

FINE ARTS STUDIO Course Descriptions and Outcomes

FAS 3010 Art in Community – 3 cr.

In this course students plan and implement projects in collaboration with community partners to express identity or sense of place, address concerns, and support local aspirations through the arts. Topics covered include surveying contemporary and historical arts-based community projects, classroom training in group work facilitation, theory and criticism in the field, cultural diversity and social justice issues, and grant writing. Taking this course is an exciting way to earn credit while building relationships with the greater Twin Cities community through the development of art and design works. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing

FAS 3020 Installation – 3 cr.

This class explores space and site as a means of aesthetic communication. Object-based installations, interventionist strategies, and designed or created environments are examined. Topics include systems approach, audience, interactive and experiential work, and documentation as art. All media are considered, including object, image, sound, and language. A variety of ideation techniques are introduced, including traditional maquettes and photo-collage site proposals. Prerequisite: Foundation: 3D

Outcomes:

- Understand the conceptual and technical foundations of installation while engaging options in terms of aesthetics, media, and process.
- Demonstrate a sensitivity to an environment or site physically, conceptually, and contextually.
- Create object based to experiential works both on and off campus; interior and exterior.
- Experienced in techniques to plan, coordinate, and realize installations.
- Show ability in documentation as and of installation.

FAS 3030 The Body Eclectic – 3 cr.

This is an interdisciplinary problem-solving class based on the theoretical body, rather than the figure, as a conceptual starting point. Topics center around postmodern themes that concern the body as a place for ideation. Students are encouraged to experiment with medium as it relates to their particular areas of interest. Critical readings, discussions, presentations, project proposals, and statements inform assignments. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing

Outcomes:

- Identify a wide variety of contemporary artists working with issues of the body
- Interpret approach to the body as direct subject matter and as metaphor
- Reframe identity issues within the framework of body imagery
- Interrelate research with discussion and production
- Create a body of work from within student's discipline
- Present the work of an artist related to student's individual practice

FAS 3040 Working with the Collection – 3 cr.

Working with the Collection is an interdisciplinary studio course that concentrates on the holdings of an individual museum or library and the artist's response to it. In the first half of the class, students visit with curators, archivists, and exhibition designers to understand the process of collecting, and then proceed to work with and study the exhibition collections. The second half of the semester concentrates on studio work in response to the collection, culminating in an exhibition. Prerequisites: Completion of all foundation-level courses, one 3000-level fine arts course (3000-level fine arts course may be taken concurrently)

FAS 3060 Public Art/Art in Public Places – 3 cr.

This studio course covers contemporary and historical issues pertaining to art in public places, public art, public process, and multidisciplinary collaboration. Students investigate both “site-specific” and “site as venue” public works through individual and collaborative projects and proposals. All media are considered appropriate for inclusion in the public realm. Design, planning, and presentation techniques include the RFQ, RFP, preparation of proposals, public presentations, design and presentation drawings, scale-model building, site planning, and logistics. Students can create public works to be installed in the MCAD sculpture garden. This course is made possible in part by Donna and Cargill MacMillan Jr. Prerequisite: One 3000-level course in sculpture, furniture, fine arts studio, or another major as deemed appropriate by course faculty

Outcomes:

- Tailoring of technique and craft towards creating art specifically for the public sphere.
- Demonstrate skill in Public Art Proposal Techniques including: writing proposals, budgeting time and resources, and related presentation processes.
- Demonstrate a clear dialog regarding creative work in relationship to “the public” and in the context of the artist’s interests, experiences, and art in general.
- Creation of collaborative or individual works in a public venue.
- Understand how to source public projects and work with public entities.

FAS 3070 Quotation: The Art of Appropriation – 3 cr.

This interdisciplinary studio course focuses on the use of appropriated imagery as both a source of inspiration and as material incorporated into artworks. Within this context, students develop imagery and content in their own work while exploring introductory semiotics and multiple approaches in the production of work based in appropriation. Contemporary art is presented and discussed as a frame of reference for class projects, critiques, and reading assignments. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing

Outcomes:

- Demonstrate understanding of the history of appropriation
- Formulate a repertoire of contemporary applications
- Apply methods of appropriation to a body of work from within student's discipline
- Assess legal and copyright issues
- Interpret layered visual/textual information

FAS 3080 Storytelling: Narrative Studio – 3 cr.

Ideas of visual storytelling and narrative are explored in this interdisciplinary course. Emphasis is placed on the deconstruction of linear storytelling devices as a way to build deeper lateral associations. Topics include personal mythology, liminal meaning, and collective storytelling. The history of allegory, folklore, fable, and myth are covered. Projects extend through personal, political, and social spheres and are developed through studio assignments, historical and contemporary image surveys, writing exercises, critical readings, and field trips. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing

Outcomes:

- Define narrative and how it informs your work
- Examine how artists can be visual storytellers
- Analyze various modes of story, from text to film and object
- Identify historical and contemporary approaches to narrative
- Create a body of work from within student's discipline

FAS 3090 Critical Studies – 3 cr.

Critical Studies examines the relationship between art, culture, and student work. This examination is related to many forms, including the aesthetic, political, social, and philosophical components that exist within works of art. Students focus on making work in the context of cultural issues. The cross-disciplinary composition of this course increases the depth of discussions and critiques. May be repeated for elective credit with a different instructor. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing

Outcomes:

- Create studio work in response to contemporary concepts
- Form critical thinking methods that are reflected in their art making
- Cite relevant historical, cultural, philosophical references.
- Develop analytical and critical evaluation skills by engaging in contemporary art,
- Acknowledge, respect and study her/his own uniqueness, expanding openness and freedom.

FAS 4000 Professional Practice – 3 cr.

This course addresses the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the contemporary art world. Topics include writing for professional opportunities, exhibitions, the documenting and marketing of work, website development, residencies and graduate schools, copyright and tax issues, jobs in education, and studio/business startup concerns. Students engage in a variety of individual and group projects, including curating an off-campus exhibition. Course faculty, guest lecturers, and visiting-artist presentations connect abstract information with real-world experience. Prerequisite: Junior standing

Outcomes:

- Form critical thinking methods that are reflected in positive development in their art making

FAS 4010 Internship: Fine Arts Studio – 3 cr.

Internships provide an opportunity for students to gain practical experience in a particular career area and valuable on-the-job skills. Internships may be arranged by the Director of Career Services or initiated by students. All internships must be preapproved through the Career Services Office. For an internship to be approved, a mentor relationship and learning experience should exist beyond a simple employment opportunity. Three-credit internships require working 120 hours at the internship site and keeping a journal of hours and activities. Prerequisite: Professional Practice

Outcomes:

- Broaden historical, cultural, philosophical frame of reference along with studio work

FAS 5010 Advanced Fine Arts Studio Seminar – 3 cr.

In this course, students with a working understanding of the relationships among a variety of disciplines develop imagery and content through studio work and discussions on contemporary issues. Examining their own studio practice in relation to current topics in contemporary interdisciplinary studio practice, students expand their perspectives while developing a self-motivated, sustained body of work. Studio practice is supported by the development of critical thinking skills, individual and group critiques, guest critiques, writing exercises, and readings on artists, criticism, and theory. Prerequisites: Three 3000-level courses in any major, successful Junior Review

FAS 5100 Senior Project: Fine Arts Studio – 6 cr.

During their senior year, each fine arts studio major is required to develop and complete a substantial body of work in a specific field. This course provides a forum for the critical evaluation of this work and curatorial guidance in preparation for the Commencement Exhibition. Course content includes critical readings, position paper, individual and group discussion, and informational meetings. Prerequisites: Successful Junior Review, senior standing

Outcomes:

- Create a cohesive body of work for senior exhibition.
- Articulate conceptual, formal, technical issues in work through written thesis.
- Discuss/Defend work in individual and group critiques.
- Discuss work with visiting critics.