

Sculpture / Cast Form 393B

Professor: Thad Duhigg
Class: Monday, Wednesday 1.00-3.50 pm
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Office Hours: Thursday 9.00 – 11.00 am or by appointment

Course Description

This class is designed to introduce students to the fundamental principles of casting. These fundamentals include pattern making, mold making, chasing/dressing, gating/spruing, investment processes, coloration and finish. Students may cast in the material of their choice including but not restricted to hydro-stone, cement, bronze and aluminum. Students will also engage with historical, cultural and aesthetic aspects of casting. Students will need to work outside of class in order to benefit fully from this course.

Course Objectives

- To develop an understanding of the casting processes
- To develop a sense of personality in the work (conceptual and aesthetic)
- To develop the discipline and patience necessary to cast

Course Requirements

In this class you are responsible for developing your own body of work. You are required to:

- Write a statement of your objectives. This statement should include your conceptual direction, influences, and any other goals you deem necessary to the exploration of your visual aesthetic. This statement is due on Wednesday January 18 after which I will meet with each of you to discuss it in detail.
- Keep a current and active sketchbook of ideas and thoughts **throughout** the semester.
- Complete all readings on time and be prepared for class
- Participate in all scheduled field trips, discussions and critiques
- Produce five completed (i.e. cast and finished) works including one 3x3x3 piece and one relief piece. Three must be cast in metal (including one 3x3x3 work). Two may be cast in materials of your choice.

Required Text

“Sculpture/Technique, Form, Content” by Arthur Williams
Handouts (to be distributed in class)

Suggested Texts

“The Complete Handbook of Sand Casting” by C.W. Ammen
“Lost Wax Investment Casting” by C.W. Ammen
“Art Foundry” by Christian Hauser
“Methods for Modern Sculptors” by Ronald D. Young & Robert A. Fennell

Materials

Sketch pads, pencils and any other materials necessary (this will depend on your choice of casting processes). Students are responsible for purchasing all materials (some materials are available for purchase through “The Cage”).

Attendance

You are expected to attend class. Excessive absences may lead to your being dropped from the course or your being asked to withdraw from the course. Between and including weeks three through ten, professors can automatically drop you from their course rosters for excessive absences. **Therefore, attendance is mandatory - Absenteeism will affect your final grade.** Three absences will result in a loss of one letter grade. Three tardies and/or early departures will equal one absence.

Grading

Course grades will be determined as follows:

Five completed pieces - 90%	100-90	A	69-60	D
Participation - 5%	89-80	B	59-0	F
Sketchbook/Statement - 5%	79-70	C		

All projects and assignments must be original and made exclusively for this class only. Failure to comply with this will result in the forfeiture of your grade. All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Any project turned in after its deadline will be dropped one letter grade.

Student Support Services

Any student with special needs must register and request services from the Disability Support Director at the Disability Support Services office, which is located in the Student Success Center, Room 1270. An individual accommodation plan is developed according to each student’s needs. In this class, adaptations of methods, materials or testing may be made to provide equitable participation in accordance with University policy. Requests for services should be made two to four weeks prior to the date that the services begin.

Student Conduct

Since every student is entitled to full participation in class without interruption, all students are expected to be in class and prepared to begin on time. All iPods, laptops and other electronic devices must be turned off, when you enter the classroom. All phones should be switched to vibrate. Disruption of class, whether by latecomers, noisy devices or inconsiderate behavior (this includes texting) is unacceptable. Students are expected to treat the instructor and other students with dignity and respect, especially in cases where a diversity of opinion arises. Students who engage in disruptive behavior are subject to disciplinary action, including removal from the course.

Health and Safety

Health and Safety issues for this course will be conveyed via demonstrations, lectures, and handouts as well as the information contained in the Emergency and Safety Notebook issued by the University, which is available in the studio. Building open hours will follow MUC hours, 300 and 400 level students will have after hours access. All studios need to be treated as industrial areas and closed toed shoes must be worn. Failure to comply with this will result in students being asked to leave class and you will be marked absent.

There is absolutely no eating or drinking in the studios.

Schedule

January 11 – Wednesday

Introduction to Class
Personal Protective Equipment Handout
Assign statement of objectives / Assign lockers
Introduction 3x3x3 project

January 16 - Monday MLK Day - No Class

January 18 - Wednesday

Statement of objectives due
Read Chapter 8 “Metal Casting” pp161 - 174 (Williams)
Create 3x3x3 pattern

January 23 - Monday

Preparation & Gating 3x3x3 project
Demonstration & lecture on investment & burnout 3x3x3 project

January 25 - Wednesday

Pour & Divest 3x3x3 project
Clean Up, Chasing & Patination 3x3x3 project

January 30 - Monday

3x3x3 Project Due at Beginning of Class
Critique

Discussion on material choices

View the following video clips before next class:

Alginate molds - <http://www.smooth-on.com/Lifecasting/c1240/index.html>

Rubber molds - http://www.smooth-on.com/Urethane-Rubber/c6_1117_1151/index.html

Plaster molds - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7qC2huojrk4>

February 1 - Wednesday

Slide lecture
Bring possible materials to class
Demonstration/lecture on various types of molds and material**
Read Chapter 2 (Young and Fennell)
Read Handout – “Ingredients in wax formulas”

February 6 - Monday

Field Trip – Visit Rodin Sculpture – SIUE Lovejoy Library
Read Chapter 4 “Molds” pp. 50-77 (Williams) and handout - “Bronze”
Read Chapter 6 (Young and Fennell)

February 8 - Wednesday

Read Handout – “Gating and Riser”
Read “Lost Wax Process” pp174-pp180 (Williams)
Studio time

February 13 - Monday

Gating demonstration/lecture
Studio time

February 15 - Wednesday

Read “Plaster Investment Mold” pp180-207 (Williams)
Read Handouts – “Ceramic Shell Casting” and “Investment”
Studio time

February 20 - Monday

First and second patterns (or in process for non-traditional) due
Group discussion
Studio time

February 22 - Wednesday

Investment demonstration/lecture
Studio time

February 27 - Monday

Read Handout – “How to do TIG (Heliarc) Welding”
Studio time

March 1 - Wednesday

TIG demonstration/lecture
Miller TIG Welding Techniques
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNYmo2_DI6c
Studio time

March 6 - Monday **Spring Break**

March 8 - Wednesday

Foundry safety demonstration/lecture
Studio time

March 13 - Monday

Read Chapter 7 (Young & Fennell)
Read Handout – “Cleaning”
Chasing/sandblasting demonstration/lecture
Studio time

March 15 - Wednesday

Third and fourth patterns (or in process for non-traditional) due
Group discussion
Read Chapter 8 and Chapter 9 (Young & Fennell)
Read Handout – “Bronzes and their Patinas – Part One”

March 20 - Monday

Patination & Finishes demonstration/lecture
Studio time

March 22 – Wednesday

Studio time

March 27 - Monday

First two completed pieces due

Group Critique

1. _____

4. _____

2. _____

5. _____

3. _____

6. _____

March 29 - Wednesday

First two completed pieces due

Group Critique

1. _____

4. _____

2. _____

5. _____

3. _____

6. _____

April 3 – Monday

Studio time

April 5 - Wednesday

Studio time

April 10 - Monday

Studio time

April 12 - Wednesday

Studio time

April 17 - Monday

Studio time

April 19 – Wednesday

Visiting Artist (TBA)

Lecture & Critiques

April 24 - Monday

Final two completed pieces due

Group Critique

1. _____

4. _____

2. _____

5. _____

3. _____

6. _____

April 26 – Wednesday

Final two completed pieces due

Group Critique

1. _____

4. _____

2. _____

5. _____

3. _____

6. _____

May 3 - Wednesday

**Final Exam - 12.00 pm-1.40 pm
Clean Up!**

***This schedule/syllabus is subject to change.**

**** Please note that during scheduled studio time, demonstrations will be presented to the entire class as needed**