

## ROTATING TOPICS: CAREFUL CRITIQUE

**ASTU 3201.501**  
ART 468  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
8-11AM  
Spring 2026

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Office Location: ART 468  
Office Hours: by appointment

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will expand their understanding of giving and receiving critique through reading, writing, and practicing conscientious observation skills while creating work within their pre-established body of work. Students will receive support and guidance over their personal artwork and critique skills through guided research, practical and written critiques, and group and individual feedback.

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.

### PREREQUISITES

Painting 2

### COURSE CONTENT & SCHEDULE CHANGES

The course schedule reflects expected class progress in course subject matter and is considered tentative. The course schedule is subject to change in content and scope at the course instructor's discretion.

### COURSE OUTCOMES & OBJECTIVES

Outcomes	Objectives
Knowledge: What students should know	
Understand the history, current issues, and direction of the artistic discipline	Develop basic knowledge of the traditions, conventions, and evolutions of the discipline as related to issues of representation, illusion, and meaning
Place works in the historical, cultural, and stylistic contexts of the artistic discipline	
Use the technology and equipment of the artistic discipline	Acquire beginning knowledge and skills in the use of basic tools, techniques, and processes sufficient to work from concept to finished product, including knowledge of paints and surfaces.
Skills: What students should be able to do	

Use the elements and principles of art to create artworks in the artistic discipline	Understand basic principles of design and color, concepts, media and formats, and the ability to apply them to a specific aesthetic intent.
Create artwork that demonstrates perceptual acuity, conceptual understanding, and technical skill	Develop basic ability to synthesize the use of drawing, two-dimensional design, and color, beginning to develop a consistent, personal direction and style
Analyze and evaluate works of art in the artistic discipline	Develop beginning skill in the analysis and evaluation of paintings.
Synthesis: How students will combine knowledge and skill to demonstrate learning	
Produce artworks demonstrating technical skill and disciplinary knowledge	Exploration of the expressive possibilities of various media, and the diverse conceptual modes available to the painter.
Use knowledge of art and disciplinary vocabulary to analyze artworks	Apply the vocabulary of art and design to the critique and analysis of own paintings and the works of others.
Participate in critiques of own work and work of others	

## ASSIGNMENT & ASSESSMENTS

Assignments	%
Projects	50%
Critiques	50%
Total	100%

## ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

- You must have 4 completed projects and engage meaningfully with each critique to be eligible for Excellent marks.
- 4 Critique modules, 1 per each project
- There will be a mixture of written and practical critique assignments

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Tues 1/13: Introductions, Introduce Syllabus  
 Thurs. 1/15: Introduce Critique Module 1, Work Day  
 Tues. 1/20: Work Day  
 Thurs. 1/22: Work Day  
 Tues. 1/27: Work Day  
 Thurs. 1/29: Work Day  
 Tues. 2/3: **Critique 1**

Thurs. 2/5: **Critique 1**  
Tues. 2/10: Introduce Critique Module 2, Work Day  
Thurs. 2/12: Work Day  
Tues. 2/17: Work Day  
Thurs. 2/19: Work Day  
Tues. 2/24: Work Day  
Thurs. 2/26: **Critique 2**  
Tues. 3/3: **Critique 2**  
Thurs. 3/5: Introduce, Critique Module 3, Work Day  
Tues. 3/10: **NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK**  
Thurs. 3/12: **NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK**  
Tues. 3/17: No Class, Individual Work Day  
Thurs. 3/19: No Class, Individual Work Day  
Tues. 3/24: Work Day  
Thurs. 3/26: Work Day  
Tues. 3/31: **Critique 3**  
Thurs. 4/2: **Critique 3**  
Tues. 4/7: Introduce Critique Module 4, Work Day  
Thurs. 4/9: Work Day  
Tues. 4/14: Work Day  
Thurs. 4/16: Work Day  
Tues. 4/21: Work Day  
Thurs. 4/23: Work Day/Critique Flex Day  
Tues. 4/28: **FINAL CRITIQUE**  
Thurs. 4/30: **FINAL CRITIQUE**

**FRIDAY 5/8, 10AM: ALL ARTWORK MUST BE TAKEN HOME, OTHERWISE WILL BE OFFERED TO OTHER STUDENTS OR TAKEN TO DUMPSTER.**

## **REQUIRED & OPTIONAL COURSE MATERIALS**

Materials defined by student's individual practice.

## **CLASS PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS**

You are expected to attend each class. You are responsible for completing all of the required assignments. All students are required to participate in class discussions, contributing ideas and perspectives on topics or art. All your work should incorporate aspects or issues addressed in class in relation to your personal or professional interests.

You are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that everyone has an opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, you are prohibited from using cellular phones or beepers, checking your email or surfing the internet, updating your social networking sites, eating or drinking in class, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers or magazines, sleeping or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in, minimally, a request to leave class, which will be counted as an unexcused absence

## **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 (4 or more)
- 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 arrival 5 minutes after the beginning of class.
- Assignments that are turned in late will receive one letter grade lower per day for each 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.

## **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.

Students should always remain in contact with instructor regarding absences, foreseen or unforeseen. Students should approach instructor for all missed critiques and projects. Your instructor may make an alternate deadline schedule with you if you reach out with a circumstance beyond your control that is causing you significant academic hardship.

## **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 (59% or below)

Project rubric for ART 4200.501. 2 categories with a scale from A to F. The categories are: Participation and Material Use/Creativity

<b>Components</b>	<b>A: 100-90 %</b> Excellent	<b>B: 80-89%</b> Above Average	<b>C: 70-79 %</b> Average	<b>D: 60-69 %</b> Inferior	<b>F: 59% and below</b> Failing
<b>Critique Engagement: 50%</b> Actively dedicates themselves learning objectives. Contributes to discussions about readings, individual work, and the work of others.					
<b>Project: 50%</b> Work is well-made with appropriate selection of materials and strong attention to detail. Evidence of innovative thinking and unique point of view.					

## 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.

## ADA ACCOMODATION

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation 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](http://disability.unt.edu).

## COURSE SAFETY PROCEDURES

Students enrolled in this class are required to use proper safety procedures and guidelines as outlined in UNT Policy 15.2.4 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 be aware that the UNT is not liable for injuries incurred while students are participating in class activities. All students are encouraged to secure adequate insurance coverage in

the event of accidental injury. Students who do not have insurance coverage should consider obtaining Student Health Insurance. Brochures for student insurance are available in the UNT Student Health and Wellness Center. Students who are injured during class activities may seek medical attention at the Student Health and Wellness Center at rates that are reduced compared to other medical facilities. If students have an insurance plan other than Student Health Insurance at UNT, they should be sure that the plan 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.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY / STUDIO RULES**

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>.

## **EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES**

UNT Emergency Guide: <http://guidebook.com/app/emergency/guide/unteitmerge...>

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.

## **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](http://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](http://www.spot.unt.edu) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto: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](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0). UNT's Student Advocate she can be reached through e-mail at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

## **Academic Support & Student Services**

### **Student Support Services**

#### *Mental Health*

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

#### *Additional Student Support Services*

- [Registrar](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration) (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
- [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
- [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [UNT Food Pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)

Academic Support Services

- [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (<https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources>)
- [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
- [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)