

<b>ART4899.002: Capstone IADS Topic</b>  <b>Room: ART180</b>  <b>Wednesdays: 5-750 p.m.</b>  <b>Text:</b> As assigned	<b>Instructor:</b> Binod Shrestha <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:binod.shrestha@unt.edu">binod.shrestha@unt.edu</a>  <b>Office:</b> ART230E  <b>Office hours:</b> Wed: 3-4 pm or by appointment  <b>Telephone:</b> 940.369.8053 (O)
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**Review:** <https://healthalerts.unt.edu/> (Links to an external site.)

**Review:** <https://cvad.unt.edu/hours> (Links to an external site.)

**Review:** <https://itservices.cvad.unt.edu/>

### **Course Description: Borders & Boundaries**

This course examines the concept of borders and boundaries. The course will explore how cultural/political practices engage with, challenge, and redefine the notions of boundaries and borders. Students will examine the complex relationship between art, culture, and the ever-evolving boundaries that shape our world through critical readings and discussions.

### **Course Objectives**

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- Evaluate the role of boundaries in shaping cultural and national identities.
- Analyze the evolution of borders and boundaries.
- Critically assess the concept of borders and boundaries within ethical and humanitarian dimensions.
- Evaluate how artists might use visual language to express cultural and political boundaries.

### **Course Outcomes:**

At the end of this course, students will:

- Be able to critically evaluate the role of boundaries in shaping cultural and national identities.
- Be able to analyze the evolution of borders and boundaries verbally and in writing.
- Able to critically assess and apply the concept of borders and boundaries within ethical and humanitarian dimensions.

### **Course Structure:**

Active, Reflective, and Collaborative Learning: Student-driven and faculty-mentored various formats and activities, including group discussion, reading, small group work, individual exercises, and presentations. Outside-class sessions include readings, writings, studio observations, interviews, and hands-on work.

### **COURSE POLICIES:**

#### **Grading:**

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 (68 or below)

(LATE WORK PENALIZED 10% PER DAY)

Success for this course is based on the following factors:

- on-time completion, of course, works to the highest level possible
- diligence and devotion
- attitude and involvement
- attendance and preparation
- development of teaching skills and abilities
- evolution of personal vision and professionalism

Topics	Worth %
Project   Research   Art Object or Event	35
Reading   Research & Leading Discussion	30
Contribution to the Canvas Discussion	20
Peer Review	10
Professionalism**	05
Total	100%

**Professionalism\*\* Grade (10%)** is based on including but not limited to the following factors:

- **Class participation (50%):** giving your best effort to the class activities; being an integral part of your group and making a meaningful contribution to your group; asking pertinent questions and moving the discussion forward in class and speaking up when confused; demonstrating contribution via an active and reflective learning process.
- **Professional behavior in class (50%):** including but not limited to excessive socializing; inappropriate cell phone/laptop use; lack of attentiveness; making inattentive facial expressions during the discussion; demonstrating respectful behavior towards peers and the instructor; disrupting the class with subtle verbal and non-verbal cue/expression are some examples of professional practice.

### Class Participation Expectations

You are expected to attend every class, both physically and mentally. A vital component of the educational experience is both quantity and quality. Every student will be evaluated for every class session based on the productive use of class time. This is essential to the success of the individual and the class; a positive attitude and respect are given. Participating during activities and discussions and being prepared and on time for the course are critical elements of your grade. Being 10 minutes late to class or leaving early three times will be treated as an unexcused absence. Non-participation, which includes not working, sleeping, excessive talking, doing work from other classes, or not bringing necessary materials to class, will be counted as an unexcused absence. The instructor reserves the right to determine the student's participation.

### Project/Research/Art Object or Event (35%)

- **Project:** Students will produce one group project (they could be studio-based, research, or event), one at the mid-semester and one at the final. These projects could include prototypes, artwork, performative events, research papers, or presentations.
- The project must address the notion of borders and boundaries (post-humanism); it can be **an object research paper presentation or event centered around the idea of borders and boundaries.**
- The student group must present a draft proposal in 250< words for each project (studio-based, research, or event); **there will be a mid-term check-in and evaluation of the project.**

- The evaluation criteria will primarily focus on **Research, Production, and Presentation.**
- **Research Paper:** It must be 2000 words with reference, photographic reference as needed, bibliography for the mid-term check-ins, and 3000 comments with reference, photographic reference, and bibliography for the final.
- **Research Presentation:** limit to **30< slides** with images and bibliographic references; primarily an oral presentation
- **Details of provenance must accompany the photographic reference**
- **The project can address the historical, current, or speculative understanding of borders and boundaries.**

### **Readings | Research & Leading Discussion (30%)**

- Each student group will lead and moderate discussions on **one assigned reading** throughout the semester.
- Students will be asked to write a short reflection summary in 250 words on the topic/reading they lead.
- The instructor will mentor before and during the discussion.

### **Contribution to the Canvas Discussion (20%)**

After each discussion, every student will be required to participate in a Canvas Discussion. The discussion post should be **at least 75 but not more than 150**. The discussion post is graded based on critical thinking, clarity, vocabulary, intercultural connection, comprehension, and interpretation with intellectual reasoning of contextual ideas in the texts as appropriate for a Capstone course—detailed rubric on Canvas.

### **Electronic Device/s:**

Research has demonstrated that simply having our cell phones accessible on the table diminishes our ability to learn well. Taking notes via computer also reduces our ability to process and retain information.

It is disrespectful and unprofessional for your peers and instructor to check texts, cell phones, and emails constantly. Please refrain from using your cell phone (unless in case of emergency; notify your instructor prior) and prevent social media in class; I, too, will abide by this.

### **Attendance Policy:**

- Presence at and during all classes is required (mentally and physically).
- Three absences will be tolerated. It is up to you to make up for the missed class, and I will not provide information on what you have missed.
- **More than one absence** will require a doctor's note or the art office excusing the absence for a reason covered under UNT policy 06.039 (Student Attendance and Authorized Absences) to be counted as excused.
- Over three unexcused absences will lower your final grade by one letter per additional absence (2+).
- Three tardies will constitute an absence, and a tardy is considered to arrive 10 minutes after the beginning of class.
- Every additional unexcused absence will deduct an additional full letter grade from your final grade.
- Projects turned in late will receive one letter grade lower per Day for each late Day.

To get an excused absence, a legitimate reason must be provided. If necessary, excused absences may be discussed beforehand with the instructor. Regardless of (the reason for) the absence, the student is responsible for all material covered, including all announcements or changes to the schedule.

### **Late Work/Make-Up Policy**

Late work may be subject to a penalty of 10% deducted from the assignment's value per 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.

### **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 severe 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 in to the department chair/director before the last day of classes (not the exam date). Note: A grade of Incomplete is not automatically assigned to students.

### **Useful Links:**

UNT Learning Center <https://clear.unt.edu/> (Links to an external site.)

UNT Dean of Students <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu> (Links to an external site.)

### **Course Safety Procedures**

Students enrolled in this class must use proper safety procedures and guidelines outlined in UNT Policy 06.038 Safety in Instructional Activities. While working in laboratory sessions, students are expected and required to identify and use proper safety guidelines in all activities requiring lifting, climbing, walking on slippery surfaces, using equipment and tools, handling chemical solutions, and hot and cold products. Students should know that the UNT is not liable for injuries incurred during in-class activities. All students are encouraged to secure adequate insurance coverage in accidental damages. Students who do not have insurance coverage should consider Standard Syllabus Statements Related Policy 06.049 Course Syllabi Requirements obtaining Student Health Insurance. The UNT Student Health and Wellness Center provides brochures for student insurance. Students injured during class activities may seek medical attention at the Student Health and Wellness Center at reduced rates compared to other medical facilities. If students have an insurance plan other than Student Health Insurance at UNT, they should be sure that the policy covers treatment at this facility. If students choose not to go to the UNT Student Health and Wellness Center, they may be transported to an emergency room at a local hospital. Students are responsible for expenses incurred there.

Students who are pregnant or will become pregnant during the semester are advised to check with their doctor immediately to determine if any additional risks are reasons 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 action to take.

It is a topic course; the instructor recognizes that a student might use tools and equipment outside the designated studio. Therefore, reading, understanding, and acknowledging the safety guidelines for potential areas is mandatory. **Health and Safety Handbook and other relevant information can be accessed here: <https://art.unt.edu/healthandsafety>** (Links to an external site.) **American**

**Disabilities Act (Disabilities Accommodation)** ADA Accommodation Statement: In accordance with university policies and state and federal regulations, the university is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. To this end, all academic units are willing to make reasonable and appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies to facilitate equality of educational access for persons with disabilities. See [UNT Policy 04.015 \(Links to an external site.\)](#).

Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is confirmed, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to the faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time. However, ODA housing notices 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 accommodation for every semester and meet with each faculty member before implementation in each class. For additional information, see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://disability.unt.edu> (Links to an external site.). You may also contact them by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Please notify the instructor if you have a disability that requires accommodation. It is also recommended that you register with the UNT Office of Disability Accommodation, Student Union, Room 318. The College of Visual Arts and Design policy on accommodation is available upon request in the CVAD Dean's offices, Room 243. Further questions and problems on housing may be addressed to Associate Dean Eric Ligon, School Accommodation Liaison, Art Building, Student Advising.

### **Emergency Notification and Procedures**

UNT Emergency Guide: <http://guidebook.com/app/emergency/guide/unteitmerge...> (Links to an external site.)

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 Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials. In case of emergency (the 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 a tornado (campus sirens will sound) or other weather-related threat, please go to the most adjacent 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**

The following statement reminds students of their rights and responsibilities within the academic community—"Each University of North Texas student is entitled to certain rights associated with higher education institutions. See [www.unt.edu/csrr](http://www.unt.edu/csrr) for further information."

### **Acceptable Student Behavior:**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' learning opportunities 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. 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 Code of Student Conduct can be found at <http://deanofstudents.unt.edu> (Links to an external site.).

## Academic Honesty

Students are expected to abide by the UNT student integrity policy. In the context of this class, this includes appropriately citing sources for any materials (both printed and online) used in completing course assignments. <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

*Use proper citation formats, such as APA/MLA. All images and text from the Internet, journals, or books must have an APA or MLA citation to be used in your work.*

- APA Style | Electronic References <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/> (Links to an external site.)
- MLA Style <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/> (Links to an external site.)

## Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, and 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) have experienced or experienced any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law clarifies 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](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0) (Links to an external site.). UNT's Student Advocate can be reached through email at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) (Links to an external site.) or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone, and we are here to help.

## Financial Aid Satisfactory

### Academic Progress:

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA and successfully complete a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per term. Students cannot exceed the maximum timeframes established based on the published length of the graduate program. Students who do not maintain the required standards may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If you consider dropping this or any other course at any point, please be advised that the decision to do so may affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. Please visit <http://financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements> (Links to an external site.) 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 before doing so.

### Final notes:

- This syllabus is tentative, and any changes will be announced if necessary.

### Tips for success (in this class as well as in academic life in general...):

- Come to class mentally and physically prepared.
- Follow directions and complete all components for each project; sometimes, be creative :).
- Do not assume that my answer to one student applies to all unless delivered in a context.
- Practice effective time management. It is hard; I will try to do this too...

- Do not excuse any absences.
- Don't let unexcused absences nullify your hard work.
- BE PRO-ACTIVE!
- The only stupid question is the unspoken one.
- Get input. From your teachers, from your peers. That's why we're all here.

## ASTU4899: Interdisciplinary Art & Design

### PERMISSION TO USE STUDENT WORK

We would like to use your work to spread the news about the amazing art made at CVAD! Please help us put your talent on display by allowing us to photograph and exhibit your art on CVAD's social media, websites, and paper advertising. Thank you!

*I hereby grant permission to UNT and CVAD to use, copy, reproduce, publish, distribute, or display any and all works created in my classes while at UNT. Additionally, I consent to the use of my name to coincide with images of my artwork.*

1. **Scope of Permission.** This permission extends to the use of the described work and images of such work: (1) for academic purposes in order to demonstrate examples of student work to current and future UNT students; (2) for public display in the galleries or on the campus of the UNT or on the UNT website; (3) for promotional materials created by UNT in all forms of media now known or later developed, including but not limited to exhibition catalogues, direct mail, websites, advertising, social media, and classroom presentations. My permission is on-going but can be revoked by giving the professor of record for this course written notice of my wish to revoke permission and use of any images of my artwork. UNT will have three months from the date of my notice to stop all use agreed with this permission.
2. **Certificate of Ownership.** I am the owner of all work submitted and the work is not subject to any restriction that would prevent its use consistent with this permission. All aspects of the work are original to me and have not been copied. I understand that as the owner of the work I have the right to control all reproduction, copying, and use of the work in accordance with U.S. copyright laws.
3. **Privacy Release.** I hereby authorize and consent to the release, maintenance, and display of my name if necessary and any other personally identifiable information that I have provided in connection with the work and its use described in this Agreement.
4. **Signature.** By signing below I hereby grant the permissions indicated above. I understand that this grant of permission relates only to the use of the described work. This is not an exclusive right and I may sell, give or otherwise transfer the rights to such work to others on a non-exclusive or exclusive basis. However, in the event that I do sell, give or otherwise transfer ownership or the exclusive right to use my work to another party, I will notify UNT immediately in writing through the professor of record for this course. UNT will have three months from the date of my notice to stop all use in accordance with this permission.

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Course: \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT\*

Provide a "tear-off" or separate page with a place for the student(s) to sign a declaration of understanding and agreement with the above syllabus provisions and risk factors. Or, similarly, create a required quiz in Canvas.

I \_\_\_\_\_ (print your full name)  
 acknowledge that I have read the course syllabus. I understand the course structure, grading, and attendance policies. I hereby agree to the syllabus and its provisions.

Course number and section		Risk Rating
Student phone #, email address (print)	Signature	Date
Faculty Name	Signature	

### Tentative Calendar (subject to change)

Date	Activity
January 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Student Survey</li><li>• Syllabus Overview</li><li>• Group Activity</li><li>• Reading assigned</li></ul>
January 24	In-class Reading Day – peer and faculty-mentored
January 31	In-class Reading Day – peer and faculty-mentored   Write first draft proposal for the group project
February 7	Guest Speaker   Workshop   <a href="http://altimablossom.net">http://altimablossom.net</a>
February 14	Conference   Work & Reading Day   No Class Attendance
February 21	Student-Led Discussion   Work on the Group Project   Due draft proposal for the group project
February 28	In-class Reading Day – peer and faculty-mentored   Work on the Group Project
March 6	Student-Led Discussion   Work on the Group Project
March 13	SPRING BREAK   NO CLASS
March 20	Student-Led Discussion   Work on the Group Project   Mid-point check-in for the project
March 27	In-class Reading Day – peer and faculty-mentored   Work on the Group Project
April 3	Student-Led Discussion   Work on project   Get feedback from the instructor
April 10	In-class Reading Day – peer and faculty-mentored   Work on the Group Project
April 17	Student-Led Discussion   Work on the Group Project
April 24	Work on project   Get feedback from the instructor
May 1	Last Day of classes – Final Presentation   Group Project due
May 4	Last Day to upload all outstanding materials on Canvas by 11:59 p.m. (Final Exam at 1:30 – 3:30pm)