turned in at mid-semester of the last 4301 class. It is your responsibility to set up a weekly appointment with your advisor and keep it.

All work exhibited must be OK’d by your major advisor.

### **Four weeks before your show:**

1. Submit the design for your invitation/announcement for your show.

This must include a title for the show, dates of show, reception date (if applicable) and that the show is a Sul Ross State University BFA exhibition.

2. Finished artist’s Statement
3. Rough draft of a press release
4. Draft of your postcard and poster for the show.
5. Make sure all your work is ready for the exhibition. (touched up, framed, wired, pedestals, etc.)

### **Two – three weeks before your show:**

1. Approved press release for the local should be submitted to Travis Hendryx ([travis.hendryx@sulross.edu](mailto:travis.hendryx@sulross.edu)) and any other papers you would like to submit too.
2. Get your postcards and posters printed. Contact Joan Oesper ([joesper@sulross.edu](mailto:joesper@sulross.edu)) These can take up to 10 days. You may also print off campus. You must pay for printing.
3. Write a 30 sec press release for the radio.
4. Hang posters around campus and downtown.
5. Get your tags printed.

### **The weekend before your show:**

1. Check with your advisor to see when they are available.
2. The gallery should be empty by noon.
3. Layout your art the way you want it hung
4. Make sure you have ruler, nails, hammer, straight pins, etc.

### **The end of your show**

1. Total clean up after the reception area including sink and trash.
2. A resume will be turned in to your major professor.
3. CD: All the works in your show. Jpegs should be 300dpi, color correct, cropped to size and labeled with your name and a number (jdoe#1.jpeg), and an accompanied list of title, medium, dimensions, date done.
4. Photographs of your exhibition and reception.
5. Clean up; All display cases and pedestals that are used must be returned to the proper storage area after the show

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

*Please note that this syllabus is subject to change*

First class day: **Class introduction. Begin working on your 15-week schedule, due the second-class day as a Word document. Below are discipline suggestions, but you are responsible for designing your projects and methods of research, pending professor approval. Submit your schedule as a one-page calendar to [adumitrescu@sulross.edu](mailto:adumitrescu@sulross.edu)**

Second class day: **Tell the class about your self-generated idea and begin work! Your 15-week schedule is also due in Word format (see template on next page).**

**Email a breakdown of your exhibition details to the professor no later than the start of class (5% of your overall grade)**

- Jan 21: **Statement is due (10% of your overall grade)**
- Jan 21: **Exhibition Poster due today**
- Jan 28: **Three written papers due today**  
**DUE TODAY - Select an artist you admire in your discipline, or a technique you wish to explore during the semester and write a 750-word essay about your topic. If you chose an artist, talk about their major artworks, and what makes their work important. If you want to write about a particular method of working, break it down in detail and then discuss artworks where the techniques have been used. All essays should list sources and include images. (10% of your overall grade)**
- Jan 28: **Email a resume to the professor no later than the start of class (5% of your overall grade)**
- Mon, May 4: **Exam is from 12.30-2.30pm. Present your project to the class.**

## WRITING A STATEMENT

*Taken from "The Successful Artist's Career Guide: Finding Your Way in the Business of Art by Margaret Peot"*

- 1) Honestly answer the questions below
- 2) Combine these into a statement
- 3) Do not use the beginnings below. Rewrite and reorder the beginnings.
- 4) Make sure your text flows.
- 5) Be clear. Do not alienate your audience with technical terms (if you do need to use technical terms, explain what they are)
- 6) Craft a personal text – this is an introduction of your artwork to the world when you're not present

I make \_\_\_\_\_

It is made from \_\_\_\_\_

I started making this because \_\_\_\_\_

With this work, I would like to say \_\_\_\_\_

I am influenced by \_\_\_\_\_

I chose this particular technique because \_\_\_\_\_

The direction I see this work going \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

WEEK 01	
WEEK 02	
WEEK 03	<i>A statement and essays 1-3 are due this week</i>
WEEK 04	
WEEK 05	
WEEK 06	
WEEK 07	
WEEK 08	
WEEK 09	
WEEK 10	
WEEK 11	
WEEK 12	
WEEK 13	
WEEK 14	
WEEK 15	

EXHIBITION COMMENTS

**Gallery and Outreach Rubric**

	Excellent 90-100%	Above Average 80-89%	Average 70-79%	Below Average 60-69%
1. All work must be professionally displayed. Special display concepts must be approved by your advisor and maintained throughout the run of your exhibit. All shows must be in the SRSU Gallery. Any other venue may be substituted only with permission of your advisor and Dean of Arts & Sciences. —				
2. An artist's statement that discusses your work, its development and its relationship to the contemporary art scene must accompany your exhibition. The statement should cover your personal approach to the issues surrounding the development, and presentation of your work. This statement will attempt to justify your aesthetic investigations in relation to ideas of Contemporary Art (since 1970), the heritage of World Art, and issues of socio-politic importance. —				
3. A press release should be turned into News and Publications (BAB 108 or email Steve Langslang@sulross.edu) and any other papers you wish, the Monday of the week preceding your show. This will be developed from your show proposal and artist statement. A draft should be turned in three weeks before your show and approved by your major advisor. —				
4. Write a 30-second script for radio announcing your exhibition. —				
5. Print ten 8.5- x 11-inch posters advertising your exhibition to be posted around campus and in town. Keep one for the gallery door. Please let me see the design before you commit to final prints. —				
6. Four postcards can fit onto a letter-sized sheet. You should make a minimum of 40 postcards. Joan Oesper at the SRSU Printshop can assist you with printing. This must include a title for the show, dates of show, reception date (if applicable) and that the show is a Sul Ross State University BFA exhibition. —				
7. A resume will be turned in to your major advisor. —				

8. Documentation of all the works in your show. JPEGs or PNGs should be 300dpi, in focus, color correct, cropped to size and labeled with your name and a number (jdoe#1.jpeg), and an accompanied list of title, medium, dimensions, date completed. —				
9. Include photographs of your exhibition and reception. —				
10. Clean up: All display cases and pedestals that are used must be returned to the proper storage area after the show is taken down. Pull out all nails. No marks on the walls. Total clean up after the reception area including sink and trash. —				
TOTAL OUT OF 100% – _%.				
<b>TOTAL OUT OF 25% - _%</b>				

**Artwork for class/exhibition Rubric**

	Excellent 90-100%	Good 80-89%	Average 70-79%	Poor 60-69%
• <i>Production of artwork and installation of exhibition –</i> <i>_/75%</i> —				
TOTAL OUT OF 100% – _%.				
<b>TOTAL OUT OF 75% - _%</b>				

CLASS TOTAL – \_\_\_%