

*The University of Wyoming*

**COURSE SYLLABUS: ART 2000: Portfolio Review**

**Summer 2019**

**Meeting Times:** See included schedule

**Faculty:** Shelby Shadwell / [sshadwel@uwyo.edu](mailto:sshadwel@uwyo.edu)

**Course Description and Objectives**

---

This **ONE CREDIT** course is to ensure that students have a clear understanding of the skills and course content learned in the UW Department of Art and Art History's Foundation Core courses. Without a mastery of these skills, students will find overwhelming challenges in upper level coursework in the visual arts. The review is also an opportunity for students to engage in serious self-assessment by reflecting on their own progress at internalizing these foundational skills and concepts.

Students will create a new body of work based on the skills and concepts presented within the Foundation Core. The class culminates in an anonymous mid-semester review of work by the Department of Art faculty. The submitted portfolios are evaluated as **Satisfactory** or **Unsatisfactory** based on the set of established standards reflected in the Foundation Core Curriculum of the Department of Art. An Unsatisfactory portfolio will not pass the review. **It does not follow that a student will pass Portfolio Review just because they passed their Foundations classes.**

All art majors (not art minors) must pass Portfolio Review to be eligible to enroll in any upper division (3000 or 4000 level) studio courses beyond the required Studio Core. A student who does not pass on their first attempt may decide to re-take a particular Foundations course. Failure to pass ART 2000: Portfolio Review twice will render the student ineligible to progress in the Department as a major, but a minor in any area remains open to the student to pursue.

**Prerequisites:**

- Successful completion of the Foundation Core courses: ART 1005 Drawing I, ART 1110 Foundation 2D, ART 1120 Foundation 3D and ART 1130 Foundation Color.
- All courses in the Foundation Core must have been passed with a letter grade of C or better.
- An overall University of Wyoming GPA of 2.5 or better (Not applicable for incoming transfer students who do not yet have a UW GPA).

**Evaluation Rubric**

---

**Evaluation of portfolio work will be based on the following criteria relevant from Foundations Core courses:**

- **Observation:** To demonstrate the ability to observe and record accurate and proportional representations of real space and objects as learned in Foundations classes.

- **Application of Foundation Principles:** To demonstrate the ability to employ art and design elements and compositional principles in 2-D and 3-D work as learned in Foundations classes.
- **Craftsmanship:** To demonstrate a professional and serious level of craftsmanship and technical ability in working with a range of 2-D and 3-D materials as learned in Foundations classes.
- **Thematic Application:** To demonstrate the ability to communicate a concept or idea as learned in Foundations classes.
- **Written Articulation:** To demonstrate in writing the ability to use art and design related vocabulary that is both relevant and appropriate in discussing visual artwork as learned in Foundations classes.

**An Unsatisfactory portfolio will be adjudicated by the following:**

- **Round 1:** If a student receives an average score that is below 3 on any of the individual three pieces of work or writing based on the **Evaluation Rubric** described above as outlined in the evaluation sheet samples / rubrics, the portfolio will be flagged for Round 2.
- **Round 2:** If the average of scores for the three pieces and the writing is below 3, the portfolio is **Unsatisfactory** and will not pass the review.
- **Technical Failure:** Portfolios will receive a technical failure due to not following directions in any one area as outlined in the syllabus regardless of the quality of the work in part or as a whole. Common issues include, but are not limited to, poor written statements, inaccurate information on the cover sheets, poor craft condition of any piece, having two pieces identical in media, failure to clean up any messes or work left in any area of the department, and not adequately cleaning up and repairing wall space after the review. Students should ask specific questions if in doubt on any portion of the requirements.

**Portfolio Entry Requirements**

---

**Students' portfolios will consist of the following items:**

- **Cover sheets:** Consists of a two-page form to be filled out by the student. Extra copies of this form are available via email correspondence with the faculty member coordinating the review and/or Wyocourses. Not providing clear and accurate information on the forms may disqualify the portfolio. **You must keep each cover sheet on a separate page (no double sided printing).**
- **THREE examples of work (each in a different medium):** Each piece should specifically address the theme that the faculty chooses for the semester. The concept for this semester is: **PARADOX**. Students will explore what the concept of **Paradox** means to them personally or in society and culture at large. This particular theme is also discussed by several artists in Season 4, Episode 3 (2007) of the PBS television series, Art:21, available from the campus library and online. Students are

encouraged to be creative in their interpretation and execution of these pieces in tandem with each other.

**A. One Observational Drawing from Life:**

- Common choices to draw from life include still life, portrait, interior space, or landscape.
- Common drawing materials include but are not entirely limited to charcoal, graphite, pen and ink, pastels, conte crayons or various pencils.
- Digital drawing on tablets or with software is not allowed for this piece of the portfolio, but it may be acceptable for another piece in the portfolio.
- Faculty may automatically disqualify a portfolio with a drawing copied from 2-D sources (i.e.: from a photograph or online image).
- The minimum size for the drawing is 18" x 24".
- The drawing must be achromatic (no color).
- The drawing should demonstrate a full range of value, clearly represent the illusion of three-dimensional form, and show depth through a demonstrated understanding of accurate proportion, local tones, light and shadow patterns, and tonal shape edges – with a noticeable concern for composition.
- The piece should convey the above concept chosen by the faculty for the semester.

**B. One 2-D or 3-D Color Piece:**

- Students will create a piece that explores what one can formally and conceptually accomplish through the use of color.
- Common uses of color include pushing and pulling space, symbolizing ideas, creating atmosphere, conveying mood or emotion, exploring formal color relationships (triad, analogous, etc.) or as a formal element (creating balance, emphasis, direction, space, etc.).
- Color relationships and interactions employed must demonstrate a range of hue, value and intensity achieved through neutralized color and/or the use of complex color combinations.
- A monochrome is not acceptable for this piece and students should use a variety of colors to visually engage the viewer.
- Refrain from using color 'straight out of the tube' or directly from the color wheel to show a developed understanding and application of color.
- The piece should convey the above concept chosen by the faculty for the semester.

**C. One 3-D Piece:**

- Students will construct a three-dimensional volumetric form to exist in and engage with its surrounding space.
- The form should be primarily fabricated by hand, but found objects may play a supplemental role and support the concept and aesthetic of the piece.
- Elements and principles of design should be evident in the work.
- 'Decoration' of an already existing 3D object or format such as a cd cover, book, chair, etc. should be avoided. Rather, the primary investigation should be a unique exploration of spatial concerns in a single object or through the interaction of multiple installed components.

- **The piece should be installed so that it can be walked around and viewed from multiple perspectives.**
  - 3D printing with software is not allowed for this piece, but it may be acceptable for another piece in the portfolio.
  - Successful pieces should demonstrate refined craftsmanship, structural integrity, thoughtful presentation/context and appropriate choices of 3D materials that support the aesthetic.
  - The piece should convey the above concept chosen by the faculty for the semester.
- **One Written Statement: Students will provide one hard copy and email a pdf to the instructor of the course by the day of installation.** The writing should not be a general artistic or personal statement. Having few, if any, spelling and grammatical errors is necessary for a passing score on the written portion of the portfolio. Font size and spacing are up to the student, but it should not exceed two pages, and statements should be identified at the top by the number assigned to the student's portfolio. **Use appropriate vocabulary and terminology familiar from Foundations Core class experiences.** Organize your paper into the following format:

**1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph:** Discuss your intentions in applying the semester's theme to each piece of work. Why do the pieces individually and as a whole successfully communicate the theme chosen by the faculty for the semester?

**2<sup>nd</sup> Paragraph:** Analyze how the **Observational Drawing** works in terms of the elements of design (specifically the use of tonal shapes, local tones, light and shadow patterns, and tonal edges) and exactly how they are using the principles of design in their work to achieve their desired outcome and to create visual interest in the composition as a whole.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Paragraph:** Analyze how the **Color Piece** works in terms of the elements and principles of design to create visual interest in the composition as a whole. Students should discuss exactly how they are using color relationships in their piece according the principles of design to achieve their desired outcome.

**4<sup>th</sup> Paragraph:** Analyze how the **3D Piece** works in terms of the elements and principles of design to create visual interest in the composition as a whole. Students should discuss exactly how they are using the principles of design in their work to achieve their desired outcome.

### **Portfolio Submission Guidelines:**

- **Work previously graded in any other art classes will not be considered by the faculty.** Students that submit work from those classes will automatically fail the review. Likewise, pieces that are deemed by the faculty as being too similar in design and concept to works already submitted for critique in previous classes will be disqualified.
- **Students should submit work in a manner that is considerate of a high level of professional presentation and craftsmanship.** Although actual portfolios or boxes

for carrying the pieces are optional, all work should be submitted in appropriate fashion to allow for safe transportation of pieces so that they do not break or fall apart. 2-D work should not be framed or matted for submission to the portfolio review and any frames or mats should be removed from artwork before entry.

- **Students will be responsible for hanging / installing and removing their own work.** The faculty will designate space in the hallways of the Visual Arts building for each student's portfolio. Only the most basic of hanging materials will be available (tacks and pedestals), so students must bring everything they need for any special installation needs. Students must install and deinstall their work during the times provided in the syllabus. If one cannot make those times, they must contact the faculty prior to the date and have a substitute complete those tasks during the designated time frames.
- **Students may use the Foundations rooms, including the Drawing studios, to make work, but should be considerate of space, material usage and other students enrolled in concurrent courses.** There may be a shelf designated specifically for portfolio review students in the Foundations rooms, and one should not store projects or materials anywhere else in those rooms. Students must clean up all messes immediately over the course of making work. Students must get permission from Diana Baumbach, [dbaumbac@uwyo.edu](mailto:dbaumbac@uwyo.edu), to use any communal materials located in Foundations. Students that wish to use other facilities (i.e. Woodshop, ceramics, etc.) must get permission from that area's faculty member. **Due to the nature of the course, students are responsible for purchasing their materials individually as necessary.**
- **Students should not sign names on the front or back of the work or put names on the written statement.** By the time a student sets up the portfolio for evaluation, he or she will be assigned a number to attach to each piece so the process will remain anonymous. If names are present, students must cover them with tape or erase them for the review. Students should clearly indicate which piece fulfills entry requirements in the designated fields on the cover sheet, and students are responsible for any special presentation requirements necessary for installation of their own work.
- **Students must submit actual work, not photographic or digitally produced reproductions of the work.** Exception to this rule concerns submitted works that are ephemeral or time-based media (submitted on both Mac and PC compatible format) or very large scale sculpture, in which case students may submit an image of that piece with a brief written explanation describing the submission. If students choose to submit a time-based piece or a reproduction (photograph / jpeg) of a large or cumbersome sculptural piece, he or she must still submit a smaller 3-D piece as part of the review.

## **Policy Statements**

---

**At All Times:** treat your presence in the classroom and your enrollment in this course as you would a job. Act professionally, arrive on time, pay attention, complete your work in a timely and professional manner, and treat all deadlines seriously. You will be respectful towards you classmates and instructor. Spirited debate and disagreement are to be expected in any

classroom and all views will be heard fully, but at all times we will behave civilly and with respect towards one another. Personal attacks, offensive language, name-calling, and dismissive gestures are not warranted in a learning atmosphere. This includes any disparaging comments regarding other faculty or students in the department. The instructor has the right to dismiss you from the classroom, study sessions, electronic forums, and other areas where disruptive behavior occurs. Electronic devices such as mobile phones should be turned off unless used for resource information. Laptops are allowed for note-taking purposes or resource information. No video or audio recording during class is allowed to protect the privacy of your fellow students.

**Classroom Statement on Diversity:** The University of Wyoming values an educational environment that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. The diversity that students and faculty bring to class, including age, country of origin, culture, disability, economic class, ethnicity, gender identity, immigration status, linguistic, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, worldview, and other social and cultural diversity is valued, respected, and considered a resource for learning.

**Disability Support:** The University of Wyoming is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you have a disability, including but not limited to physical, learning, sensory or psychological disabilities, and would like to request accommodations in this course due to your disability, please register with and provide documentation of your disability as soon as possible to Disability Support Services (DSS), Room 128 Knight Hall. You may also contact DSS at (307) 766-3073 or [udss@uwyo.edu](mailto:udss@uwyo.edu). It is in the student's best interest to request accommodations within the first week of classes, understanding that accommodations are not retroactive. Visit the DSS website for more information.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class. Cases of academic dishonesty will be treated in accordance with UW Regulation 2-114. The penalties for academic dishonesty can include, at my discretion, an "F" on an exam, an "F" on the class component exercise, and/or an "F" in the entire course. Academic dishonesty means anything that represents someone else's ideas as your own without attribution. It is intellectual theft – stealing - and includes (but is not limited to) unapproved assistance on examinations, plagiarism (use of any amount of another person's writings, blog posts, publications, and other materials without attributing that material to that person with citations), or fabrication of referenced information. Facilitation of another person's academic dishonesty is also considered academic dishonesty and will be treated identically.

**Duty to Report:** UW faculty are committed to supporting students and upholding the University's non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX, discrimination based upon sex and gender is prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member, understand that as a "Responsible Employee" of the University, the faculty member MUST report information you share about the incident to the university's Title IX Coordinator (you may choose whether you or anyone involved is identified by name). If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are people who can meet with you. Faculty can help direct you or you may find info about UW policy and resources at <http://www.uwyo.edu/reportit>. You do not have to go through the experience alone. Assistance and resources are available, and you are not required to make a formal complaint or participate in an investigation to access them

## **Course Schedule**

---

### **Tuesday May 7, 2019, 6:30 pm, VA 111 - Informational Meeting**

- This meeting will be held to introduce the course, provide the syllabus and answer any questions students may have. If students attended a previous informational meeting, they do not necessarily need to attend this one, but they are encouraged to attend in case there are any changes to the curriculum – otherwise, the meeting should be considered mandatory.

### **Tuesday May 28, 2019, 4:00 pm, VA 111 - Informational Meeting**

- This meeting will be held to introduce the course, provide the syllabus and answer any questions students may have. If students attended a previous informational meeting, they do not necessarily need to attend this one, but they are encouraged to attend in case there are any changes to the curriculum – otherwise, the meeting should be considered mandatory.

### **Sunday August 11, 2019, 2:00 pm - PORTFOLIO DUE TO VA LOBBY**

- Students will submit their completed work as a group at 2:00 pm, including the cover sheets, one hard copy of the written statement, and three pieces to the Visual Arts Lobby. Students will be responsible for setting up their portfolios for viewing for the week in the designated areas in the building. If students cannot make this time, they must contact the instructor to make arrangements prior to the date and have a substitute install their work for them. Students may not install any work after the end of the day on Sunday. **Students must also email a pdf copy of their written statement to the instructor by this date.**

### **Friday, August 16, 2019, 2:00 pm: Portfolios Returned / Take Down Work**

- Students must de-install and pick up their portfolio work as a group at 2:00 pm. Students are responsible for using provided paint, sand paper, spackle and other tools to repair any damages on the walls. If students cannot make this time, they must contact the instructor to make arrangements prior to the date and have a substitute take down their work for them. **Students must have the condition of their wall areas verbally accepted by the designated individuals before leaving or it could lead to a failure.**

### **Monday, August 19, 2019, Notification**

- Students and their advisors will be notified of the results of the review. Students can pick up their notification letters from the VA Main Office. Students may approach their faculty advisors to answer any questions they may have, **NOT** the faculty member conducting the review. The faculty will select the strongest pieces from all of the portfolios in the review for public display in the Visual Arts Building crediting the students who made the work.

**This syllabus and schedule is subject to change, but students will be notified via email and/or Wyocourses in advance.**