

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, Professor  
**Office:** Oak Street Annex (P.R.I.N.T Press) and Hickory 120D  
**Office Hours:** MW 1:50 PM – 2:50 PM by appointment only  
**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

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 to help you achieve the following:

- to produce a body of work on paper,
- to gain technical proficiency in several intaglio processes,
- to work in a shared space,
- 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, and
- to engage with opportunities at CVAD, UNT and the larger professional art community.

*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 is based on Portfolios and Engagement. It 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 will not be accepted unless an absence is excused (see "Attendance"). Portfolios must be presented as described in the "Presentation Requirements" and "Collation" handouts; observe "Requirements" listed on each project sheet, too. All prints must be dry, clean, undamaged, collated and signed. Missed demos, critiques and other class activities cannot be made up.

*Don't skip class to avoid a deadline. Submit the project even if it is incomplete. You can revise it later.*

*Special Problems* students will submit high-quality digital images of their work with their final portfolios.

Grading requirements and criteria		
<b>85% Portfolios</b>  Submit <b>four</b> portfolios, including three projects <i>plus</i> a final portfolio in which you resubmit all of your previous work.  Turning in the final portfolio is mandatory; revising projects to improve your grade is optional.  The average of all four portfolios is 85% of your final course grade.  Keep your projects until the semester is over and a final course grade has been issued.	15% Concept	What ideas does your work show? Are your ideas well-researched, original and engaging? Does the work show an awareness of context?
	15% Form	Do the aesthetic qualities of your work support the concept?
	15% Technique	Does your technical approach meet the project requirements? Does it complement the concept and form?
	15% 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?
	15% Direction	Do you make good use of class time? Budget your time effectively and keep up with the assignment? How do you respond to setbacks? Is the work finished and resolved? Is it cohesive in its vision and execution? Does it demonstrate growth and risk?
	15% Critique	Do you bring high-quality work? Is your presentation professional? Are you receptive to constructive criticism? Do you offer helpful feedback to peers? Do you take notes? We will have final and in-progress critiques, which count equally as follows: + = 10 or A = work complete, student actively contributed ✓ = 7 or C = work incomplete or unfinished, student contributed; <b>or</b> work complete, student did not contribute – = 5 or F = work missing, student attended ∅ = 0 = work missing, student did not attend
	10% Shared Space	Do you demonstrate a responsible, professional, cooperative and courteous work ethic in the shop? Are you considerate of shared spaces and tools, and proactive if you see problems? This grade is based on the ongoing condition of the shop and is typically the same for all students Tell your instructor if something needs to be fixed or replenished. The last ten minutes of every class will be a mandatory studio clean-up with a sign-out. Failure to participate will reduce your score.
<b>15% Engagement</b>	Complete 5	Participate in <b>five</b> opportunities listed on the class day schedule and submit documentation the <b>first class period after the event via email to <a href="mailto:gibbons@unt.edu">gibbons@unt.edu</a> with subject line "Engagement."</b> Only events taking place outside of our class time qualify. Most events are free, some options require fees. Attending faculty or student shows do not count.
The sum of your scores is translated to a letter grade: 0 – 59% = F, 60 – 69% = D, 70 – 79% = C, 80 – 89% = B, 90 – 100% = A		

## Attendance and Final Cleanup

Your final course grade will be lowered by failure to attend class or final clean-up.

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.

**Up to two absences will be excused if ...** 1) proper 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.

Potential grade deductions		
<b>Attendance</b>	1 unexcused absence	Unsatisfactory participation or preparedness (failure to have supplies or use class time productively). Includes safety materials such as gloves and goggles.
	1 unexcused absence	3 tardies or early departures
	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
<b>Final Cleanup</b>	No participation = one letter grade deduction from final course grade	One hour of participation is mandatory for all students taking a printmaking class. A schedule will be provided in advance. If you cannot make the date, prearrange an alternate date. Failing to attend will reduce your final semester grade by one full letter. After the cleanup, students may not use the studio to print.

## 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 writing paper, a writing utensil, and appropriate supplies to every class session. A lack of preparation will be counted as an 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.

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ARTWORK WAIVER – STUDENT’S COPY

*Students: Complete the waiver by the twelfth class day and **turn in this copy to your professor**. A parent or legal guardian must sign for persons under age 18. Your decision has no bearing on your grade.*

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID number: \_\_\_\_\_

Course and Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Download CVAD's complete waiver here:

<https://art.unt.edu/sites/default/files/u31/publication%20release%20form.pdf>

Check **one** option only:

☐ “I **grant** CVAD and its representatives permission to use my artwork and my likeness for public display, exhibition, publication or other research and educational purposes. I understand no commercial use will be made of the image, but that the image could be used on the College and University’s public websites and/or blogs and possibly in other educational or public relation campaigns.”

☐ “I **do not grant** CVAD or its representatives permission to use my artwork or my likeness on their web site or in forthcoming publications.”

Agreed to by:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_