

ART 233

FOUNDATIONS IN THEORY AND PRACTICE Syllabus

Location: Thursday 2:35-5:30

All assignments, examples, and information posted on website.

Semester: Fall 2012

Instructor: Barbara Yontz

Contact: campus phone 845.398.4148 email byontz@stac.edu

TEXTBOOK: *In the Making Creative Options for Contemporary Art*, Linda Wientraub

READINGS: *additional readings will be assigned.*

Office Hours: MG 20 Monday 2:30-3:30, Thursday 11:15-2:15 and appointment

“Imagination is more important than knowledge”. Albert Einstein

“Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better”.
Samuel Beckett

websites: <http://creativity-online.com/>
<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/imagine/201105/teaching-the-creative-process>
<http://www.ted.com/talks/tags/name/creativity>

Course

Description

In this course we investigate the personal, intellectual and theoretical aspects of art-making while also exploring the creative process necessary for developing visual images and objects. Students work in various media to solve conceptual problems. The course introduces students to creative thinking, aspects of representation, expression, and critical method.

Objectives/

Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of this course, motivated and hardworking students will be able to:

- 1. accurately interpret forms of artistic expression**
- 2. recognize the creative process that leads to a finished work of art**
3. demonstrate the ability to think and work creatively

5. demonstrate productive research and writing leading to imaginative conceptual solutions
6. analyze meanings inherent in representation

Requirements:

1. **Class Participation** (10 points)
 - a. based on participation in class and in critiques. Students will be responsible for leading discussion on topics assigned. **Each student will do at least 1-2 artist papers per semester.** There are sign-up spaces on the course outline. Be prepared to present at the next class and have a one-page typed paper ready to turn in. We are looking at contemporary artists, designers, writers, performers and thinkers who are influencing ideas today.
 - b. participation in email exchanges on readings and other postings.
2. **Tests and quizzes** (10 points each)

Students are expected to do assigned readings each week. A mid-term will be given as well as periodic weekly quizzes to ensure readings are being done.
3. **Creative Production** (80 % of course grade.)
 - a. Five different studio projects will be assigned during the semester. Each has a theme, or problem to solve. Grades will be assigned based on integrity to the project, willingness to take risks, including risk of failure. Grades will not be determined by skill or finish but rather creative solution to the problem. Because each project requires a process involving idea development for studio projects as assigned, sketches, collages, images or photos to work out ideas for studio projects will also be included in this grade.
 - b. **Writing Projects** (graded as part of studio projects)

Writing projects constitute artist statements, artist papers and research papers that accompanies studio projects. **Every studio project will include an artist statement.** The artist statement should not be a record of your how you made the piece but rather why. It will include your interests, the meaning you assign to the forms or objects and how the piece factors into your life and that of others.

Each student will also do 2 short research papers to accompany the **materials and meaning project and the final project---a time based piece.** These papers will be between 3-5 pages (as assigned) with clearly compiled and edited research done. Each paper will be written in your own words. See the Academic Integrity policy for clarity. The papers will have a bibliography that includes at least 2 valid sources. You will be graded on your sources so be sure they are legitimate.

Creative Production GRADES BASED ON (please read carefully):

1. Evidence of use of creative process
 - a. Brainstorming
 - b. Notes
 - c. Sketches and/or development of ideas
 - d. Research
 - e. Revision of ideas
 - f. Solution
2. Completed project
 - a. Instructions followed
 - b. Turned in on time
 - c. Does it look like you did the least amount of work possible to complete the project or spend more time?
 - d. Is there a solid idea behind the piece?
 - e. RISK—DOES YOUR WORK INDICATE YOU TOOK RISKS?
 - f. Is evidence of the process included...sketches, notes, etc.
 - g. Is there evidence of growth and development from project to project?
3. Statement of Intent or Artist Statement
 - a. Can you clearly articulate your idea and goals of the project?
 - b. Can you explain decision?

Grading Scale:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D
100 to	94 to	89 to	86 to	82 to	79 to	76 to	72 to	69

Attendance is essential. Poor attendance will be reflected in grading. 3 classes reduces grade 1 letter, 4 classes will be recorded as failure. Being late 3 times equal 1 absence.

Incomplete: A grade of incomplete may be granted to students who have suffered serious personal illness or critical, emergency circumstances during the academic term, resulting in failure to complete all assignments by the end of the quarter. Please refer to the college catalog for additional information.

Classroom Conduct:

Respect for other students is expected and required

No loud talking, laughing or other disruptive behavior will be allowed

No headphones or cell phones are allowed during class time unless approved by instructor.

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity, a commitment to honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility, is the foundation of the learning process. All members of the St. Thomas Aquinas College community are held to the highest standards of academic honesty. While we recognize the participatory nature of education, we take academic integrity very seriously, and the College policy on academic dishonesty details consequences that can include dismissal from the College. That policy can be found in both the Student Handbook and the College Catalog.

As a student in this class, you must demonstrate your commitment to academic integrity by submitting work which originates in your own imagination, analytical faculties, or your own knowledge, which you have done yourself, and which represents your very best efforts. When appropriate, your work should be supplemented and supported by other sources; however, you must always insure that these sources are properly cited using the recommended documentation system.

Accommodation Statement

Students requiring accommodations for a documented disability should notify the instructor before the end of the first week of class.

Electronics Policy

Faculty members at St. Thomas Aquinas College have the discretion to regulate the use of electronic devices in their classes, and students should not use such devices without the expressed consent of the professor. This policy covers cell phones, PDAs, laptop computers, or any other device the use of which might constitute a distraction to the professor or to the other students in the class, as determined by the professor. Students with documented disabilities should discuss the issue of laptop use with their professor at the beginning of the semester.

When a professor designates a time during which laptop computers may be used, they are only to be used at the discretion of the faculty member and in accordance with the mission of the college. Professors can develop specific and reasonable penalties to deal with violations of these general policies. For more extreme cases of classroom disruption, refer to the College's Disruptive Student Policy.

This course is posted on the Class website. The syllabus, course outline, web sites, and additional information for class are always available to you there. In the event that you miss class or lose your syllabus, please just look on Class website.

Ultimately, creative activity is a social engagement. Many people may think of their creative work as an individual, or private work of self-expression but it always serves some social function even if that function is to be private. This class is about developing an intention that recognizes the social context of creative endeavor. You will be encouraged to examine your personal interest and history in order to influence, in whatever way that may be, the larger social sphere.