

Individual Research Problems

SPRING 2026

ART 5303

Schedule: T-TH 6:00pm - 8:50pm

Location: VAPA 201

Instructor: Ramon G. Deanda

Contact:

Cell: (915) 269-5693 *Please, text unless it is an emergency!*

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Office: FAB 009

Office Number: 432-837-8258

Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 A.M. and 1:00PM-1:50 MWF

Course Description

This is an advanced concept and technique class in Painting (watercolor, oil or acrylic) or works on Paper. It is generally as a coinciding class to ART 5304. Exploration of thematic concept, color theory, composition, advanced techniques and consistency in medium is required. Students may only work in one medium per semester, unless a unique series of work has been agreed upon with the instructor.

REQUIRED WORK:

You must choose one medium and theme and stick to it all semester.

A consistent thematic portfolio 7 large or 10 smaller compositions, with thumbnail studies.

Size of work should be 10 finished: 24 x 30" or 7 - 30" x 40" or larger. A 52" x 72" will count as 2.5 paintings. You may also choose to do two small paintings 16 X 20 for the first assignment.

Specific goals may be set for each student, pertaining to their style, thematics and based on their individual strengths and weaknesses.

All work must show evidence of consistent work habits and intent throughout the semester. Students must be able to discuss use of Composition: Focal points, spatial relations, color theory and palette choices, texture, content/context to Art History, and use of thematics.

The work must show evidence of consistent work habits and intent through out the

semester. Although a set size format and number of works been established, individual directions and specific ideas can be substituted with the permission of the instructor as long as the project and the amount of work is equal to the original portfolio.

Three (3) essays on contemporary Art Exhibits

JPEG images of your semesters work. Jpegs should be 600dpi, color correct, cropped to size and labeled with name and number (fairlie#1.jpeg). These are due in the week of finals.

Also include a typed word document with your name, title, medium, size, and date completed. This should correspond to your jpeg images. Jpegs should be 600dpi.

SUPPLIES:

Students are expected to have their own paints and brushes.

You are expected to keep your work area clean, and to take care of your own equipment

Paints need to include at least 3-4 of each hue of the primary colors and at least 2-3 of each of the secondary colors and earth tones.

Palettes may be larger, double, or Tempered glass.

A variety of brushes, blenders and tools suitable for the medium and techniques involved.

Supply orders can be placed but it takes 10 days to get n order in. See last page for websites.

LAB FEE/ SUPPLY DEPOSITS: \$200.00

A lab fee of \$25.00 will include soap, paper towels, solvent, charcoal, fixative and matte spray, underpainting gesso, a variety of extra and experimental materials for students to try.

A deposit of \$175.00 for canvas, \$95.00 for paper plus 3 shadowbox frames @\$44.00 for Drawing and Watercolor will be charged to each student. This fee is a deposit is based on costs for canvas (\$19.00 ea., 30x40 cheap style) or paper (\$12.00).

TEXTS:

Recommended in Painting: Jennings: Artist's Color Manual 0-8118-4143-x

Any good text that helps you through the subject matter.

ATTENDANCE:

The structure of the “4301/5304 studio class” course requires consistent attendance. This class is required to cover 96 studio class hours.

You should be prepared to put in at least 10-15 hours per week to finish your work. This means You are expected to paint regularly, and have a scheduled studio hour!

Work not finished by the due date, will be dropped a letter grade per class day.

After 4 class days the grade becomes an “F”.

Class is scheduled for 6 hours a week, and I expect you to work at least 3-10 in the studio outside of class, you need to be in the studio during scheduled class s hours.

Scheduled critiques and personal critique times will be held on opposite weeks and both require constant attendance! If you can’t be there, I need to know in advance! 837-8258 or 294-1313.

More than three (3) absences without an official excuse will result in an evaluation adjustment at the end of the semester.

CRITIQUES:

Students are expected to be in class working during scheduled class hours.

You are expected to be painting daily. I should be able to walk in and see your progress, give you pointers and critiques. If you are not in when I show up, you are considered absent.

Critiques will be held every other week on Monday at 2:00. Changes in schedule may occur as the semester progresses.

#1 FEB 19 #1#2

#2 March 05 (Thursday) #3 #4,

#3 March 19 (Tuesday) #5 #6,

#4 April 16(Tuesday) #7

April 20 all paintings due in for grading.

May 5th Final any finishing that was allowed, CD of art work and artist statements, Studio clean up,

Dec 10 any finishing that was allowed, CD of art work and artist statements, Studio clean up,

Proposals: Proposals for taking exhibition are due in the first class after mid semester. (Oct 15.)

Course Objectives

1. Expressively communicate an original idea or concept visually.
 1. Proper techniques applied to the medium,
 2. Use of principles and elements of good composition,
 3. Development of technique and personal style.
 4. Use of original concepts and non clichéd ideas.
2. Demonstrate technical mastery of materials and traditional artistic skills.
 1. Advanced techniques and craftsmanship applied to a specific area of specialization.
 2. Application of the principles and elements of good composition,
 3. A defined technique or personal style.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of professional practices in studio art.
 1. The ability to create a cohesive exhibition of well crafted and thematic work
 2. Displays an strong understanding of craftsmanship
 3. Displays the ability to write about art.
 4. Understands health and safety practices in the studio

YOUR GRADE IS BASED ON THESE CONCEPTS!!!

1. DESIGN: Balance and focal points
2. SPACE: good compositional use of foreground, middle-ground and background.
3. VALUE: balanced use of a full range of lights to darks.
4. COLOR: Concern for warm and cool within each hue as well as throughout the composition.

To receive a good grade:

- Create a workable time schedule. Be willing to put in enough time to develop the paintings.
- Be able to manipulate the medium in such a way that it works.
- Develop a personal style, have ideas that go beyond the norm.
- **Originality:** stay away from trite clichés. Plagiarism: do not use ideas derived from commercially published sources.
- Understand the medium. Learn different techniques. Understand value. Learn color theory and use a varied palette with mixed colors.
- Work/rework assignments after suggestions have been made. Always striving for

- quality work
- Participate in all critiques, volunteering thoughtful and insightful ideas aimed at improving one's work as well as that of others.
 - **Complete work on time and in scale. Do not start a new work until you finish the last.**
 - All work should be the assigned size unless specific changes have been OK-ed by the instructor.
 - Be consistent.

Artist Statement: This is a simple statement that will explain the motivation behind your paintings, the reason for the colors and techniques you chose, and how it ties into your other works or interests. Every semester this is built upon in preparation for a show.

If there is an emergency situation let me know as soon as possible!

Tardiness, and leaving early will be considered as partial absences.

GRADING

I grade on a 100 point scale. A painting that is 50% done is a 50.

You MUST finish paintings in sequential order, you may start a new one or two at a time, but you must finish them.

A grade will be given at mid-semester and at final review. This grade will be a combination of a grade on your paintings, your studies, critique attendance, and participation.

In grading your work, I will look for the

- * Idea development
- * Compositional structure: Design, value, space, and color!!!
- * Technique and use of medium
- * Originality and initiative

Unfinished work will not be graded higher than a 75, (C).

Evaluation:

You will lose points if your work finished on time.

You will lose points if I do not see evidence of consistent work habits.

You will lose points if you don't rework assignments after critique.

You will lose points if you don't work assignments to size and concept.

- A. 80% Final Portfolio
- B. 10% thumbnail studies
- C. 10% Critiques, Papers*, Jpegs, Statements

Disabilities: Please notify me if you have a disability that requires accommodation. If you would like to request such accommodation because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the ADA Coordinator for Program Accessibility The Student life office of the Morgan Student Center.

Academic honesty: The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. More information on this can be found in the SRSU Rules & Regulations supplement to the Student Handbook.

Cell phones must be set on soft vibrate and may not be answered in class. Personal head gear can be worn but should be low enough that you can hear someone talking to you and no one else can hear you. Music may be played in the classroom as long as all students want to hear it.

Since this class is held in a different building, off campus, I will have my cell phone on and be available if you or another student needs to call me.

Answering phone calls for Emergency personnel and family emergencies are exempt only if you let me know in advance.

Studio Hours: The majority of your grade is based on work done during class, therefore, it is expected that each student will attend **all required hours** of class (**96 studio class hours**).

Sul Ross policy states that one absence is equal to 50 minutes. More than three (3) absences from drawing class will result in the lowering of the final evaluation by one letter grade. Tardiness, and leaving early will be considered as partial absences. Your name will be given to UDPS for building and room access.

Disciplinary Action Code:

#21. (Partial quote) “Campus disruptive activities includes disorderly classroom conduct that obstructs, interferes with, inhibits and/or disrupts teaching and/or classroom activities”. If you smell like alcohol or Marijuana, I will ask you to leave class and not come back.

- Try the following on-line supply stores!
- Art Supply Warehouse. They are the least expensive and cheapest on shipping. <http://www.aswexpress.com/>
- Dick Blick: lots of selection, good selection, also lesson plans. <http://www.dickblick.com/>
- Daniel Smith: the best for printmaking, watercolor paints and large paper, great customer service! <http://www.danielsmith.com/>
- Cheap Joes: watercolor paper is cheapest here, good service, good prices, cheap joe is a painter. <http://www.cheapjoes.com/>
- Picture frames at great prices. I use Standard metal frames in black, 555 shadowbox frames and super canvas metal frames. Check them out! <http://www.pictureframes.com>

This Class strives to meet the following MA PLO'S:

Learning Objective 2 Demonstrate knowledge of current contemporary art.

Learning Objective 3: Develop professional standards in the production of art

Learning Objective 4: Demonstrate the ability to articulate effectively in oral and written form about their own artwork.

WEEK 1: January 15: Introduction to class and discuss syllabus. Student will discuss the number of paintings and concepts to be explored.

WEEK 2

January 20: Look at a list of artists. Discuss first project; collect resources and ideas for new project/proposals. Sketch ideas. Present possible proposal. Create mission statement for this semester.

January 22: Work day.

WEEK 3

January 27: Individual Meetings- Have finished and in-progress work in your studio ready to discuss. Come ready to discuss your work and ideas; think about how to tell me what you are doing in a few sentences.

January 29: Individual Meetings (same as above)

WEEK 4

February 03: Discussion + work

February 05: Discussion + work. Prep for next project on next assignment ideas

WEEK 5

February 10: First critique

February 12: Work on sketching new work? Painting 2

WEEK 6

February 17: Work Day

February 19: Discussion + work

WEEK 7

February 24: Paint!! Prep ideas for next painting

February 26: Paint, finish and present next ideas.

WEEK 8

March 03: Critique

March 05: Discuss new assignments. Start new painting, if not yet started. Think about an artist that has influenced your work or art movements. Create your version. IN THE STYLE OF and emphasizing your theme and/or topic.

WEEK 9

March 08-12: Spring Break

WEEK 10

March 17: Work on Painting 3

March 19: Work Day

WEEK 11

March 24: Work Day-maybe critique? Prep for assignment 4

March 26: Discuss assignment 4 after critique.

WEEK 12

March 31: Work Day

April 02: Work Day Present last proposal.

WEEK 13

April 07: Work Day. Prep assignment 5 or keep working.

April 09: Start project 5. And discuss.

WEEK 14

April 14: Work Day! Paint!

April 16: Paint!!

WEEK 15

April 21: Paint!

April 23: Work day!

Week 16:

April 28: Finish up?

April 30: Dead Day!

FINAL: MAY 4th 6:00-8:00 p.m.
CLEAN UP, FINAL CRITIQUE