ASTU 5015: Creative Projects
Semester: Fall 2023
Faculty Member: Christopher Meerdo
Email: christopher.meerdo@unt.edu
Office Hours: Monday 2-5

Course Description
Research and practice for the creative project in lieu of a written thesis.
*Must be taken with your major professor.

Course Outcomes
- Individuate an approach to visual artmaking and address self-defined research projects with distinct and challenging parameters
- Demonstrate the visual, verbal, and writing skills needed to engage with discourses 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
- 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

Course Requirements and Schedule
Checklist of required activities during your second-to-the-last semester in Studio Art. Discuss deadlines with your Committee Chair.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early in the semester</td>
<td>Attend meeting with UNT Gallery staff to discuss expectations, guidelines, dates, and spaces for your exhibition. This meeting will be called by the Graduate Director. Set the date and location for your Oral Defense; this should be held at the same time as your exhibition.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-semester</td>
<td>Studio visits with the gallery staff: Students schedule a studio visit with the gallery director. This studio visit provides an opportunity for feedback from the gallery director before the exhibition proposal is due.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Exhibition Proposals due to the MFA Major Professor, including: Artist Statement (One page or less) 10-20 images/videos of work. These can be the actual works to be exhibited or representative of works to be exhibited. Space/installation plan including type of work to be installed, method of installation and approximate number of works. For example: Will the work be framed? Are there pedestal requirements? A need for digital projectors? Etc. Detailed timeline for the exhibition.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Major Professor forwards Proposal to gallery by week 12. Gallery provides student feedback by the end of the semester.

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).

Assignments and Assessments

*(sample breakdown)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Worth / %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creation of artworks</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibition Proposal</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research for project</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading**

*Grades will be provided regularly throughout the semester and at mid-term.*

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)

**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.

**CVAD / Studio Art 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. These safety guidelines can be found at [https://myunt.sharepoint.com](https://myunt.sharepoint.com) using your UNT credentials.

**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 Code of Student Conduct can be found at [http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct).
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 in to 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

ADA Accommodation Statement *
UNT makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of 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 accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information, see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

Access to Information – Eagle Connect
Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward email: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

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, 14, and 15 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. 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.
**Emergency Notification & 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 Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

**Retention of Student Records**
Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual records; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws, and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

**Survivor Advocacy**
UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex and therefore prohibit 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.

UNT’s Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759. Students’ office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.
PERMISSION TO USE STUDENT ARTWORK

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 ongoing 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, if 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.

Name / Section of Course:

Printed name:

Signature:

Date: