AEAH 4840.001
Tuesdays/Thursdays 12:30 – 1:50

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309 ART
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(Please do not contact me through blackboard)

Course Description (from catalog):
Ceramics, metalwork, weaving and other crafts media from the Paleolithic era to the present.
Prerequisite(s): ART 2350 and 2360, or consent of instructor.

(mine)
Primary focus is on twentieth century studio craft from North America.

Required Textbook:
http://www.americanstudiocrafthistory.org
Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard.

Course Objectives:
- To gain an understanding of the major developments in the creative media of ceramics, fibers, glass, metal and wood from the past one hundred years
- To recognize important makers and movements within that period
- To understand the issues related to contemporary crafts
- To understand the processes related to writing about contemporary crafts
- To problematize the term “craft”
- To develop critical thinking skills through visual analysis
- To develop communication skills by participating in thoughtful discussions of concepts put forth in class lectures and readings
Course Structure:

This class will meet two days a week for 80 minutes each session. Information given will be comprised of lectures, assigned readings, fieldwork, videos, in-class activities and student research. The majority of class sessions will generally consist of lectures with interspersed discussions and supplemental activities. Students are encouraged to participate by asking questions and commenting on the issues raised so that students (and the professor) can learn through the collegial sharing of diverse viewpoints. Assignments are to be handed in within the first five minutes of the class in which they are due. Graded exercises over the reading materials for each class will be taken by students through the Blackboard learning system prior to the start of each class.

Student Evaluation

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In order to pass this class, students must hand in all assignments. Regardless of the number of points accumulated, individuals who do not turn in all assignments will fail this course.

Reading Quizzes

It is expected that students will complete the required reading as a background for each class day’s lecture. To this end each student will be required to take a quiz over the assigned reading online before attending class that day. Quizzes are available for one week prior to the class for which the reading has been assigned. You must log in to this class’s Blackboard site in order to take them. Each quiz is timed for fifteen minutes and may be taken only once. At the end of the semester, the lowest quiz grade will be thrown out.

Object Report

Each student will prepare a five-page object report on a craft object that they have visited in person during the semester. The object report will bring together three kinds of investigation one may make about an object: visual analysis, research, and interpretation. Further instructions will be given in class.

Short Essays

These are one-page writing exercises designed to allow students to reflect on what has been learned to date and express their own opinions. Further information will be given in class.

Midterm Exam

This will test students’ abilities to synthesize information from the first half of the semester and will consist of one or more in-class essays.
Final Exam

This will test students’ abilities to synthesize information from the second half of the semester and will consist of essays, object recognition and interpretation as well as comparative object analysis questions.

Written Assignments (Object Report, Short Essays)

Written assignments must be typed (as opposed to hand-written). If a typist is used, failure of the typist to complete the assignment will not be an acceptable reason for turning it in late. In such an emergency, it is expected that a hand printed version will be turned in within the given deadline, with the typed one to follow.

Unless otherwise indicated, all written assignments must follow these guidelines:

- Use clean, white paper
- Double space
- Standard size margins (1 to 1½ inches only)
- Arial or Times New Roman font
- 12 point font only (not 10 point font; not 14 point font)
- One return at the end of each paragraph with no extra return between
- Paragraphs indented one-tab space
- Citations in footnote and bibliography form in the Chicago style (for the humanities)

Work that does not conform to these specifications will have points deducted. Should the instructor determine that a student’s writing skills are not up to an acceptable level, the student will be required to work with the University Writing Center (AUD 106, 565-2563) to rectify the situation.

Mistakes in grammar, punctuation, and syntax will detract from your argument and will prevent you from earning a superior mark. Finally, students are encouraged to develop and express their own opinions regarding the artworks and issues discussed in class. No matter what your opinion is, however, you must always express it in a professional and collegial manner.

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses and violate UNT’s Code of Student Conduct. Any suspected act of dishonesty will result in a grade of “F” in the course. Further, the professor will report the behavior to the Dean of the College of Visual Arts and Design and the Dean of Students, each of whom will investigate the incident and pursue disciplinary actions at their discretion. According to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, plagiarism is defined as “the deliberate adoption or reproduction of ideas, words or statements of another person as one’s own without acknowledgement” (www.unt.edu/csrr). Copying material from any source without providing a citation (footnote or endnote) is a form of plagiarism. Likewise, if you paraphrase another author’s
words or ideas, you must credit that person with a citation. While many incidents of plagiarism are unintentional, it is your responsibility to ensure that you accurately indicate which words and ideas are those of others. When in doubt, consider the rule of “five words or five sources.” Do not use more than five words in a row from another author and footnote everything that is not your original thought or can be found in at least five sources (then considered common knowledge).

Attendance and Late Work Policies:

Attendance is mandatory for all class times unless otherwise announced by the instructor. Each student is allowed no more than three unexcused absences. Each additional unexcused absence will result in the student’s final grade for the course being lowered by one third of a letter grade. Excused absences include sickness with a doctor’s note, deaths in the immediate family, and other dire circumstances, as to be determined by the instructor. When absent, students are still responsible for material covered, announcements made, handouts given, and amendments made to course requirements. Handouts are distributed at the beginning of class and left at the front of the room for the rest of the class. If you come in late, you may pick one up. If you miss a class on a day when a handout is distributed or if you lose a handout, ask another student if you can photocopy theirs, or get it from the Blackboard web site. Late work will be accepted at the instructor’s discretion (under emergency circumstances only). It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that they are counted present by signing the attendance sheet.

Final Exam Time:

Tuesday December 13, 10:30 - 12:30

Disabilities Accommodation:

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 me of your need for an accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to me no later than the first week of classes for students registered with the ODA as of the beginning of the current semester. If you register with the ODA after the first week of classes, your accommodation requests will be considered after this deadline.

Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed. 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 1 course. Students enrolled in this course will not be exposed to any significant hazards and are not likely to suffer any bodily injury. Students in this class will be informed of any potential health hazards or potential bodily injury.
connected with the use of any material and/or processes and will be instructed how to proceed without danger to themselves or others.

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 and Responsibilities:

Phone: (940) 565-2039
Fax: (940) 369-8440

The Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities (CSRR) is responsible for addressing student conduct, enforcing university policies, and procedures, and providing students with the resources necessary to resolve their own personal disputes. The CSRR administers student disciplinary procedures in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct and maintains official disciplinary records. Each University of North Texas student is entitled to certain rights associated with higher education institutions. See www.unt.edu/csrr for further information.

The instructor retains the right to change the syllabus at any time with or without notice.
Course Contract

Please sign and return this page by August 30, 2011.

I have read the entire syllabus for ART 4840: History of Crafts. I understand all the policies, including those on late work, written expression, assignments, point totals, and academic honesty. I agree not to ask for exceptions to these rules. I understand that none of my work will be graded or recorded unless I sign and hand in this contract by August 30, 2011.

___________________________________
Print your name

___________________________________
Signature

******
Please give me some information about yourself:

Year (freshman, soph, jr, sr)

Major

E-mail address
(one that you actually check, please)

What is your definition of “craft”?

Do you have any past experiences with craft? Do you collect it? Are you a craftsperson?

What is one thing you hope to learn in this course?