ASTU 3310.501: PRINT ETCHING
ASTU 4310.501: ADVANCED ETCHING & 5900.753: SPECIAL PROBLEMS
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF VISUAL ARTS AND DESIGN
SYLLABUS

Professor: Lari Gibbons, Associate Professor
Office: Hickory 120D
Office Hours: M 2 – 3 PM and W 11 am – noon
Email: gibbons@unt.edu
Telephone: 940.369.8354

Class Time: MW 8 – 10:50 AM am
Class Location: Hickory 160

Name and Contact Information of Another Student: ____________________________________________

Course Descriptions

3310: Introduction to concepts and techniques of intaglio printmaking, including various grounds, aquatint, line etching and stage biting. Black and white and color. Prerequisites: ART 1440, 1450, 1500 and 1510. 3 credit hours (2:4).

4310: Exploration of concepts and techniques of intaglio printmaking, including classic and experimental techniques. Prerequisite(s): ASTU 3310; selection into the printmaking program through the mid-point review process. May be repeated for credit. 3 credit hours (2:4).

5900: Advanced students capable of doing independent work under the direction of the instructor. 1 – 3 credit hours.

Course Content and Objectives

*Print Etching/Advanced Etching/Special Problems* explore intaglio printmaking as a primary form of expression. They cover the essential processes, aesthetic characteristics, and expressive potential of the medium. Low-toxicity techniques will be emphasized and no hazardous materials will be used without prior permission from the instructor.

These courses combine presentations, demonstrations, critiques and projects in a studio format in order to help you achieve the following:
• to produce a body of work on paper,
• to gain technical proficiency in a variety of intaglio processes,
• to work successfully in a shared space,
• to develop and record your ideas by maintaining a sketchbook and writing a statement of intent,
• to identify the work of traditional and contemporary graphic artists while discussing issues related to the changing role of printed media and works on paper.

*Advanced Etching* and *Special Problems* students will be expected to complete more ambitious projects than 3310. Additionally, they will be required to articulate and to pursue a unique and individual direction in their work from an early point in the semester. Occasionally, they will be asked to assist with demos, to interact with visiting artists, or to engage with other professional opportunities.
Course Structure and Evaluation

Your final course grade will be based on three portfolio reviews plus a final portfolio in which you will resubmit all previous work for a separate grade. Work must be presented in a specific format that will be described before the first due date. All prints must be dry, clean, undamaged, collated and signed. Special Problems students are required to document their work and submit a cd of high-quality digital images with their final portfolios.

The criteria are as follows:

- **Conceptual Approach** = 15%
  What ideas are evident in your work? Are they original and engaging?

- **Aesthetic Qualities** = 15%
  Do the formal qualities of your work support the conceptual approach?

- **Technique** = 15%
  Does your technical approach complement the concept and form?

- **Craft/Presentation** = 15%
  Does your portfolio meet all presentation criteria? Are your prints dry, clean, undamaged, collated and signed, with slipsheets? Do you take pride in presenting your work and care for how it is displayed?

- **Process** = 10%
  What is the scope and depth of your research and preparatory work (this can be demonstrated by a sketchbook or idea book)? Are you invested? Did you make good use of class time and keep up with the assignment? Did you budget your time effectively? How did you respond to any setbacks that occurred? Using cvad’s Visual Resource Collection will be a component of your process grade. Details to follow …

- **Critique(s)** = 15%
  Effective participation in critiques is evidenced by the quality of work that you bring, your willingness to listen to constructive criticism and the feedback that you provide to peers. We will have pre-scheduled and impromptu critiques. They are equally important.

- **Shared Studio Space** = 15%
  This grade is based on the ongoing condition of the shop and is typically the same for all students in the class. It is meant to encourage individual responsibility combined with a professional, cooperative and courteous work ethic. Be considerate of shared spaces and tools, and be proactive if a student abuses resources. Tell your instructor if something needs to be fixed or replenished. Every student will be assigned a daily clean-up job, and failure to complete it regularly will reduce this grade.

  - 0 – 59% = F, 60 – 69% = D, 70 – 79% = C, 80 – 89% = B, 90 – 100% = A
  - Your final course grade will be lowered by excessive absences (see “Attendance”).

Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late work will not be accepted unless an absence is excused (see “Attendance”). Missed demos, critiques and other class activities cannot be made up.

Occasionally, projects may be retained temporarily for cvad exhibitions or documentation.

Final grades are not posted. The Office of the Registrar will provide you with your final grade.

Final Clean-up

Final clean-up is Friday, December 10 from 8 am – noon. Students must spend one hour working on the group clean-up. If a student cannot make the date, s/he must pre-arrange an alternate date to contribute to the group effort. Failing to attend the clean-up period will reduce your final semester grade by one full letter. After the clean-up, students may not use the studio to print.

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Attendance and Participation

Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. If you do not answer roll call, you will be marked absent. If you arrive late, it is your responsibility to make sure you are not marked absent. Keep track of your attendance; ask if you are unsure how many absences or tardies you have.

Unsatisfactory participation or preparedness = 1 unexcused absence
3 tardies or early departures = 1 unexcused absence

4 unexcused absences = 1 letter grade deduction from final course grade
5 unexcused absences = 2 letter grade deductions from final course grade
6 unexcused absences = 3 letter grade deduction from final course grade
7 unexcused absences = automatic failure

Up to two absences will be excused if … 1) documentation is submitted the first class meeting following the absence, and 2) you either attended a funeral, or were personally treated for a medical emergency (other circumstances are subject to approval). Student athletes should not presume exemption and must provide official documentation of their game schedule, preferably early in the semester or immediately following an absence. Any absences which are not approved or noncompliant with these terms are unexcused. 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.

If you miss any part of a class session, you are responsible for the content that was covered and the work that was assigned, regardless of whether the absence is excused. Late work is not accepted unless an absence is excused and the work is submitted at the beginning of the first class meeting following the absence; in all other instances, make arrangements with a fellow student to submit your assignments. Missed demos, critiques and other class activities cannot be made up. Consult your classmates about what you missed, and meet with your professor during office hours if the information remains unclear. Instructors are not obliged to repeat demonstrations or other information for those who have failed for any reason to attend class.

Online Resources

The Visual Resources Collection provides an electronic database of images at http://resources.unt.edu/. Log in with your EUID and password and click “Course Materials: Printmaking” to access images selected specifically for this course.

An online supplement may be provided for this course at http://ecampus.unt.edu.

Texts/Readings

Required readings will be provided as handouts. Unless an alternate deadline is specified, readings must be completed one class session after they are distributed. While no textbook is required for this course, the following books are highly recommended:

Adam, Robert and Carol Robertson. *Intaglio: The Complete Safety-First System for Creative Printmaking.* Thames & Hudson


American Disabilities Act (Disabilities Accommodation)

CVAD 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 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 your professor of your need for an accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to your professor 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.unr.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union or by calling 940.565.4323.

General Problems and Concerns

Direct all problems or concerns to Professor Gibbons, preferably during office hours. Follow the Chain of Command: only after your professor has been consulted should you bring the matter to the attention of a departmental chairperson or dean.

Grades may not be discussed on the telephone or via email. All grade inquiries must be made in person.

Safety and Emergencies

Emergency telephone numbers: 940.565.3000 and 911.

According to University Policy, this course is classified as a Category 2 course. Students are exposed to some significant hazards but are not likely to suffer serious bodily injury when properly trained on how to handle materials and tools. Students who are pregnant or who become pregnant during the course of the semester are advised to postpone this course because of certain higher risk factors (3) to an unborn baby.

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.

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.

Disclaimer

This syllabus, supply list, and schedule is subject to change.
Note: The professor reserves the right to change deadlines and to add in-progress deadlines to this calendar. Revisions to this calendar will be announced in class. If you miss a class and a deadline is changed, it is your responsibility to be prepared when you return.

Portfolio One: Non-Acid Techniques

**M 8/30**  
Course introduction, policies and materials  
Discussion: The serial print (*non finito*), narrative  
Demo: Plate preparation. Drypoint and incidental markmaking

**W 9/1**  
3310: Idea development due  
4310/5900: Idea development due, bring work for individual discussion  
Demo: State proofing. Subtractive approaches

**M 9/6**  
No Class: Labor Day

**W 9/8**  
3310: Work day  
4310/5900: 1st state proof due. In-progress critique

**M 9/13**  
12th class day  
3310: 1st state proof due. In-progress critique  
4310/5900: Work day

**W 9/15**  
3310: Work day  
4310/5900: 2nd state proof due. In-progress critique

**M 9/20**  
3310: 2nd state proof due. Work day  
4310/5900: Work day

**W 9/22**  
3310: Work day  
4310/5900: 3rd state proof due  
Discussion: Collation

**M 9/27**  
3310: Work day  
4310/5900: *Portfolio One and Process due* (at the beginning of class). Critique

**W 9/29**  
3310: *Portfolio One and Process due* (at the beginning of class). Critique

Portfolio Two: Etching and Layered Printing Techniques

**M 10/4**  
Demos: Line etch and aquatint (no nitrile gloves/goggles = 1 absence)

**W 10/6**  
3310 & 4310/5900: Idea development due. Begin test plates (no nitrile gloves/goggles = 1 absence)

**M 10/11**  
3310 & 4310/5900: Test plates due. Work day

**W 10/13**  
3310: State proof of line etch due  
4310/5900: Work day

**M 10/18**  
3310: Work day  
4310/5900: State proof due

**W 10/20**  
3310: State proof of aquatint due  
4310/5900: Work day

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2010 Printmaking Portfolios  
Cora Stafford Gallery  
14 – 17 September

MAPC Conference  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
13 – 16 October
M 10/25  3310: BAT due  
Demo: Chine collé

W 10/27  3310: Portfolio Two and Process due (at the beginning of class). Critique  
4310/5900: Work day  
Discussion: Color prints, contemporary print forms, collaboration and works on paper

M 11/1  3310: Work day  
4310/5900: Portfolio Two and Process due (at the beginning of class). Critique  
Demo: Planning a color scheme, key plate

Portfolio Three: Etching and Color Printing Techniques

W 11/3  Demo: Shaped plates, open bite, blind embossment

M 11/8  Demo: Softground, offset to second and third plates

W 11/10 3310 & 4410: Work day

M 11/15  3310 & 4310/5900: Work day

W 11/17  3310 & 4310/5900: B/W proofs of all plates due  
Demo: Color registration

M 11/22  3310 & 4310/5900: Work day

W 11/24  3310 & 4310/5900: Color trial proof due

M 11/29  3310 & 4310/5900: Master printing and exchange

W 12/1  3310 & 4310/5900: Master printing and exchange

M 12/6  3310 & 4310/5900: Work day

W 12/8  3310 & 4310/5900: Portfolio Three and Process due (at the beginning of class)  
3310 & 4310/5900: Resubmission of Portfolios One and Two due (at the beginning of class)  
Final critique

Final Clean-Up

F 12/10  8 AM – noon
Students must spend one hour working on the group clean-up. If a student cannot make the date, s/he must pre-arrange an alternate date to contribute to the group effort. Failing to attend the clean-up period will reduce your final semester grade by one full letter. After the clean-up, students may not use the studio to print.

“Final Exam”

M 12/17  8 AM – 10 AM
No final exam is planned for this class. Please pick up your work at this time. Work left after this time may be discarded.