ASTU 5600: MFA Praxis
meets with ASTU 4600: Senior Printmaking Studio
University of North Texas College of Visual Arts and Design
Syllabus

Professor: Lari Gibbons, Professor
Office: ART 204
Office Hours: via Zoom MW 9 – 10 am (or appt)
   a link to Zoom office hours is provided in Canvas
Email: gibbons@unt.edu
Department Telephone: 940.369.7671

Class Time: MW 11 am – 1:50 pm
Class Location: ART 275, ART 266, Canvas, and Zoom

This syllabus is a set of guidelines for instruction in this class. The instructor may modify the content, schedule, and requirements.

Course Description

Readings, discussion and/or studio exploration of various art issues. Praxis graduate seminars are intensive topical or single discipline-based courses which encourage innovation, the development of a new method, idea, and results. Seminars vary in structure offering a blend of reading/writing/presentation/discussion and studio practice/group critique.

Prerequisite: MFA or PhD candidate (and exceptions by consent of professor).

3 hours (0;6).

Course Content

This is an advanced-level course with an emphasis on producing a body of creative work, developing your professional practice as an artist, and engaging with contemporary art making practices. The course will frame printmaking in an expanded context, and you may bridge that workshop experience to other disciplines to explore related methodologies and themes. In addition to making artworks for this class, you will engage in contextual research and professional documentation.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have a graduate-level command of creative research with the ability to:

• Form research questions related to ideas and concepts in their artwork.
• Technically manipulate materials through printmaking and/or related processes.
• Create a unified portfolio of artworks resulting from these objectives.
• Engage in critical dialogue related to this portfolio and portfolios of peers.
• Apply standards for formal documentation of the artist’s creative practice.
Course Requirements, Assignments, and Assessments

Your final course grade is based on Artwork/Critiques, Creative Practice Research, and Group Engagement. Your course grade will be lowered by failure to attend class or final clean-up. Final grades are not posted. The Office of the Registrar provides your final grade.

Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late work is not accepted unless an absence is excused (see “Attendance”). If you can’t finish a project by a deadline, it’s better to show up and present what you have than skip critique or wait until it’s finished to turn it in. Work must be presented and submitted as required. All prints must be dry, clean, undamaged, curated, and signed. Missed demos, critiques and other class activities cannot be made up.

Typically, you may resubmit previous projects by the final critique deadline. Include a brief note summarizing improvements. The original grade will not be erased, but your overall grade in the class will be improved. You should consider whether it is more worthwhile to move forward with new projects or revisit previous one(s), and I am happy to help you make an informed decision so that expectations are realistic. Details will be provided in advance of the deadline.

I strive to grade and return work one week after the deadline. If I am unable to return feedback quickly, I will let everyone know what to expect.

See next page:
## Grading requirements and criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>75% Artwork and Critiques</th>
<th>15% Concept</th>
<th>What ideas does your work show? Are your ideas well-researched, original and engaging? Does the work show an awareness of context? Is it cohesive in its vision and execution?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15% Form</td>
<td>Do the aesthetic qualities of your work support the concept?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15% Technique</td>
<td>Does your technical approach complement the concept and form? Does it meet any project requirements, if given?</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15% Craft/Presentation</td>
<td>Does your artwork meet the presentation guidelines and standards? Do you take pride in presenting your work and care for how it is submitted?</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15% Direction</td>
<td>Do you make good use of class time? Work between classes? Show progress when requested? Budget your time effectively, keep up with the assignment, and meet in-progress deadlines? How do you respond to setbacks? Does the work demonstrate growth and risk?</td>
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</tbody>
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|                           | 25% Critique | Do you present finished and resolved work? Is your presentation professional? Are you receptive to constructive criticism? Do you offer helpful feedback to peers proactively? Do you take notes? We will have final and in-progress critiques, which count equally as follows: 
+ = A = work complete, student actively contributed
✓ = C = work incomplete or unfinished, student contributed; or work complete, student did not contribute
– = F = work missing, student attended (some points!)
∅ = work missing, student did not attend (no points) |
| 15% Creative Practice Research | Rubric on Canvas | Deliver oral presentation(s) to class; submit required written materials and digital images. |
| 10% Group Engagement | Rubric on Canvas | Your proactive, cooperative participation in a student-driven, student-focused group work project centered on sharing and expanding print media. |
|                           | Rubric on Canvas | Do you complete Canvas Discussions, Polls, and other interactive elements as required? Do you engage with peers and class? |
| Tools and Kits | Timely return of university property in good condition | Did you return any tools and items checked out to you, and were they returned in good condition? Failure to return tools may result in a grade penalty. |

The sum of your scores translates to a letter grade:
- 0 – 59% = F, Failure
- 60 – 69% = D, Inferior
- 70 – 79% = C, Average
- 80 – 89% = B, Above Average
- 90 – 100% = A, Excellent

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**Texts/Readings/Videos**

Required readings will be provided as handouts or online link. Unless an alternate deadline is specified, readings must be completed by date specified on calendar or one class period after distribution.

**Attendance, Participation, and Deadlines**

Regular and punctual attendance is mandatory.

**Three absences** are 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 occur at the beginning of class periods and will not be repeated for those who come in late. If you are late to class, notify me at the end of the class period to replace an absence with a tardy. Three tardies constitute an absence.

A tardy is considered to be arrival 5 minutes after the beginning of class or when I begin announcements, whichever occurs first.

**Late work is not accepted unless an absence is excused.** However, you may turn in the assignment by the final critique deadline to help improve your course grade. Details to follow.

Missed examinations, quizzes, and in-class assignments 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). Missed critiques missed may not be made up and grades will reflect the student’s failure to participate in the critique discussions.

Attendance policies are non-negotiable and can result in a failing final grade, regardless of the quantity or quality of work produced during the semester. Students with excessive absences should consider withdrawing from the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential grade deductions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendance</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 unexcused absence</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 unexcused absence</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 unexcused absences</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 unexcused absences</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 unexcused absences</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 unexcused absences</td>
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**COVID-19 Return to Learn**

For continual updates on all matters COVID-19, see https://vpaa.unt.edu/return.

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COVID-19 Impact on Attendance and Participation

Professors are required to use seating charts and take attendance for contact tracing purposes. Be attentive and cooperate while faculty fulfill the requirement. When meeting in person, stay at your seat until roll call and announcements are concluded, and do not expect the professor to know you are present if you are working in another part of the shop. If you cannot attend in person, check in via Zoom at the beginning of class and stay until dismissed.

Mandatory clean-up will be designated during class.

Classes may be dismissed on a staggered schedule to minimize congestion.

If you wish to ask questions, you must be distanced by six feet and keep your face covering on.

While attendance is expected as outlined above, be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in the community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact the professor if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. Communicate with the professor prior to being absent as to what may be preventing you from coming to class so a decision can be made about accommodating a request to be excused from class.

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 health, and that of others in the community, is more important.

Face Coverings

Face coverings are required in all UNT facilities. Students are expected to wear face coverings during this class. If you are unable to wear a face covering due to disability, please contact the Office of Disability Access to request an accommodation. Face covering recommendations for the UNT campus are subject to change due to community health guidelines. Any changes will be communicated via the instructor.

Class Recordings

Synchronous (live) sessions in this course may be recorded for students to refer to throughout the semester. Class recordings are reserved for use only by students in this class for educational purposes. The recordings should not be shared outside the class, or outside the Canvas LMS, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

Moving Remote

Remote instruction for this course may be necessary if community health conditions change or you need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. Students will need access to a webcam, microphone, and internet connection to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Additional required classroom materials for remote learning are listed in this syllabus under “Digital Literacy (COVID-19).” Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment is at https://online.unt.edu/learn.
Building Hours and Studio Access

Art Building hours are as follows:
Monday – Thursday 7:30 am – 9 pm
Friday 7:30 am – 5 pm
Saturday and Sunday Closed (except scheduled classes)

Only students enrolled in these classes are allowed in the room during scheduled class times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MW</th>
<th>TR</th>
<th>FR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8–11</td>
<td>11–2</td>
<td>2–5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ART 266</td>
<td>2602 Screen Webb</td>
<td>4600 Senior Studio 5001 Praxis Gibbons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ART 275</td>
<td>OPEN</td>
<td>4600 Senior Studio 5001 Praxis Gibbons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Outside of class times, students are required to make reservations to work in the studio in order to practice physical distancing. Use Booked Scheduler (https://itservices.cvad.unt.edu/help-doc/reservations) to reserve a spaces when there is an OPEN block in the schedule. When you work in the studios independently of class time, you must follow the same cleaning and disinfecting protocols: cleaning surfaces before and after each use, and washing hands upon entering and exiting class. In order to promote physical distancing, the studio classroom is limited to 10 students at a time.

Course Safety and Emergencies

Emergency telephone numbers: 940.565.3000 and 911.

COVID-19 Hotline: 844-366-5892 and COVID@unt.edu.

Severe Weather: take shelter in the interior hallway C275. If unable to safely move to the designated shelter-in-place area, seek shelter in a windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest floor of the building to which you have access.

Bomb / Fire: evacuate the building immediately, using the nearest stairwell and exit. Once outside, proceed to church parking lot across Mulberry Street. If unable to safely move to the designated assembly area, contact one or more members of your department or unit to let them know you are safe and inform them of your whereabouts.

Emergency Preparedness: https://emergency.unt.edu
Campus Carry: https://campuscarry.unt.edu
Run, Hide, Fight when needed (see link).
Health & Safety: https://art.unt.edu/healthandsafety

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.

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Conduct

A map of Perch Points (i.e., rooms for remote instruction) is available at https://classroomsupport.unt.edu/faculty/perch-points

A cooperative and community work ethic is essential. Be considerate of shared spaces and tools. Observe safety guidelines and clean-up policies.

If you arrive early, wait in the hallway until your class starts. Do not interrupt the class in session. During your class time, you and your classmates have priority access to the shop. During Open Shop hours, the shop is shared. Move belongings aside and clean your workspace by the end of class, even if you plan to stay in the space after class (for open hours).

Bring your course packet (or means to connect to Canvas), a notebook, writing utensil, appropriate supplies and artwork to every class session. A lack of preparation or supplies will be counted as a tardy or absence.

Class sessions are for being productive in the print shop—not for fetching materials, errands, library research, computer lab work, etc. except when designated by the professor for the entire class.

Take your break at announced time(s) only. Request permission if you need to leave the shop at any other time (unless it is an emergency).

The soaking trays, drying racks, and flattening areas are not storage facilities; remove prints as soon as possible. Treat fellow students' prints with respect.

Disengage felts from the printing presses after printing is finished; roll them up individually and place them in the designated area. Use clean hands.

Items checked out to students will be returned in good condition by request or no later than the last class session or the student's grade will be reduced by one full letter grade or held incomplete until the tool is returned or replaced.

Leave the shop and critique areas clean and organized. Clean as you go, and participate in mandatory clean-up at the end. Paper left in drying racks and soaking trays after the end of each class period might be discarded.

You will be assigned a mandatory clean-up task. You are responsible for completing it; if another student is still using the area, check in with them and make sure they will complete the task for you.

Expect to spend between six to twelve hours weekly outside of class time completing assignments for this class.

Check your UNT email account between each class period for information and announcements. Forward your messages to your preferred email address if you do not wish to use UNT email. Note that non-UNT email accounts (such as gmail and yahoo) often get blocked and never reach your professor, especially if they have attachments or links. I check emails many times a day, but not Canvas messages.

Food is not permitted in the classroom; beverages must be in a closed container. Cell phones, laptops, headphone/earbuds, and personal stereos may not be used without permission. University smoking policies must be observed.

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American Disabilities Act (Disabilities Accommodation)

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation 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.

More information is available via UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in person or by calling 940.565.4323.

Academic Integrity, Rights, and Responsibilities

In order to provide a campus environment that is conducive to academic endeavor and growth, the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline provides regulations and guidelines governing student behavior. The Code provides penalties for misconduct, including academic dishonesty, which includes all forms of cheating and plagiarism, including attempts to circumvent attendance procedures.

The term cheating includes, but is not limited to (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; (d) dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or (e) any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage.

The term plagiarism includes, but is not limited to: (f) the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and (g) the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials (Source: UNT Undergraduate Catalogue).

Students who become aware of suspicious activities should notify the professor promptly.
Academic Integrity, Rights, and Responsibilities, continued

Academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. For more information, see UNT Policy 18.1.16, Student Academic Integrity.

Additionally, each student is entitled to certain rights associated with higher education institutions. See http://www.unt.edu/csrr for more information.

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. 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. Expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Intellectual Property

Any distribution of course materials from this class is in violation of the following:

*Intellectual property violations include the use or distribution of copyrighted or trademarked works of another without the expressed consent of the owner of the copyright or trademark. A student who receives written notification from a faculty member that the information provided in his or her course is the faculty member's intellectual property shall not distribute, use for commercial purposes, or create derivative works of the intellectual property without obtaining the express written permission of the faculty member. Students shall not assume permission absent written notification from the faculty member (Source: UNT Undergraduate Catalogue).*

In sum, you are authorized to take notes in class for your own personal use and no other use without permission from the instructor. You are not authorized to record class sessions, to provide your notes to anyone else, or to make any commercial or non-profit use of these notes without prior, written permission from the course instructor.
Digital Literacy (COVID-19)

To succeed in this class and to be prepared for possible shifts in learning environments, students need the following:

- Computer or device with reliable internet access
- Webcam (smartphone okay)
- Microphone
- Speakers (earphones okay)
- Digital camera for documenting artwork (smartphone okay)
- Software to edit digital images (Adobe Photoshop or Snapseed recommended)

You will need the following technical skills:

- Use Canvas
- Use email with attachments
- Download and install software

See Engagement Guidelines for more information (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips)

Student Evaluation

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. 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. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please see the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

General Problems and Concerns

Direct all problems or concerns to Professor Gibbons, preferably during office hours. Follow the Chain of Command: talk to your professor before you bring the matter to a departmental chairperson or dean.

Syllabus Contract

Your continued enrollment in this class after the add/drop period and 12th class day signifies your understanding and acceptance of this syllabus, including course structure, grading and attendance policies as well as the risk factor rating.

This syllabus, supply list, and schedule is subject to change.
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 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 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: ________________________________________________________