

ART 1900

# Systems & Transformation

*Summer II 2022 (July 11-August 12, 2022)*

*ART 1900.401: Foundations: Systems & Transformation:*

*Class meeting day/time: MTWR 8:00am - 11 :50am*

*Room: ART 384*

*Instructor: Meredith Cawley*

*Email: Meredith.Cawley@unt.edu*

*Office: ART326*

*Office Hours: Daily, 15 minute after class*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION** Critically analyzes multiple (choice- and research-based) perspectives of object- and image-making and challenges students to develop a personal framework in the processes of visual art and design.

**COURSE OVERVIEW** This course emphasizes researching and working both with and against systems, from the simple to the complex. It examines systems in studio and writing practices, art/media as a system, and artistic engagements with other systems.

**COURSE PREREQUISITS** Pre-Requisite Two from: ART1600, ART 1700, and 1800  
Co-Requisite One from: ART1600, ART 1700, and 1800 Must be enrolled concurrently in the lecture and lab

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Apply materials and process in a variety of context (space, surface, and time).
- Explore, interpret and create a variety of conceptual frameworks using historical and contemporary approaches
- Facilitate a fluid workflow between digital and analog tools, materials, and processes
- Research and analyze a variety of aesthetic concerns
- Document and present research according to professional standards, work ethic, resilience, and learning from necessary failure
- Write and speak to draw connections between ideas, explain decisions and produce new scholarship
- Recall and explain art terminology to connect aesthetic concerns in an intercultural context

**COURSE READINGS** Course readings are available in the Library Course Reserves:

<https://iii.library.unt.edu/search/r>

Search for "ART 1900" Instructor: Ian Etter

Password: system

**COURSE CONTENT** 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.

#### **ASSESSMENT**

- Participation (25%)
- UNIT I

- o July 3rd Bibliography (5%)
- o July 12th Mousetrap (5%)
- o July 17th Researching Systems (5%)
- o July 22nd Artist Diagram (5%)
- o July 28th Presentation with Script (5%)
- UNIT II
- o July 31st Project 2 (10%)
- o Aug 7th Artist Statement (10%)
- UNIT III
- o August 7th Final Essay Draft (5%)
- o August 12th Final Essay (10%)
- o August 12th Final Project (15%)

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)

**LATE WORK** Because your work is required for group critique, late work impacts everyone. Late work will be lowered two letter grades, and an additional letter grade for each additional day, unless the student has a university-excused absence and provides documentation with 48 hours of the missed deadline.

**GRADE DISPUTES** You are required to wait 24 hours before contacting your lab instructor to dispute a grade. Within that time, it is expected that you will review the assignment details and reflect on the quality of the work you turned in. If you would still like to meet, email to set up a meeting (grades cannot be discussed over email). You should come to the scheduled meeting with specific examples that demonstrate that you should have earned a higher grade than you received. If you miss your scheduled meeting, you forfeit your right to a grade dispute. If you do not contact your instructor to schedule a meeting within seven days of receiving your grade, you also forfeit your right to a grade dispute.

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS AND TEXTBOOKS** You are not required to buy a textbook for this course. Reading will be available on Canvas and through the library course reserve. You are required to buy materials for each project. You'll be able to purchase some of the general materials at the start of the semester, although many of your materials will be determined by the individual nature of each of your projects. Please be prepared to buy some materials as-needed throughout the semester.

#### COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Students are required to have their notifications turned on for course announcements. You will receive important information each week via course announcements and are responsible for reading these before you come to lab.

COVID-19 IMPACT ON ATTENDANCE Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

If you are experiencing any [symptoms of COVID-19](#) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center ([940-565-2333](tel:940-565-2333) or [askSHWC@unt.edu](mailto:askSHWC@unt.edu)) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at [COVID@unt.edu](mailto:COVID@unt.edu) for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

As of Jan. 1, 2022, all students, faculty and staff reporting their own positive COVID-19 status to UNT's Contact Tracing team at [COVID@unt.edu](mailto:COVID@unt.edu) will need to upload their results unless they tested on campus in order to have an excused absence (on-campus testing results are automatically shared with UNT).

ATTENDANCE POLICY You are expected to attend all classes prepared with the necessary supplies, and arrive on time. Any violations of the UNT Code of Student Conduct (Links to an external site.) may also be cause for your instructor to ask you to leave class and count you absent for the day. If you are experiencing anything in your life that may interfere with your regular attendance or ability to be otherwise present in class, please let your instructor know as soon as possible so that we can work with you to determine your options before your grade is affected.

- You are allowed 2 unexcused absences and 1 excused absences.
- Having an absence excused 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.
- Absences for religious or cultural holidays/observances are permitted and excused, but it is your responsibility to make your instructor aware of your absence in advance. Your instructor has the right to request the involvement of the Dean of Students to excuse your absence. For this reason, it is important that you make arrangements with your instructor as soon as possible.
- More than 2 unexcused absences and/or 1 excused absences will lower your final grade by one letter grade per additional absence.
- IMPORTANT: Be aware that the Canvas grade book shows an "attendance grade." This percentage simply shows what percentage of classes you have attended and does not indicate your final grade for the class. The only way your attendance will affect your grade is if you have more than allotted number of absences outlined in the bullet point above. It is

your responsibility to keep track of the number of absences you accrue over the semester.

- A tardy is considered to be arrival 5 minutes after the beginning of class.
- Three tardies will constitute an absence.

FACE COVERINGS UNT encourages everyone to wear a face covering when indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines.

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.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION The University of North Texas 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.

Because of the varied kinds of work we will be doing in this course, it is extremely important that you obtain your accommodation letter from the ODA as soon as possible. Even if you think a disability will not interfere with your work in this particular class, remember that art is unpredictable! Your work will take you in unexpected directions and you'll probably be doing things later in the semester that you cannot predict at the present moment.

HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM 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 Studio Art Health and Safety Program website for details and the

departmental handbook. in an emergency, call 911.

**BEST PRACTICES FOR HEALTH & SAFETY IN THE STUDIO** Over the semester, you will be learning to use many new tools. Any tool can be dangerous if you do not use proper safety precautions, so it is important that everyone learns the best practices for staying safe in the studio. On certain days, you will be asked to come to class wearing appropriate “work clothes” (closed-toed shoes, no loose-hanging clothing or jewelry, long hair pulled back). If you fail to do this, your instructor will ask you to go home and change before you come back to class. You may also be asked to use safety goggles, earplugs, dust masks, or other safety equipment when using certain tools. If you fail to follow these rules, you’ll be asked to leave class and it will count as an absence. Finally, please refrain from using any toxic materials in the Foundations classroom. If a need arises to use materials such as spray paint or epoxy, please alert your instructor so that they can help you find a safe way to do so. They may be able to help you find comparable non-toxic alternatives and/or find a safe way to use proper facilities and precautions. If you are not sure whether or not a material is toxic, please ask! Full health and safety information for the Foundations classrooms is available in the Foundations Health and Safety Handbook.

The following bullet points outline the general best practices for working in the Foundations classrooms:

- All students must abide by all rules set forth by the Instructor and Technician. During your class all shop rules and policies are presented as well as a discussion of the proper and safe use of shop tools.
- If you are ever unsure or uncomfortable using a tool or machine during open studio time, please make sure that you get an instructor or technician to help you. Plan ahead and ask the instructor to personally demonstrate the tool during class time so that you are properly trained and comfortable to use it on your own time during open shop hours.
- Please read Monona Rossol’s *The Artist’s Complete Health and Safety Guide* for more information.
- Work in a well-ventilated area (or outside) while working with any material or practice that produces toxic or irritating fumes or dust (Resins, chemicals, oil-based paints, and solvents may not be mixed indoors).
- ALWAYS clean up all messes produced by any material or practice to prevent from exposing others to the hazards of that material and/or practice.
- Closed toe shoes and safety goggles are required when using a power tools or drills.
- Wash hands (including under fingernails) after using toxic materials and chemicals (even if you were wearing gloves).
- Wear protective gloves and use plastic drop cloth to contain chemicals, paints, and stains when applying.
- Make sure to wear the proper safety gear for each process
- All spray painting must be done in spray booth.
- Always use common sense, avoid distractions and concentrate on the task at hand.
- Artist materials can sometimes get messy. Make sure to wear clothes that you are ok with

getting dirty or you may want to purchase an apron.

**EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES** 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. For more information, consult the UNT Emergency Guide. **ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR** In addition to the expectations outlined above, you are expected to conduct yourself in accordance with the UNT Code of Student Conduct. If you engage in behavior that interferes with your instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn, your instructor will ask you to leave the classroom. Instructors also have the right to refer disruptive students 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. For more information read the The Code of Student Conduct on the Dean of Students website.

#### **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, HARRASSMENT & 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.

**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. There will be a link provided to you via Canvas for you to complete permissions. Thank you!

MATERIALS 5"x8" Blank Index Cards (At least 500 to start. In a pinch you can cut down paper)  
Multi-media paper (9"x12" loose or perforated)  
Acetate Sheets (9"x12")  
Folder(s) to carry the above  
Sharpies: Black, Red & Blue, Fine and Ultrafine  
Drawing Pencils  
Drawing Pens  
Glue stick  
Scissors  
Ruler  
Xacto  
Masking tape  
White posterboard or other uniformly white or gray background for photo documentation

Students will be expected to determine and source additional materials for their projects.

TECHNOLOGY Computer with internal or external mic & webcam  
Adobe Photoshop & Illustrator or comparable raster & vector drawing software or app  
Camera for documentation (Good quality phone pictures are fine for drafts and notes. A professional camera should be used for finished work. These are available for checkout through CVAD IT.)  
Zoom  
Word processor (recommended: Word or Google Docs for integration with RefWorks)  
RefWorks account (Bibliography Manager) <https://guides.library.unt.edu/rwnew>  
Slide/presentation software  
Optional – scanner or printer scanner copier combo

#### Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UNT IT Help Desk

Email: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

Live Chat: <https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk/chatsupport>

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 330

Hours and Availability: Visit <https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk> for up-to-date hours and availability



For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help  
(<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

Syllabus Schedule Subject to Change