



Dark Matter, 1991 by Cornelia Parker

Advanced Sculpture Studio

ASTU 4350.501, 4351.501, 4352.501

Fall 2015: Tues + Thurs 2:00pm - 4:50pm

Prerequisite: ASTU 3350

Location: ART 108

Credits: 3

Assistant Professor Alicia Eggert

Website: aliciaeggert.com

Email: alicia.eggert@unt.edu

Hours: Wed 9:00am - 12:00pm

Office: ART 312

Course Description

Developing additional competence in special areas. Prerequisite(s): [ASTU 3350](#). Advanced standing and consent of instructor. May be repeated for credit.

Course Content + Objectives

This course develops technical and conceptual competence in the extraordinarily diverse and ever-expanding field of sculpture. Though it is most commonly defined by three-dimensional form, material and space, the discipline now encompasses everything from found objects and assemblages to large-scale public monuments, from kinetic machines to land art and interventions, from ancient relics to immersive new media installations. The possibilities made available by such an expansive field are truly limitless.

This course aims to equip you with the skills to know and express yourself fully, to further explore the relationship between making and thinking, and to apply creative solutions to problems of all kinds. Assignments are designed to promote a sense of autonomy, allowing you to develop your own personal art practice, and to set and meet your own goals as an individual. You will need to be independently motivated, imaginative, resourceful, self-disciplined, and unafraid of failure. You will be expected to connect your visual knowledge to other disciplines, and to view and discuss contemporary sculpture in the context of art history, current events, and social, political and environmental concerns.

Course Structure

Class meetings will vary in nature from day to day, and involve activities such as slide presentations, discussions, group activities, studio workdays, individual meetings, and critiques. There will be three major project critiques held over the course of the semester, at which you will be expected to present one or a series of new works. You will also be asked to give two slide presentations, one outlining a brief history of you and your work, and one describing a studio visit you conduct with a local artist. You will be required to submit a final portfolio at the end of the semester containing images and an image list of work created in this class.

Grading

Your grade in this course will reflect your commitment to the quality, creativity and timely completion of your work, and your participation in class discussions and critiques.

Projects will be graded on criteria such as:

1. Utilization of the basic elements and principles of art & design (form, surface, proportion, scale, etc.)
2. Execution (craftsmanship/intentionality)
3. Work habits and activity (ability to set and meet individual goals, productivity both in and outside of class, independent research and brainstorming)
4. Creativity (ingenuity, innovative use of materials, wonder)

Participation will be graded on criteria such as:

1. Your ability to describe, analyze and evaluate your own work and the work of your classmates.
2. Your attitude and cooperation with classmates in the studio.
3. Your involvement in class discussions (evidence that you have done the readings).
4. Your adherence to the studio rules.

Slide Presentation 1	5% (25 points)
Slide presentation 2	5% (25 points)
Project 1: Series	20% (100 points)
Project 2: Time	20% (100 points)
Project 3: Community	20% (100 points)
Attendance	10% (50 points, 5 points deducted for every unexcused absence)
Participation	10% (50 points)
Final Portfolio	10% (50 points)
Total	100% (500 points)

A = 93 - 100%	A- = 90 - 92%	B+ = 87 - 89%	B = 83 - 86%	B- = 80 - 82%
C+ = 77 - 79%	C = 73 - 76%	C- = 70 - 72%	D = 60 - 69%	F = 0 - 59%

Attendance Policy

Attendance is absolutely mandatory on all days, and for the entire class time. Success in a studio art class is dependent upon your participation in the studio activities and your interaction with other students. This cannot occur if you are not in class. Because it is so important, Attendance will account for 10% of your grade in this class. You will be deducted 5 points from that grade for every unexcused absence. You will automatically be dropped from the class if you are absent five or more times. Excused absences are granted only with proper documentation of illness, military service, family emergencies, and the observance of religious holy days. A request to excuse an absence for a religious holy day must be made in advance through the Office of Student Affairs. If you know you will be absent, please email me in advance. In the event of an emergency, please email me as soon as possible. If you are absent from a class, it is your responsibility to inform yourself of the material you missed, and arrive by the next class period fully prepared.

Critiques

Critiques in a studio class take the place of exams and quizzes in a lecture course. Attendance is critical and required. Not only are make ups not allowed, they are not possible. Assignments are due at the beginning of critique sessions, and late work will not be accepted under any circumstance. If you and/or your work are not present for a critique you will receive a zero for that project. An exception to this rule will only be made with proper documentation of an excused absence.

Despite the title, critique sessions are not intended to be forums for demeaning criticism. Critiques provide you with the opportunity to analyze, understand, evaluate, and speak intelligently about your work and the work made by your classmates. Active participation in the critique of a project demonstrates that you have understood the conceptual and technical basis of that assignment. Critiques will also aim to generate an open dialogue about what we value as individuals and as a society, and to promote a sense of participation in broader cultural discourses. Your participation in critiques will account for a large part of your Participation grade.

Readings

The class will be assigned readings from various sources throughout the semester. Interesting conversations result when everyone reads critically, comes to class prepared, and openly joins the dialogue. Please take notes and record questions about the readings in your sketchbook and use those notes to prompt discussions during class. Your participation in class discussions will account for a large part of your Participation grade.

Tool + Material Purchases

The work you do for this course can be executed in the medium and scale of your choice. With that freedom comes a tremendous amount of responsibility: you will need to source and purchase all the tools and materials you require to realize your individual projects. These items are your responsibility and can be purchased at your discretion. Please plan ahead and come to class prepared with whatever you will need to be productive on studio workdays. Permission to leave class to purchase materials will not be granted under any circumstance.

Sketchbooks

Please purchase a sketchbook that you can use as a journal for the semester. It can be whatever size or style you prefer, and it does not need to be dedicated solely this class. You should bring it to class every day, along with the tools you require for drawing (pens, pencils, markers, etc). You should use your sketchbook to brainstorm and sketch ideas for assignments, to record your thoughts and questions about the readings, and to document your independent research.

Shop Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8:00am - 9:00pm

Friday: 8:00am - 3:00pm

Saturday & Sunday: Shop and Cage are closed.

- Students may work outside or in the classroom when the shop is closed.
- All tools needed for the weekend must be checked out on Friday. Please plan accordingly.

Studio Rules

The sculpture studio is a sacred and highly cooperative environment that must be treated with respect. Here are some rules to follow in order to maintain a safe, clean space conducive to working:

1. The use of laptops and cell phones is strictly prohibited in the classroom except in the event of an emergency. Please turn your phone to silent and keep it out of sight, preferably in your bag or locker.
2. Headphones are not to be worn at any time. This is for your safety and the safety of others. Headphones will prevent you from interacting with your classmates and hearing important announcements, and will decrease your awareness in the event of an emergency.
3. Wear appropriate shoes and attire. No open-toed shoes are allowed in the shop at any time. Please keep a change of clothes and an extra pair of shoes in your locker so you don't come to class and find yourself unable to participate in the activities.
4. Respect the shared tools and materials. If you are unsure how to use a tool, ask for help. If a tool doesn't seem to be working properly, please inform me and/or shop tech as soon as possible.
5. Assume responsibility for your own mess and materials. Clean up after yourself, both during and after class.

Final Clean-up

During the time allotted for our final exam meeting, we will conduct a final clean-up of our facilities. Attendance and participation in final clean-up is mandatory, absence will result in lowering your final grade by one full letter. If you are unable to attend final clean-up, you must schedule an alternate date and time.

Office Hours + Email Policy

You are strongly encouraged to make an appointment to meet with me outside of class to discuss your work, interests, questions or concerns. I would love to talk with you over lunch or coffee, or meet you in the studio for extra help with a project. If your schedule prevents you from meeting with me during my office hours, please email me or speak to me after class to request another day/time.

In order to keep my use of technology under control, I check my UNT email twice per day, at 9am and 5pm. I teach from 11am - 5pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so I am completely unavailable via email during that time. I will typically read and respond to emails more frequently on Mondays and Wednesdays when I am in the office, and less often Friday - Sunday. I try to reserve Fridays for working in my own studio, and Saturdays and Sundays for time with my family. Please respect my personal time and don't expect to reach me at any hour, especially late at night or on the weekends.

ADA Accommodations

The College of Visual Arts and Design is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the College will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course.

If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) and to inform the instructor of your need for an accommodation. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union. You also may call the ODA at 940.565.4323.

Course Risk Factor

According to University Policy, this course is classified as a category three course. Students enrolled in this course are exposed to significant hazards which have the potential to cause serious bodily injury or death. In this class, those risks are related to the various tools and materials used in the sculpture shop. Students enrolled in this class will be informed of potential health hazards or potential bodily injury connected with the use of materials and/or processes and will be instructed about how to proceed safely.

Students who are pregnant or become pregnant during the course of the semester are advised to check with their doctor immediately to determine if any additional risks are reason to postpone this course until a later semester. Upon request, your professor will provide a list of chemicals and safety issues for your doctor to review. Material Safety Data Sheets are available on all chemicals. It will be up to you and your doctor to determine what course of action to take.

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. Please visit <http://financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements> for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It may be wise for you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course being doing so.

Building Emergency Procedures

In case of emergency (alarm will sound), please follow the building evacuation plans posted on each floor of your building and proceed to the nearest parking lot. In case of tornado (campus sirens will sound) or other weather related threat, please go to the nearest hallway or room on your floor without exterior windows and remain there until an all clear signal is sounded. Follow the instructions of your teachers and act accordingly.

Center For Student Rights + Responsibilities

Each University of North Texas student is entitled to certain rights associated with higher education institutions. See www.unt.edu/csrr for further information.

Course Calendar

Dates of project critiques are in **bold**. They are NOT to be missed!

Tuesday, August 25	First day of class
Thursday, August 27	Introduction to Project 1
Tuesday, September 1	Slide Presentations: A Brief History of You and Your Work (group 1)
Thursday, September 3	Slide Presentations: A Brief History of You and Your Work (group 2)
Wednesday, September 9	Last day to drop course without a "W"
Thursday, September 10	In-progress critique of Project 1
Tuesday, September 22	Project 1 Critique
Thursday, September 24	Project 1 Critique
Tuesday, September 29	Introduction to Project 2
Tuesday, October 6	Slide Presentations: Studio Visits (group 1)
Tuesday, October 13	In-progress critique of Project 2
Saturday, October 17	Midterm grades viewable online
Tuesday, October 20	Slide Presentations: Studio Visits (group 2)
Tuesday, October 27	Project 2 Critique
Thursday, October 29	Project 2 Critique
Tuesday, November 3	Introduction to Project 3
Monday, November 9	Install work in Lightwell Gallery; Instructor Evaluations Open
Tuesday, November 10	Slide Presentations: Studio Visits (group 3)
Sunday, November 14	Deinstall work from Lightwell Gallery
Tuesday, November 17	Slide Presentations: Studio Visits (group 4)
Thursday, November 19	In-progress critique of Project 3
Sunday, November 22	Instructor Evaluations Close
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving; No class
Thursday, December 3	Project 3 Critique
Tuesday, December 8	Project 3 Critique; Last day of class
Date/time TBD	Final Portfolios due at final clean-up (during exam period)
Friday, December 18	Final grades viewable online

* Extra credit may be earned by attending recommended exhibitions, lectures and events that take place outside of class time. These events and how to earn extra points for attending them will be announced during class or via email.

* Course Schedule subject to change due to unforeseen educational opportunities.

Advanced Sculpture Studio, Fall 2015

Assistant Professor Alicia Eggert

I _____ (print your name) acknowledge that I have read the course syllabus. I understand the course structure, grading and attendance policies as well as the risk factor rating. I hereby agree to the syllabus and its provisions.

I understand that _____ points will be deducted from my Attendance grade for every unexcused absence.

I understand that I will receive a _____ on a project if I and/or my work are not present for a project critique.

Course Number and Section

Risk Rating

Student Phone Number

Student Email Address

Student Signature

Date

Faculty Signature

Date