ASTUS 4300.501: PRINTMAKING STUDIO (UNDERGRADUATE)  
ASTUS 5300.501: PRINTMAKING STUDIO (GRADUATE)  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF VISUAL ARTS AND DESIGN  
SYLLABUS

Professor: Lari Gibbons, Associate Professor  
Office: Hickory 120D  
Office Hours: MW 11:00 AM – NOON PM by appointment  
Email: gibbons@unt.edu  
Telephone: 940.369.8354

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

Name and Contact Information of Another Student: ___________________________________________

Course Descriptions

4300: Developing additional competence in special areas. Undergraduate printmaking majors take this course twice as the capstone course in their degree. Prerequisites: advanced standing and selection into the printmaking program through the mid-point review. May be repeated for credit. 3 credit hours.

5300: For students qualified to develop professional competence in special areas of studio work. Prerequisite(s): 12 hours of art in the selected area and consent of college. May be repeated for credit. 3 credit hours.

Course Content and Objectives

Printmaking Studio is an advanced-level course that explores printmaking as a primary form of expression. You will develop a creative body of work, hone your professional practice as an artist, and engage current conceptual and theoretical directions in printmaking. You will be required to synthesize concepts, technical skills and knowledge acquired from previous courses; engage in professional opportunities and group activities; and demonstrate your engagement with the discipline of printmaking through the creation of a portfolio of work. Techniques covered introductory or advanced Printmaking courses such as etching, litho, relief or screen are not covered in this class, and students must have a firm grounding in the processes they wish to use.

4300: Undergraduate students enrolled in the capstone section of this course will participate in Exit Reviews.  
5300: Graduate students enrolled in this course will participate in MFA Reviews.

Course Structure and Requirements

This course requires the following:
50% Body of work: submission of five projects reviewed in periodic scheduled critiques and submitted in final portfolio;
15% Final portfolio: submission of all projects with an artist’s statement, inventory and twenty digital images of semester’s projects and source material;
15% Professional packet: completion of an application (4300), contextual research (5300, first year), or proposal (5300, second and third year);
10% Exhibition: participation in a group exhibition at Cora Stafford Gallery;
10% Hands-on training: participation in an approved workshop or visiting artist project for 6 total hours. Shared studio space and regular clean-up is a part of this grade.

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Course Evaluation

Unless otherwise specified, all assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late work will not be accepted and you will receive a zero for a missing project unless your absence is excused (see “Attendance”). Turn in incomplete work for partial credit rather than receiving a zero by submitting nothing. Demos, critiques and other class activities cannot be made up or repeated. Keep your work until the semester is complete and a final grade has been issued. Do not sell, destroy, lose or part with it until that time.

Grading criteria are as follows:

- **Projects, Body of Work, Final Portfolio and Critiques**
  Submit a grade sheet at every critique. Present artwork as described in the “Presentation Requirements” and “Collation” handouts; observe “Requirements” listed on each project sheet. All prints must be dry, clean, undamaged, collated and signed, and presented in a portfolio (western papers) or tube (eastern papers).

  The grading criteria for artwork and portfolios are as follows:
  **Concept:** What ideas does your work evidence? Are your ideas well-researched, original and engaging? Does the work show an awareness of context?
  **Form:** Do the aesthetic qualities of your work support the conceptual approach?
  **Technique:** Does your technical approach complement the concept and form?
  **Craft/Presentation:** Does your artwork meet the presentation guidelines and standards? Do you take pride in presenting your work and care for how it is displayed and submitted?
  **Direction:** Is the work finished and resolved? Is it cohesive in its vision and execution? Does it demonstrate growth and risk?

  Effective participation in critiques is evidenced by the quality and completion of work that you bring, the professionalism of your presentation, your ability to articulate your ideas verbally, and your willingness to give constructive criticism and feedback to your peers. Take notes.

- **Packets and Materials**
  Submit the appropriate grade sheet with every assignment. Research packets, statements, digital images and other materials must be submitted in printed form plus a compact disc(s), fastened together by a clip or simple folder. In lieu of a cd send a Dropbox link to gibbons@unt.edu with this subject line: `course title / your name / project` (i.e., `Print Studio / Lari Gibbons / Project 1`). Send the link by the deadline.

  Statements, digital images and other materials are evaluated as follows:
  **Content:** Are your ideas original and engaging?
  Is your writing thoughtful and articulate?
  Do your materials show an awareness of context?
  **Organization and Clarity:** Are your materials put together effectively and professionally?
  Are they straightforward and easy to understand?
  Are written materials proof-read with proper citations?
  Are digital images correctly sized and formatted?

- **Exhibition, Training and Shared Studio Space**
  Your proactive, cooperative participation in the group exhibition, hands-on training and other shared activities will be evaluated based on your preparedness, reliability, punctuality, and competency with assigned task. The shared studio space grade is based on the ongoing condition of the shop plus a mandatory studio clean-up during the last ten minutes of every class. Failure to participate will reduce your grade. Evidence of training must be turned in within 24 hours of the event or it will not be accepted.

  Your score is translated to a letter as follows: 0 – 59% = F, 60 – 69% = D, 70 – 79% = C, 80 – 89% = B, 90 – 100% = A

  Your final grade will be lowered by excessive absences, failure to attend final clean-up or observe shop policies, etc. Late work will not be accepted unless an absence is excused (see “Attendance”). Final grades are released by the Office of the Registrar.

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Final Clean-up

Final clean-up is **Friday, May 2 from 1 pm – 5 pm**. Students must spend one hour working on the group clean-up. A schedule will be provided in advance. 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.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. If you do not answer roll call or sign the attendance sheet, 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) proper documentation is 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.

Conduct

A cooperative and community work ethic is essential in the print shop. Be considerate of shared spaces and tools. Observe shop and clean-up policies.

Bring a sketchbook, writing utensil, appropriate supplies and artwork to every class session. A lack of preparation will be counted as a tardy or absence.

Work days are for being productive in the print shop—not for errands, library research, or 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).

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

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Conduct, continued

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

Check your Eaglemail account between each class period for information and announcements. Forward your Eaglemail account to your personal account if you do not wish to enter it.

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

Shop Policies

The following studio policies have been established to help promote a safe and clean environment:

- **Cleanliness**: Maintain a clean and orderly work station, both during and after a printing session. Always clean up after yourself. Completely remove supplies, tools, and trash from your work space when you are finished printing. Throw out empty canisters, paper, and any other scraps; clean and put away tools; label any reusable solutions you have made and place in an appropriate area. Anything that you leave out between work sessions may be thrown out.
  
The person who leaves the studio last is responsible for making sure that the studio is in a clean and orderly condition. This means that if you are the last person in the studio and another person leaves a mess, you are responsible for cleaning up after him/her. If you find yourself in this situation, you must inform the student that they are not cleaning up their area sufficiently. If the situation reoccurs, ask the professor to intervene.

- **Critique room**: This is a designated clean space. Do not store items in this room outside of flat files. On clean-up day all personal items left in this room (and in flat file drawers) will be discarded.

- **Drying areas**: The drying racks and flattening area are not storage facilities; remove prints from it as soon as possible. Treat fellow students’ prints with respect.

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

- **Hot plates**: Do not leave hot plates or other electrical equipment on unattended.

- **Paper trays**: Do not leave paper in the soaking trays for long periods of time. If you have soaked too much paper, remove it from the trays, blot it, place it in the drying rack, and reuse it later. Use a pencil to place your initials on the backside of each sheet that you prepare.

- **Presses**: Never place wet plates, tools, papers, etc., on presses or the metal shear. If water does get on this equipment, dry it off immediately. Never run metal objects, screening, or any thick, hard, or fragile materials through the presses.

- **Safety**: Locate eye-wash stations, first-aid kit, and courtesy phones before an accident happens.

- **Sinks**: Do not let paper, paper towels, or tape fall into the sink, as the drain is easily clogged. If you find it clogged, it is your responsibility to clear the drain. If you cannot unclog the drain, please notify the professor immediately. Do not leave water running unattended. Do not pour solvents down the drain of any sink; solvents pose hazards to our environment and plumbing. Please place used solvents in designated waste containers.

- **Tools**: 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.

- **Ventilation**: Use vent fans when you are working with ink, solvents, or other hazardous materials; turn them off when you are finished.
Academic Misconduct, Student 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).

This policy protects honest students from unfair competition with dishonest students who seek to gain advantages by cheating. Students who become aware of suspicious activities should notify Professor Gibbons promptly.

Acts of academic misconduct will result in a grade of ‘f’ in the course and disciplinary action.

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

Students are expected to contribute to a positive learning environment. If a student impairs another student’s learning, s/he will be asked to leave class.

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 reading materials are highly recommended:


Egan, Matthew et al. A Survey of Contemporary Printmaking. LazyMuse Productions


Noyce, Richard. Printmaking at the Edge: 45 Artists: 16 Countries and Critical Mass: Printmaking Beyond the Edge, both Ac②C Black

There’s also a bevy of journals and newsletters about printmaking, including Contemporary Impressions (American Print Alliance), Graphic Impressions (SGCI) and The Mid America Print Council Journal, et cetera; and a host of wonderful exhibition catalogues, such as the Delta National Small Print.
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.

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.

American Disabilities Act (Disabilities Accommodation)

Notify your instructor if you have a disability that requires 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, you are required to register with the UNT Office of Disability Accommodation, Student Union, Room 318, 940.565.4323, www.unt.edu/oda. Requests for accommodation must be given to your professor 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.

The College of Visual Arts and Design policy on accommodation is available upon request in CVAD Dean’s offices, Room 107. Further questions on accommodation may be addressed to Associate Dean Eric Ligon, School Accommodation Liaison, Art Building, Student Advising, Room 111. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.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: 940-365-3000 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.

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