COURSE DESCRIPTION
Research and practice for the creative project in lieu of a written thesis.
*Must be taken with your Supervisory Committee Chair.

COURSE OUTCOMES

• Display an understanding of contemporary visual art
• Demonstrate the intention, motivation, and tools required to pursue a career as an artist and sustain a rigorous fine arts practice
• Demonstrate the visual, verbal and writing skills needed to engage with contemporary discourse in contemporary art
• Produce artwork that makes use of the interdependence between content, form, process, and context
• Display an intimate familiarity with historical and contemporary approaches to visual art and their interrelationships
• Demonstrate enhanced critical reasoning with broad historical overviews and social insight
• Deliver critiques of your own work
• Demonstrate an ability to communicate through oral and written commination skills
• Demonstrate the ability to plan and meet deadlines
• Individuate an approach to visual artmaking and address self-defined research projects with distinct and challenging parameters

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Completed</th>
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</table>
| Early in the semester | 1. Attend meeting with UNT Gallery staff to discuss expectations, guidelines, and spaces for your exhibition.  
2. Select exhibition dates and location; exhibitions to be held in the Cora Safford Gallery during weeks 6-14 of the spring semester (Feb 21-April 23).  
3. Set the date and location for your Oral Defense; this must be held before, or at the same time as, your exhibition.  
Note: Public exhibitions may be restricted due to university access policies. |           |
| All semester       | Review expectations of the extended artist statement in the Studio Art Graduate Handbook and begin your outline. |           |
| All semester       | Regularly meet with Supervisory Committee Chair to review your progress (both research & practice).  
(Reminder: you must meet with your full Committee two times during the last two semesters.) |           |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Worth</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 Annotated Bibliographies</td>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended Artist Statement - Outline</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New artwork for mid-term critique</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extended Artist Statement - 1st draft</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposal or mock-up of your MFA exhibition</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extended Artist Statement - 2nd draft</td>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New artwork for final critique</td>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>100 points</strong></td>
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**FACE COVERINGS**

UNT encourages everyone to wear a face covering when indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines. Face covering guidelines could change based on community health conditions.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS**

You will be expected to meet individually with your MFA committee chair on a bi-weekly basis, and with your entire MFA committee during mid-semester and finals.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

- Regular and punctual attendance is mandatory.
- Three absences will be tolerated.
- More than three absences will require a note from a doctor or a note from the art office excusing the absence for a reason covered under UNT policy 06.039 (Student Attendance and Authorized Absences) in order to be counted as excused.
- More than three absences will lower your final grade by one letter grade per additional absence.
- Most lectures, demonstrations, and assignments will occur at the beginning of class periods and will not be repeated for those who come in late. If you are late to class, you will need to notify me at the end of the class period to replace an absence with a tardy. Three tardies will constitute an absence.
- A tardy is considered to be an arrival of 10-30 minutes after the beginning of class. If you arrive more than 30 minutes after the class begins, you will be marked absent for the day.
- Assignments that are turned in late will receive one letter grade lower per day for each class day they are late.
- Examinations, quizzes, and in-class assignments missed may only be made up with an official doctor’s excuse or note from the art office excusing the absence for a reason covered under UNT policy 06.039 (Student Attendance and Authorized Absences).
- Critiques missed may not be made up and grades will reflect the student’s failure to participate in the critique discussions.
- COVID-19 impact on attendance:
  - While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent as to what may be preventing you from coming to class so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.
  - If you are experiencing cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, or any of the other possible symptoms of COVID-19 (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

**LATE WORK / MAKE-UP POLICY**

Late work will receive a penalty of 10% deducted from the assignment’s value per class day the work is late, unless the student provides proof of an acceptable mitigating circumstance: serious illness, death of a family member, or other circumstance if approved by the instructor.

**FINAL CLEAN-UP**

We will conduct a final clean-up of the sculpture facilities during our last full week of in-person classes. Attendance and participation in final clean-up is mandatory. Absence from the final clean-up 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 with your instructor.

**GRADING**

Grades will be provided regularly through the semester (after assignments are submitted, critique, etc…) and at mid-term. Note: There are no pluses and minuses given at UNT.

A = Excellent (100-90%)
B = Above Average (89-80%)
C = Average (79-70%)
D = Inferior (69-60%) [passing but not necessarily satisfying degree requirements]
F = Failure (59% or below)

**SCULPTURE SHOP ACCESS & POLICIES**

Sculpture Shop Hours for Fall 2021: (subject to change)
Mondays-Thursdays: 8am - 9pm
Fridays: 8am - 5pm
Saturdays & Sundays: 12pm-5pm (after 12th class day)
The shop is only open to undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled in a sculpture course, or students who have taken a sculpture course in the past and have purchased a Shop Card ($50/semester for undergraduate students, free for graduate students).

**SCULPTURE TOOL CHECK-OUT SYSTEM**

1. Only students that are currently enrolled in a Sculpture course or who have bought a Shop Card are allowed to check out tools from the tool cage.
2. Tool check-out is for one day (not overnight), unless it is a long term checkout item (like welding jackets). Tools must be returned before the shop closes that day. Tools not returned by the time the shop closes and that haven't been checked out overnight will be considered a Shop Rule Violation.
3. Some tools may be checked out overnight but permission must be obtained from the Shop Supervisor or a faculty member in advance. Tools checked out overnight must be returned by 9am the next morning unless permission has been granted in advance by a faculty member or the Shop Supervisor. Please plan accordingly. Tools returned after 9am will be considered a Shop Rule Violation.
4. All tools must remain in the building unless you have received advanced permission to take them elsewhere from a faculty member or the Shop Supervisor.
5. Never leave your tools unattended. If you need to leave the area for a short time (for example, to use the restroom), please ask someone in the shop to look after your tools for you. Please check your tools back in if you need to leave the Sculpture area for more than 10 minutes. Tools found unattended will be checked back in by a Tool Cage Worker, and this will be considered a Shop Rule Violation.
6. You are financially responsible for all the tools you have checked out. If a tool is lost or stolen under your care, you will be charged for its replacement.
7. Report any broken or damaged tools to a Cage Worker or the Shop Supervisor. Tools break all the time, so you won't be punished if that happens, but we need to know about it so that we do not hand a damaged or broken tool to the next student who needs it.

**PROJECT AND MATERIAL STORAGE**

1. Projects and materials may be stored in the Sculpture area only if they are labeled with a current Storage Tag. Tags can be acquired them from the tool cage.
2. A Storage Tag will permit you to store that item on one of the shelves in the classroom for two weeks. If additional time is needed to store the same item(s), you must receive special permission for a new Storage Tag from a faculty member or the Shop Supervisor.
3. If your Storage Tag expires, a Cage Worker will replace it with a red Removal Tag. At that point you will have one week to remove or renew your belongings. If the item is not removed or renewed by the date on the Removal Tag, it will be put in the dumpster or allocated as scrap material. This will be considered a Shop Rule Violation.
4. Emergency egresses must ALWAYS remain clear. Make sure artworks/materials are not blocking walkways, doorways, etc.

**CONSEQUENCES FOR SHOP RULE VIOLATIONS**

The following consequences will be faced for health and safety, material storage, and/or tool-check out violations.

1. First Violation: Warning from instructor and Shop Supervisor.
2. Second Violation: Meeting with course instructor and shop supervisor, and loss of tool checkout privileges for 3 days.
3. Third violation: Meeting with program coordinator, course instructor and shop supervisor, and loss of tool checkout privileges for one week.
4. Fourth violation: Meeting with studio art department chair, and indefinite loss of tool checkout privileges.
HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM

Students are required to follow the Department of Studio Art Health and Safety guidelines and are required to complete training for each studio course. The goal of the Studio Art Health and Safety Program is to protect the health and welfare of all faculty, staff, and students and to cooperate with the University of North Texas’ Office of Risk Management. Please visit the website for details and the departmental handbook: https://art.unt.edu/healthandsafety.

HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION (SCULPTURE SHOP)

1. Hazards (Inherent)

**Metal Shop and Wood Shop Equipment**
Most wood and metal shop equipment/hand tools involve high speed rotating or revolving blades or sanding disks that can be dangerous if not used properly. Lifting heavy materials, equipment, and tools can lead to strain injuries. Electric tools cause vibrations, which can also lead to strain on the muscles. Noise from percussive equipment and tools can damage hearing.

**Metals and Metal Compounds**
Metalworking produces toxic and/or irritating dust and fumes. Welding, heat cutting/bending and brazing produces toxic fumes and radiates UV light. Both electrical and structural soldering produces toxic fumes from flux (hydrochloric acid and phosphors). Solder may contain lead, which is toxic. Corrosion products used in patinas (oxides, carbonates, sulfides, or sulfates) produce toxic fumes and irritating dust.

**Metal Casting and Mold Techniques**
Metal casting produces toxic fumes. Cast mold techniques (resin bonded sand, traditional investment and ceramic shell) produces fumes and/or irritating dust and generates liquid hazardous waste. Silica sand generates toxic, irritating dust when mixing, and exposure can cause silicosis.

**Woodworking Sanding and Cutting**
Sanding and cutting wood produces toxic and/or irritating dust. The organic chemicals produced by trees (terpenes, paraffin, fatty acids, phenols, phthalic acid esters, sterols, stilbenes, flavonoids, and cyclic or acyclic tannins) can be toxic if absorbed through the skin, the respiratory tract, or orally. Lumber intended for use in contact with the outdoor elements is chemically treated with additives (fire retardants, pesticides, and preservatives) and produce highly toxic fumes and dust. Plywood and Composition Boards contain wood glues and adhesives (urea-formaldehyde, phenol-formaldehyde resins or urethane plastics) which cause toxic fumes and irritating dust when cutting or sanding.

**Spray Paint, Stains, Solvents, Paint Stripper and other Aerosol Sprays**
Spray paint, stains, Paint Strippers and other aerosol sprays produce toxic fumes, skin irritants and generates liquid hazardous waste in excess paint and solvents used in cleaning (acetone, mineral spirits).

**Epoxy, Natural and Synthetic Polymers, Polyester Resins**
Epoxy, resins, glues, plastics/acylics and body fillers produce toxic fumes, skin irritants and generate both toxic and liquid hazardous waste. All of these (including some stones) can contain silica causing toxic fumes when sanded. Some polyester resins, plastics, urethane rubbers, and silicon rubbers are used in mold making and can be even more toxic and irritating to the skin when in liquid form.

**Stones, Plaster, Cement and other Dusts, Clays and Powders**
Minerals in stone, ceramics, glass, and abrasives (e.g. flint, steatite, dolomite, fluor spar stone, silica, garnet) produces toxic and irritating dust. Plaster is calcium sulfate, which produces toxic, irritating dust when mixing. Cement is a mixture of finely ground lime, alumina, and silica, which produces toxic, irritating dust and skin irritation when mixing. Cement is also highly alkaline and can burn then skin when exposed.
2. Best Practices

- All students must attend an orientation before using the wood and metal shops. During the orientation all shop rules and policies are presented as well as a discussion of the proper and safe use of shop tools.
- If you have never before used a specific tool or machine, please ask an Instructor, Shop Technician, or Graduate Student Assistant for a hands-on demonstration of the equipment. You must demonstrate your ability to properly operate the equipment prior to using it without supervision.
- Work in a well-ventilated area (or outside) while working with any material or practice that produces toxic or irritating fumes or dust (Resins, chemicals, oil-based paints, and solvents may not be mixed indoors).
- Purchase a good half face respirator that fits snug on your face (3M is a good brand)
- Never share your respirator with another peer (exchanging germs can cause illness)
- It's best to get a respirator that has a filter for both vapors and particulates
- Shave facial hair so respirator fits face snug
- When not in use, store respirator in a plastic bag to prolong the longevity of the filters – the filters will continue to work if not properly sealed.
- Change filters often depending on use (see instruction manual of specific respirator)
- ALWAYS clean up all messes produced by any material or practice to prevent from exposing others to the hazards of that material and/or practice.
- Steel-toed boots or metatarsal covers are best for many practices in the sculpture area.
- Shield eyes with approved safety wear. Safety goggles and face shields are most commonly used for many different sculpture methods.
- Wash hands (including under fingernails) after using toxic materials and chemicals (even if you were wearing gloves). Pumice hand cleaners are available in the shop.
- Wear Nitrile gloves and use plastic drop cloth to contain chemicals, paints, and stains when applying.
- Make sure to wear the proper safety gear for each process.
- All spray painting must be done in spray booth and you must put wood, plastic, or cardboard down on the surface that you are spraying on as to prevent any permanent back spray.
- Welding, soldering, and brazing should be done in a well-ventilated area. Never produce metal sparks or fire near the wood shop. All hot metal working needs to be done in the designated area or outside.
- Always use common sense, avoid distractions and concentrate on the task at hand.
- To prevent hearing loss, use proper hearing protection when working with load equipment/tools. Earplugs are available in the shop.
- Sculpture materials can sometimes get messy. Make sure to wear clothes that you are ok with getting dirty or you may want to purchase an apron (note: an apron cannot be used with all materials, it can sometimes be a danger when working with wood shop or metal shop equipment).

3. Links

http://www.uab.edu/ohs/
https://www.osha.gov/Publications/woodworking_hazards/osha3157.html
https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/metalworkingfluids/
http://www.uic.edu/sph/glakes/harts1/HARTS_library/sculpturehazards.txt

4. Area Health & Safety Rules

All users of the studio classrooms are expected to follow studio area rules at all times. If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

- Follow all CVAD Health and Safety handbook guidelines (the handbook should be reviewed by your instructor and can be found here: https://art.unt.edu/healthandsafety
- Follow the CVAD Waste Management Chart in the classroom and other health & safety guidelines posted
- In case of emergency, call campus police at (940)565-3000 or call 911
- File an incident report (forms may be found in the CVAD H&S handbook and in the main office. Turn completed forms into the Studio Art Departmental Office within 48 hours of the event).
- Do not prop classroom doors. Doors are to remain closed to ensure the building HVAC and ventilation work properly.
- No food or drink in the studio.
- Report any safety issues IMMEDIATELY to your instructor or the shop technician.
- Use best practices for material handling. If you have questions about a material, ask an instructor for guidance or check the MSDS sheet.
- Familiarize yourself with the closest eyewash station and first aid kit. Notify your instructor if first aid supplies are low.
- Do not spray any aerosols in any CVAD classroom/studio/doorway or exterior wall/floor. Use the spray booth.
- No eating, consumption of alcohol or smoking is permitted in the studios.
- Wear close-toed shoes only – NO SANDALS!
- Tie up any long hair and remove any loose jewelry or clothing.
- ALWAYS clean up all messes produced by any material or practice to prevent from exposing others to the hazards of that material and/or practice.
- ALWAYS make sure that you are 100% sober and awake! Drugs, smoking and alcohol are not allowed in the studio and anyone under the influence should not attempt to use the facilities.
- Make sure to wear the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) for each process. The proper eye protection, hearing protection, clothing, shoes, and gloves must be worn when using any power tools/equipment. Earplugs, welding jackets, leathers, face shields, welding helmets and goggles, leather gloves, and Nitrile gloves are available in the shop. Students need to purchase their own dust masks, respirators and safety goggles (do not share – exchanging germs can cause illness).
- Students are prohibited from taking home any UNT property.
- Newspaper or plastic must be used to protect table and floor surfaces from paint, glue, stains and plaster.
- Any trash that does not fit in the trash can must be immediately taken to the dumpster. Broken glass must be packed inside paper and labeled on the outside as broken glass and walked to the dumpster. The trash guidelines are to ensure the safety of anyone encountering the trash. Liquids, medical waste, yard waste, appliances and pallets are prohibited from disposal in the dumpster.
- Students are prohibited from storing materials or projects in the wood or metal shops, please use the shelves & lockers provided.
- Do not use stationary equipment to cut painted, recycled or chemically treated lumber.
- Never wear head phones when working with power tools/equipment (you need to hear the machine or other people if something goes wrong).
- Dust off tools and/or equipment, tables and sweep the floor when finished using any equipment and tools.
- Do not use stationary equipment to cut painted, recycled or chemically treated lumber.
- Do not block doorways or walkways with materials.
- Put back all tools, safety gear, and extension cords in their designated location.
- Scrap material must be relocated in the designated scrap wood bin or scrap metal bin. Please do not leave any materials out or on the shelves that you do not want. Properly discard any unwanted materials in the trash or the Satellite Waste Management area and properly labeled.
- No hazardous materials, cement, wax or plaster down the sinks.
- Do not block doorways or block access to lights.
- Do not remove furniture from rooms or borrow furniture from rooms without permission from the area coordinators.
- Do not create “daisy chains” with multiple electric cords.
- No hazardous materials down sinks.
- Store all flammables in the flammable cabinet. Keep flammable cabinet closed at all times.
- All courses must engage in an end of the semester clean up.
- Follow the CVAD CONTAINER POLICY (see below)

There are 3 types of labels used in CVAD.
All containers must have a label identifying the contents at all times.

**UNIVERSAL LABELS** (while chemical is in use)
All secondary/satellite containers for hazardous materials (or what might be perceived as hazardous - i.e. watered-down gesso, graphite solutions, satellite containers of solvents, powders, spray paints, fixatives, oils, solvents) must be marked with content, your name and the date opened. All unmarked
containers will be disposed of with no notice. Labels can be found in the studios. All containers must
be marked with your name, contents and date opened.

**UNIVERSAL WASTE LABELS** (when material is designated as waste)
All containers solely containing a universal waste must have a universal waste label identifying the
contents as “Universal Waste - (type of universal waste)” that are designated as waste for proper
disposal. The label must also include the date the first item of universal waste entered the container.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE LABELS**
All hazardous waste containers must have a label identifying the contents as hazardous.
Labels should include all constituents in the waste mixture as well as an approximate percentage of the
total for that item. All constituents should equal 100%.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**
According to UNT Policy 18.1.16, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when
students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic
dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range
of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

**DISABILITY ACCOMODATION**
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with
disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of
Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a
reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding
your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however,
ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to
avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable
accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation
in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation
during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to
discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For
additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at [http://www.unt.edu/oda](http://www.unt.edu/oda). You
may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

**ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR**
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to
learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students
engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the
student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student
Conduct. The University’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including
University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct
can be found at [deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct](deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct).

**STUDENT EVALUATION ADMINISTRATION DATES**
Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of
instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks
13 and 14 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to
evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via
IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their
UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they
will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

An Incomplete Grade ("I") is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has a justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule. In consultation with the instructor, complete a request for an Incomplete Grade. This form can be found on the department website and must be turned into the department chair prior to the last day of classes (not the exam date). Note: A grade of Incomplete is not automatically assigned to students.

SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT & ASSAULT

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more. UNT’s Dean of Students’ website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0. UNT’s Student Advocate she can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students’ office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES

UNT Emergency Guide: https://emergency.unt.edu/emergency-guidelines-0

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to the course management system for contingency plans for covering course materials. 