

2015

ARTS 490-05 Senior Concentration

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SENIOR CONCENTRATION

MW 8:30-11:00 AM, 11:00 AM-1:30 PM or 6-9:30 PM FALL 2015

Professor Bruce Erikson

EMAIL: bmerikson@yahoo.com (ONLY!)

ARTS490-05

Office Cohen 163, Office Phone Number: 745-1947

Office Hours: 5-6PM Monday or by appointment

Secretary: 745-3811

Course Description:

Senior Concentration (6 credit hours) is a culmination of the student's investigation of the field of Painting, Drawing or Illustration. It is an intense, in-depth study of a particular area of these concentrations agreed upon by both student and professor. A "thesis" presentation of the student's final body of work will be exhibited in the Xavier University Art Gallery. A written thesis paper with documented digital portfolio/ dossier is also required.

Senior Concentration Objectives:

- to demonstrate consistent technical proficiency in a cohesive conceptual body of work
- to strengthen your ability to assess, defend and articulate, both in verbal and written forms, ideas about work
- to create an intensive, unified body of work in a specialized area that supercedes all work completed beforehand with an emphasis on using this body of work to gain employment in that area, to enter this work in juried exhibitions and/or as an application for graduate school. I.E: to learn preparation procedures for public exhibition.
- to be proactive with participation in class, group critiques and extracurricular events such as openings, guest lectures, etc. and presentations of your work/ ideas.

Required Text(s):

None. You will have numerous readings assigned and that you will utilize during your research.

Recommendations:

· It is recommended that each student obtain a student membership to the Cincinnati Art Museum. The student cost is \$25. Although admission to the museum is now free, membership provides access to the museum library which is an important art and video resource. Individual museum research and study for specific projects will be required of all students.

- to create a personal website of your artistic works

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is mandatory due to the tight schedule that we arrange. Senior Concentration candidates meet during scheduled class time and have mandatory, weekly meeting times. Failure to miss any one of these meetings could result in an "F" failing grade. You are not permitted to change or split your thesis work during the semester. **There are no allowed absences. We will have weekly meetings. There is an itinerary for the paper on the next page.**

Tentative Itinerary:

Students are expected to turn in a written thesis proposal the **first week of class**, outlining the philosophical and technical details of the body of work. The thesis work begins immediately.

Students are expected to be prepared for weekly designated critiques during painting or illustration classes offered Spring 2014. This is not optional or suggested. It is mandatory. The number of pieces for each critique will be predetermined by student and professor in accordance with the proposal. If the student is unprepared or misses a critique, a grade of "0" will be given. Instructor takes notes on strength of overall progress, of individual works and of the strength of discussion.

Students are required to be working in the studios daily and evidence of work done on a weekly basis, between each of the weekly crits will be noted and assessed. Students are required to develop a daily itinerary with the instructor that is posted in the studio. Work done at the last minute, or outside of weekly discussion will constitute a breach in meeting class requirements. No exceptions

Grading Schema:

Instructor grades on a point system.

THESIS EXHIBITION	(50 points)
THESIS PAPER	(50 points)
ADDITIONAL MATERIALS (Slides, dossier, presentation)	(50 points)
TOTAL POINTS: 150 points	

In addition, missing any deadlines that we have prearranged, as well as installation deadlines established with the Gallery Director, will result in a lowering of the final grade, without exception.

Departmental Grading Scale

100-91% A, 90% an A-, 89% a B+, 88-81% a B, 80% a B-, 79% a C+, 78-71% a C, 70% a C-, 69% a D+, 68-61% a D, 60% is an F.

A "D" is not considered to be passing. Grading is points-based system.

Grade F will be given for:

- a) failure to meet course requirements

Grade D will be given for:

- a) overall poor quality of work, unsatisfactory effort, motivation and improvement during the semester
- b) incomplete or late projects
- c) absence from critiques, inadequate participation
- d) inability to receive advice, criticism and to exercise critical judgment in relation to works in progress
- e) repeated absences from class

Grade C will be given for:

- a) overall average (satisfactory) quality of work, satisfactory motivation, effort and improvement demonstrated during the semester
- b) completion of all projects by the due date
- c) participations in discussions, critiques and classroom exercises
- d) ability to receive and apply advice and criticism, and to exercise critical judgment in relation to work in progress
- e) attendance
- f) Minimum of five (5) hours of outside work on assignments/ projects

Grade B will be given for:

- a) consistent high quality of work, motivation, effort, and improvement during the entire semester, and demonstrated attempts to go beyond the required standards of the course
- b) completion of all projects by the due date
- c) participations in discussions, critiques and classroom exercises
- d) ability to receive and apply advice and criticism, and to exercise critical judgment in relation to work in progress
- e) attendance
- f) Minimum of five (5) hours of outside work on assignments/ projects

Grade A will be given for:

- a) consistent exceptional quality of work, motivation, effort, and improvement during the entire semester, and demonstrated attempts to go beyond the required standards of the course
- b) completion of all projects by the due date
- c) participations in discussions, critiques and classroom exercises
- d) ability to receive and apply advice and criticism, and to exercise critical judgment in relation to work in progress
- e) attendance
- f) Minimum of five (5) hours of outside work on assignments/ projects

Note: Quality of work in grade definitions means studio project(s), conceived and started as a concept/ idea, materialized with appropriate craftsmanship and with interesting visual, formal and/ or conceptual end results (final project).

Thesis Paper Format:

The thesis paper is to be written in the following format and must be turned in (along with the slides) before a final grade is submitted.

I. Philosophy/Content Section [10-15 pages]
Include a thorough discussion of the concept driving the work, your creative motivations, any relevant influences (past and present), and how you believe your work relates to our current art historical moment (basically, discuss what makes your work unique).

II. Technical Section [1 page]

Explain the technical aspects of your work processes any other relevant processes.

III. Corollary Section: Bibliography, Plates Section, & Documentation to be included at the end of your paper.

- 1] Include a Bibliography citing your sources. [1 page]
- 2] Include 20 images with index sheets describing, Title, Date, Size, Medium, and any other relevant information.
- 3] Include 3-4 sample images printed out on 8.5"x 11" paper as plates or examples of the work in the show.
- 4] Include Thesis show documentation, gallery shots, invitation card, etc.

As stated in the Course Objectives, becoming competent in the management of a Painting/ Drawing studio is an integral part of the learning process of becoming an artist. Thesis concentration students are encouraged to participate in all aspects of studio maintenance and management, and to take an initiative in being a leader in this process. This includes assisting in the woodshop, preparation of grounds/ framing, fielding student questions and other aspects to be discussed. A spirit of cooperation throughout the semester is expected, and will affect the final grade.

The student is encouraged (but not mandatory) to seek other possible outside exhibitions and competitions to show their work. This will of course come second in priority to the final exhibition at Xavier, but is nonetheless a good opportunity to begin showing and getting your work out. Proposals and Tutorials will be given throughout the semester to assist the student with their portfolio.

Thesis Paper Itinerary:

Regardless of your exhibition dates, all thesis papers are started and developed on the same itinerary. These drafts are required to be emailed by the dates listed below. There is no option of doing the paper after the exhibition.

critique #1 initial proposal, approval of ideas and itinerary, etc.
(Monday, Jan 20, 2015) by email

critique #2 outline due, start rough draft
(Monday, Feb. 3, 2015) by email

critique #3 in-progress written self-assessment of all work,
all work must be started
(Monday, Feb. 10, 2015) by email

critique #4 rough draft due, in-progress written self-
assessment of all work,
(Monday, Feb. 24, 2015) by email

critique #5 second draft due, in-progress written self-
assessment of all work,
(Monday, April 1, 2015) by email

critique #6 final paper, dossier, documentation due
(Monday, Apr. 30, 2015) by email

BEGIN INSTALLATION OF ALL THESIS WORK ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE OF THE EXHIBITION IN CONSULTATION WITH KITTY UETZ

OPENING RECEPTION FOR EXHIBITION, TBA, 2015 6:00-8:00PM