MFA Project In Lieu of Thesis: Research

ASTU 5015.734, Fall 2022
Prerequisites: Consent of Instructor
Instructor: Andrew (Andy) DeCaen
Office Hours: by appointment Thursdays 11:30am-1:30pm in person or on Zoom Personal Meeting ID 562 058 6888
Email: andrew.decaen@unt.edu

Communications:

***Please use normal UNT Email to decaen@unt.edu for any issues you did not get addressed during normal class time.
***Please DO NOT use Canvas Messaging; since Outlook email will flag it as "Clutter."

I am also available for professional advising or printmaking program advising during office hours by appointment. If you are considering becoming a Printmaking Pre-Major, I would love to meet for academic and professional guidance.

Course Description and Content

"Art research and practice for creative project in lieu of thesis. Typically taken with project in lieu of thesis supervisory committee chair in consultation with the supervisory committee. Should be taken with major professor."

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 communication 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 Structure

We will meet twice per week (from 2:00PM - 4:50PM on most Wednesdays). Each time we meet, your objective will be to come prepared with written drafts or files ready for review and discussion. Follow
the calendar PDF for the guide to what is expected.

There is a series of Gallery Proposal Documents, a Contextual Research Bibliography, an Extended Artist's Statement, and Professional Documentation of all Artworks to be shown in the exhibition.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

- Expanded Artist’s Statement Draft 1, [1 points], Due Sept 26.
- Expanded Artist’s Statement Draft 2, [1 points], Due Oct 3.
- Expanded Artist’s Statement Draft 3, [1 points], Due Oct 17.
- Expanded Artist’s Statement Draft 4, [4 points], Due Nov 28
- Gallery Proposal 100-Word Artist’s Statement, 4 points, Due Oct 24
- Gallery Proposal Photo-documentation of 10-20 works, 4 points, Due Nov 2.
- Gallery Proposal Space/Installation Plan, 1 points, Due Nov 2
- Gallery Proposal Timeline for Exhibition, 1 points), Due Nov 2
- Contextual Research Annotated Bibliography, 2 points, Due Nov 30.
- Space/Installation Plan, 1 points, Due Nov 30

20 points total in the semester.

Each assignment is posted in Canvas Modules where there are specific requirements.

Point Grade Scale for Projects/Assignments:

A (4.00 points) Excellent work that exceeds objectives, is very high in originality, and extremely well-conceived and executed.
A-(3.75 points)
B+(3.25 points)
B (3.00 points) Good work that meets the objectives, is high in originality, and well-conceived and executed.
B-(2.75 points)
C+(2.25 points)
C (2.00 points) Average acceptable work that meets the objectives, is fairly well-conceived and executed.
C-(1.75 points)
D+(1.25 points)
D (1.00 points) Inferior work that is minimally complete, but falls short of the objective of the project.
D-(0.75 points)
F (0.00 points) Failing work. Significantly incomplete, does not meet the objectives, and is poorly executed and/or conceived

Grade Scale for End of Semester:
UNT only allows whole-letter grades for the semester grade.
A (20-17.50 points)
B (17.49-12.50 points)
C (12.4-7.5 points)
D (7.49-2.5 points)
F (2.49-0 points)

Late Work Policy

If you cannot complete your project when it is due, please submit the project in its unfinished state. If you have to submit an unfinished project, you may ask to resubmit the completed project later*. In this case, the critique will be very short. Your participation grade will be no better than a C if you present the project incomplete. Coming to critique with nothing to present will earn an F for the project grade and a D or F for the participation grade. If you have not completed an assignment on time because of an excused absence, then this may be taken into consideration.

Project Re-Submissions

If you need to resubmit a project due to its being incomplete, or if you need to re-make a project because you were unsatisfied with the grade, you may resubmit until a date marked on the course calendar PDF. This project will earn no better than a B grade. Re-submissions may be submitted on canvas in the Project Re-submissions Module.

Submitting Projects and Assignments on Canvas

All projects and assignments are to be turned-in on Canvas. The quality of your digital image is imperative to evaluate the work. Poor documentation may result in a low grade. Please read the page titled "Photographing/Scanning Artworks for Submission on Canvas" to prepare these digital images well. Please pay close attention to file naming conventions described in each project outline. Be mindful of deadlines in each assignment.

***NOTE: I retain the right to change the syllabus and post changes on Canvas Announcements if the needs of the course or students change.

Attendance Policies

Attending all scheduled class days is essential to success in this class. Attending in-person is essential for success in this course. When you attend in-class, I can assist you with the nuance of printing and other technical processes in real space/time. You may also learn as much from your peers as you do from me. Your participation in-person also contributes to the community experience of printmaking. I will take roll at the start of all class days. It is your responsibility to answer roll call at the beginning of class. If we need to schedule some remote class days, participatory attendance will be expected.

Each Absences will reduce the Participation Grade by one letter for that project grading period. A Fourth absences per semester will additionally reduce your final Semester Course Grade by 1 full letter.
A Fifth absences per semester will additionally reduce your final Semester Course Grade by 2 full letters. A Sixth absences per semester will result in a Semester course Grade of F.

If you must be absent:
Email me before class to let me know. I appreciate knowing so that I won't wait for you to arrive late, AND
Ask another student to share notes with you, so that you can make up time outside of class and be prepared to return to class.

COVID-19 impact on attendance

Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (Links to an external site.) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

Punctuality/Tardies

If you arrive after roll-call, you should assume that you were marked absent.
If you arrive late, make sure that your absence is changed to a tardy.
Every Tardy will lower your participation grade for that module. Arrive
Arriving to class more than 20 minutes late will reduced that participation grade by one letter.
Leaving class early will count as a Tardy.

CALANDER MFA PILOT RESEARCHF22B.PDF

Download Calendar MFA PILOT ResearchF22B.pdf (134 KB)

ATTENDANCE POLICIES Fall 2022

Attending all class in-person is essential to success in this class. When you attend class in-person, you have real-space/real-time access to demonstrations, critiques, discussions, and assistance on your projects. You may learn as much from your peers as you do from your instructor. Attending class is the first step in developing a sense of community and social learning. It is your responsibility to answer roll
call at the beginning of class. If you walk in late, you must let the instructor know right away so that you are marked tardy instead of absent. Participatory attendance is expected.

It is expected that students be on time and prepared each session. If you do not attend, you cannot participate. Class participation grade will be dramatically effected by poor attendance or poor punctuality. The final semester grade will also be effected by poor attendance:

Each Absences will reduce the Participation Grade by one letter for that project grading period. A Fourth absences per semester will additionally reduce your final Semester Course Grade by 1 full letter. A Fifth absences per semester will additionally reduce your final Semester Course Grade by 2 full letters. A Sixth absences per semester will result in a Semester course Grade of F.

If you must be absent:
Email me before class to let me know. I appreciate knowing so that I won't wait for you to arrive late, AND Ask another student to take notes for you, so that you can make up time outside of class and be prepared to return next class.

COVID-19 impact on attendance
Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is imperative that you communicate with the professor prior to being absent, so you and the professor can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

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.

Punctuality/Tardies
If you arrive after roll-call, you should assume that you were marked absent. If you arrive late, immediately make sure that your absence is changed to a tardy. Every Tardy will lower your participation grade by one step for that module. Arriving to class more than 20 minutes late will reduced that participation grade by one letter. Leaving class early will count as a Tardy.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

• Access to reliable Wifi with bandwidth suitable for Zoom calls.
Device capable of Zoom features: audio, video, chat, share, etc (including webcam and mic if not already in this device)  
MS Word or comparable word processing app capable to save as a PDF.  
MS PowerPoint or comparable visual presentation app capable to save as a PDF.  
DSLR Camera, good smartphone camera, or scanner capable of making clearly focused images at 300 pixels per inch.  
Adobe Photoshop or other digital imaging software for editing photos and/or creating artworks.

Canvas Requirements

Please familiarize yourself with the technology requirements to use Canvas

- Hardware and Software Requirements for Canvas
- Canvas Browser Check

Optimizing Weak Wifi Bandwidth on Zoom

We may all experience unpredictable internet periodically, but I want to offer some suggestions that may help with this. When you are on a zoom call it may help to:

- Close all other unnecessary apps (on a computers or and on phones).
- Ask others using the same wifi to pause their use until your call is complete. (I know this is not always possible.)
- Turn off Video and/or Audio features if you are experiencing a bad connection.

Online Rules of Engagement

Online Rules of Engagement refers to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors online.

Technology Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. The UNT Student Help Desk can help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk: UIT Student Help Desk site
(http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm
Telephone Availability:

- Sunday: noon-midnight
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm

Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical HelpLinks to an external site. (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

CVAD Computer Lab

https://itservices.cvad.unt.edu/labs/cvad-sclLinks to an external site.
CVAD Computer Lab has computers with software available during open hours. They also have laptops and other equipment available for short-term check-out.

UNT Willis Library Computer Lab

https://library.unt.edu/services/computer-labs/Links to an external site.
UNT Willis Library Computer Lab has computers with software available during open hours. They also have laptops and other equipment available for short-term check-out.

Adobe Creative Cloud

UNT Students may subscribe for a discount to buy Adobe® Creative Cloud™ All the apps. All the time. 100GB of free storage!
One Time Cost: $55.55 with your UNT-student discount
Access: Aug. 15, 2022 or from date of purchase through Aug. 31, 2023
Details: https://news.cvad.unt.edu/adobe-news (Links to an external site.)
Purchase: https://unt.edu/adobe

UNT COVID GUIDELINES

Go to https://healthalerts.unt.edu/ to see the latest guidance on issues related to COVID-19 including information regarding vaccinations and testing.

UNT & CVAD POLICIES

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 Accommodation

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations 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. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

CVAD Health and 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. (also available as PDF in the Files of this course)

Health & Safety Best Practices for Printmaking Studios

Please read the appendixes of the H&S manual for the Printmaking Program at https://art.unt.edu/healthandsafety.

Emergency Notification and Procedures


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.

Student Evaluations of Teaching

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 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.

Important Academic Dates

- Registration Guides by Semester
- Online Academic Calendar
- Final Exam Schedule

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences

According to UNT Policy 06.003, 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.

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 classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

The Dean of Students Office enforces the Code of Student Conduct. The Code explains what conduct is prohibited, the process the DO S uses to review reports of alleged misconduct by students, and the sanctions that can be assigned. When students may have violated the Code they meet with a representative from the Dean of Students Office to discuss the alleged misconduct in an educational process.

Sexual Assault Prevention
UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Visit Title IX Student Information for more resources.

Undocumented Students

Please see UNT’S Resources for DACA Students web page for more information.

Content in the Arts Disclaimer

Content in the arts can sometimes include works, situations, actions, and language that can be personally challenging or offensive to some students on the grounds, for example, of sexual explicitness, violence, or blasphemy. As the College of Visual Arts and Design is devoted to the principle of freedom of expression, artistic and otherwise, and it is not the college’s practice to censor these works or ideas on any of these grounds. Students who might feel unduly distressed or made uncomfortable by such expressions should withdraw at the start of the term and seek another course.

Handbook_Heath-Safety_8-12-18-1.pdf

Download Handbook_Heath-Safety_8-12-18-1.pdf (12.4 MB)

Printmaking HealthSafety-1.pdf

Download Printmaking HealthSafety-1.pdf (111 KB)

PRINTMAKING COURSE SCHEDULE FALL 2022

Fall 2022 Hours/Access

*Only students currently enrolled in printmaking classes may use the printmaking studios.* Students may use the studios during their scheduled class times and "open studio" blocks in the schedule. Students may also use the printmaking studios during another class ONLY with expressed permission from that instructor. When you work in the studios independently, you must follow the same clean-up, cleaning, and disinfecting protocols: cleaning up after yourself, cleaning surfaces before and after each use, and washing hands upon entering and exiting class.

Fall 2022 Printmaking classroom schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Course, Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>8am-10:50am</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>Beginning Print: Screen Print, ASTU 2602.501, Nie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>11am-1:50pm</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>Beginning Print: Screen Print, ASTU 2602.502, Nie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Room</td>
<td>Course, Instructor</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>2pm-4:50pm</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>5pm-7:50pm</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
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<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>8pm-9pm</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days</td>
<td>time</td>
<td>Room</td>
<td>Course, Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>8am-10:50am</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>11am-1:50pm</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>Intermediate Print: Monotype, ASTU 3604.501, Gibbons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>2pm-4:50pm</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>Print Rotating Topics, ASTU 3601.501, Gibbons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>5pm-7:50pm</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW</td>
<td>8pm-9pm</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>8am-10:50am</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>Beginning Print: Screen Print, ASTU 2602.502, DeCaen</td>
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<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>11am-1:50pm</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>Interdisc Rotating Topics, ASTU 3000/5000, Bangash</td>
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<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>2pm-4:50pm</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>MFA Praxis/BFA Sr Print Studio, ASTU 5001/4600, DeCaen</td>
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<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>5pm-7:50pm</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>8pm-9pm</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Days</td>
<td>time</td>
<td>Room</td>
<td>Course, Instructor</td>
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<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>8am-10:50am</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>Beginning Print: Relief Print, ASTU 2602.501, Picket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>11am-1:50pm</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>Beginning Print: Relief Print, ASTU 2602.502, Picket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>2pm-4:50pm</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>MFA Praxis/BFA Sr Print Studio, ASTU 5001/4600, DeCaen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>5pm-7:50pm</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>Intro to Print, ASTU 2300, Boyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTR</td>
<td>8pm-9pm</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days</td>
<td>time</td>
<td>Room</td>
<td>Course, Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>9am-5pm</td>
<td>266 &amp; 275</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>9am-5pm</td>
<td>266 &amp; 275</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>9am-10pm</td>
<td>266 &amp; 275</td>
<td>OPEN STUDIO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Building Hours:**

**Art Building Access for Undergraduates Granted After-Hours Access**

Mon.–Thurs: Midnight–11:59 p.m.

Fri: Midnight–5 p.m.

Sat.: 9 a.m.–11:59 p.m.

Sun.: Midnight–11:59 p.m.

Link for Undergraduate After-Hours Access: [https://news.cvad.unt.edu/studentaccess](https://news.cvad.unt.edu/studentaccess)Links to an external site.

**Art Building Access for Graduate Students**
Access to the Art Building is 24/7 during the long semester.

**Art Building, Room 361, Digital Fabrication Lab**

Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: closed

Hours may change, check the [Fab Lab web page](https://example.com) for updates.

**Art Building Room 375, Computer Lab**

Monday–Thursday: 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Friday: 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

There is no after-hours access to this space.

**Art Building Room 490, Woodshop**

Monday–Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Thursday–Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Hours are subject to change.*

PRINTMAKING SYLLABUS AGREEMENT
(Canvas quiz)