

**San José State University**  
**Department of Art & Art History**  
**Art 149, Topics in Jewelry and Small Sculpture, Lost Wax Casting, Section 01,**  
**Fall 2017**

**Course and Contact Information**

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Instructor:</b>         | Yvonne Escalante  |
| <b>Office Location:</b>    | Art, Room 321   |
| <b>Telephone:</b>          | (408) 924- 4390   |
| <b>Email:</b>              | <a href="mailto:Yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu">Yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu</a> , preferred contact                          |
| <b>Office Hours:</b>       | Friday 3:30 – 5:30 or by appointment  |
| <b>Class Days/Time:</b>    | Tuesday/Thursday 3:00 – 5:50  |
| <b>Classroom:</b>          | Art, Room 210   |
| <b>Department Office:</b>  | ART 116   |
| <b>Department Contact:</b> | Website: <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/art">www.sjsu.edu/art</a> Email: <a href="mailto:art@sjsu.edu">art@sjsu.edu</a> |

**Course Format****Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](http://my.sjsu.edu) at <http://my.sjsu.edu> (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates.

**Course Description**

Technical and aesthetic aspects of metalcasting for small-scale sculpture and jewelry. Pattern materials, gating techniques, burnout procedure, vacuum casting, centrifugal casting and finishing. Repeatable for 12 units of credit when topic changes.

Topic: Lost Wax Casting  
Three Units

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- CLO1: Demonstrate safe and correct use of tools and equipment used in centrifugal casting techniques through the successful completion of Project 1.

- CLO2: Demonstrate safe and correct use of tools and equipment used in moldmaking, wax working, and production design through the successful completion of three projects.
- CLO3: Critically apply learned techniques, individual research, and peer evaluations from previous projects to construct a conceptual composition through the successful completion of Project 3.
- CLO4: Participate in and contribute to the critical evaluation of finished work and readings through instructor-led class critiques and group discussions.
- CLO5: Demonstrate knowledge of safe operation of equipment and handling of chemicals associated with this class.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook (purchase not required)

Practical Casting: A Studio Reference, Revised Edition by Tim McCreight

ISBN-10: 096159845X

ISBN-13: 978-0961598457

A class copy is available for reference in Art 210 during class and lab hours.

Students may purchase a copy at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) or at other book retailers.

The Complete Metalsmith: An Illustrated Handbook by Tim McCreight

ISBN-10: 0871922401

ISBN-13: 978-0871922403

A class copy is available for reference in Art 210 during class and lab hours.

Students may purchase a copy at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) or at other book retailers.

### Other readings

Required readings will be uploaded to Canvas as needed.

### Other equipment and material

A dedicated sketchbook for notes and design sketches is required. A small toolbox or tackle box is strongly recommended. Students are required to purchase silver and any materials or supplies that exceed the class allotment such as saw blades, sandpaper, and metal as needed for the completion of projects. Cost will vary from student to student depending on individual needs and current market prices. Students will be given fair warning when outside materials are needed as projects are assigned. Students can expect to spend \$30-\$100 during the course of the semester. A list of vendors will be provided in class.

### Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT)

All students enrolled in a studio art class are required to take a hazardous materials test. This test will include safe handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials commonly used in the Jewelry and Small Metals Lab (Jlab) Art Rm, 210 & 210A. The test will be held during the third week of instruction with a review session held in the class prior to the exam. Participation in the review and test are mandatory; failure to pass the test will result in loss or limited lab access. Please see class schedule for dates.

### Library Liaison

Elisabeth Thomas [elisabeth.thomas@sjsu.edu](mailto:elisabeth.thomas@sjsu.edu), (408) 808-2193

Website: <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/collectiondevelopment/CDhumanities>

## Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

### Assignment outline

#### Project 1: Zip Tie ring

This exercise will introduce you to the lost wax method of casting and to the centrifugal casting machine as well as to finishing techniques and equipment.

**CLO 1, CLO 2, Due: 9/14/17 - 15%**

#### Project 2: Pin Swap!

Introduction to moldmaking to create production pieces. Demos will include moldmaking, advanced spruing for multiples and soldering.

**CLO 2, Due: 10/26/17 - 20%**

#### Project 3: Site-specific jewelry

Introduction to creating work that can live on the body as well as in a specific environment. Demos will include site-specific moldmaking, advanced patinas and bronze brazing.

**CLO 2, CLO 3, Due: 12/7/17 - 25%**

### Class participation

Participation is assessed as follows:

- Active participation in the critical evaluation of projects through class critiques
- Active participation in class discussions
- Active participation in daily and weekly cleaning duties
- Participation in the end of the semester cleanup to be held on the scheduled final day

Participation points may be made up through extracurricular activities related to Jewelry and Metalsmithing classes as cleared by instructor.

**CLO 4, 20%**

### Written assignments

**Topics will be uploaded to Canvas**

**CLO 4, 15%**

### Hazardous material and safety test

**CLO 5, 9/28/17, 5%**

**Final Examination or Evaluation**

Final critique – The final critique will be held on the final day of instruction during the regularly scheduled time. All students are expected to participate in the critical discussion of the final project for participation points. This is the final day late and extra credit work will be accepted for credit.

Final date & time: \_\_\_\_\_

Final cleanup and art pickup – The mandatory class cleanup will be held during the scheduled final exam date and time according to the University’s final exam schedule. Participation is required to earn final participation points. During this time the lab will receive a deep and thorough cleaning. Arrangements must be made with instructor ahead of time to attend an alternate cleanup if necessary. Please dress in appropriate clothing, including close-toed shoes: you will get dirty.

Final cleanup date & time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grading Information**

Rubrics are included with each assignment outline. Grades can be accessed on Canvas within 2 weeks of turn-in date. Any questions regarding grades can be emailed to me at [yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu](mailto:yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu) or through the class Canvas page. Additionally, we can discuss any questions or concerns in my office during office hours or by appointment.

Each project will be assessed on the following:

- Student’s active participation in in-class demonstrations, class discussions, and critiques associated with the assignment.
- Student’s ability to complete the techniques covered for each assignment.
- Evidence of independent thinking and creative problem solving in the design and creation of each assignment.

Your final grade will be assessed as follows:

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| 1) Project 1           | 15% |
| 2) Project 2           | 20% |
| 3) Project 3           | 25% |
| 5) Writing assignment  | 15% |
| 6) Hazmat/safety test  | 5%  |
| 7) Class participation | 20% |

**Determination of Grades**

|                |             |             |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| A+ = 100+      | A = 100-93% | A- = 92-90% |
| B+ = 89-87%    | B = 86-83%  | B- = 82-80% |
| C+ = 79-77%    | C = 76-73%  | C- = 72-70% |
| D+ = 69-67%    | D = 66-63%  | D- = 62-60% |
| F = 59-0% Fail |             |             |

A= Excellent work

B= Above average work

**C= Average work, met the minimum requirements of the assignment.**

D= Below average work

F= Failure to complete or unsatisfactory work

- **Extra Credit** – Extra credit is welcome and encouraged in order for you to further explore any of the techniques covered. I may also offer extra credit in class as unforeseen opportunities arise. You may submit one extra credit piece worth up to 5% of your grade. Extra credit is given a point value based on complexity of the piece and quality of the end product. 5% is not guaranteed and can range from 1-5%.
- **Late work** – Late work will be accepted, however 5% will be deducted from late work for each class meeting it is late and 10% for every week it is late. For classes held once a week, 10% will be deducted for each class meeting it is late.
- **Class participation** – Participation is assessed as follows:
  1. Active participation in the critical evaluation of projects through class critiques
  2. Active participation in class discussions
  3. Arrival to class on time
  4. Active participation in daily and weekly cleaning duties
  5. Participation in the end-of-semester cleanup to be held on the scheduled final day

Participation points may be made up through extracurricular activities related to Jewelry and Metalsmithing classes as cleared by instructor.

- **Making up missed work** – It is YOUR responsibility to make arrangements to make up missed demos, acquire notes from missed lectures, and to contact me with special circumstances regarding attendance and late work.

**Contact your peers** to keep up to date on any information you may have missed due to an absence.

**Peer contacts: Name, phone number, and email**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**If you missed a demo or need assistance on equipment:**

- JSM’s graduate assistants will hold special session demos and provide individual assistance every week.
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
- Email me at [yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu](mailto:yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu) to set up an appointment during office hours or to request an appointment outside of office hours. If you cannot make office hours, please **include three times** you are available to meet.
- You may come to my office hours for drop-in visits, however this is first-come first-served and is limited to the time posted.

**Classroom Protocol**

**Students using lab must:**

- Be enrolled in Art 47, 147 or 149, unless otherwise cleared by instructor and granted volunteer status with HR.
- Always abide by general shop safety protocol as outlined in class and posted signs.
- Never operate equipment without being cleared by instructor.
- Never allow a friend or relative not enrolled in one of the classes listed above to use or operate any equipment.
- Never operate any equipment under the influence of medication, illegal substances, or alcohol – none of these substances are allowed in the lab at any time unless I am notified of the medication along with a doctor’s note.
- Infraction of this rule will result in loss of lab privileges and possible legal action.
- Always be respectful of lab assistants in charge of open lab hours. If you are asked to stop doing something or asked to leave, do so immediately. Talk to me directly if you feel there was any unfair treatment. You may email me at [yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu](mailto:yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu) and/or come by my office, Art 321 during posted office hours.
- Never cast or use equipment while alone.

**Clothing**

- Always wear closed-toed shoes during class and lab hours, even if you are not operating equipment.
- Keep long hair securely pulled back and remove any dangling jewelry or accessories (such as earbuds) before operating equipment.
- Remove any loose clothing that could get caught up in equipment prior to operation.
- Always wear safety glasses when operating equipment.
- When casting, you are required to have fire resistant clothing on. Avoid synthetic fabrics such as polyester that can flash at low temperatures, resulting in severe burns. Long cotton or canvas pants such as jeans are required on casting days.
- Failure to comply with the shop clothing protocol will result in loss of lab privileges for the day or until student is appropriately clothed.

**Mandatory 10-minute daily cleanup (graded participation)**

**General cleanup:**

- Turn main gas and air valves off (located under your workstation).
- Clean and return tools to station drawer (jeweler’s saw, ring clamp, needle files, dividers, bench pin, soldering kit, and Freedom bits).
- Clean and return glass and/or soldering plate to bench side storage area.
- Clean and return tools and unused supplies to the appropriate storage bin/cabinet.
- Sweep floor and table top under and around your workstation.

**Assigned cleanup duty:**

- Complete assigned duty each class day before the end of class.

**Clean, sweep, and/or vacuum shared equipment immediately after use.**

**Demos and lectures** – You are required to attend all demos and lectures. You will not be allowed to use tools/equipment until cleared by instructor. If you are going to miss a class, it is your responsibility to schedule a makeup demo with instructor or GA before continuing with the project. This will also affect your participation grade as outlined in the grading rubric. You are required to keep a dedicated notebook for taking notes during these demos and lectures.

**Lab access outside of class** – Because specialized equipment is necessary in the completion of class projects, students must be prepared to work outside of class during posted open lab hours. Open lab hours are times in which no class is in session and a trained lab monitor is in charge of opening and overseeing the lab for safety and compliance. You are encouraged to use this time to perfect techniques covered in class, experiment with techniques learned through independent projects, and create extra credit pieces. Open lab is a privilege that is only sustainable through the cooperation of all lab users. Abuse of lab access or rules will result in limiting or closing lab hours.

**Responsibilities of lab monitors** – Lab monitors do not teach and are not responsible for cleaning up after you. Lab monitors are volunteers that have been trained in classroom safety and protocol. **They are not permitted to train you on equipment.** During lab time the lab monitor is there to monitor the lab to ensure safety and compliance. Lab monitors should be notified of any injury or incident immediately in order to maintain health and safety. Broken or missing equipment should also be reported to the lab monitor immediately. Lab monitors may ask you to verify lab use eligibility and reserve the right to ask you to leave due to an infraction of lab protocol.

**Laptops and cell phones** – Laptops are allowed for class research only but are not required. **Cell phones must remain off during demos and lectures. Failure to do so will be treated as a missed demo.**

### **University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

## Art 149/ Topics in Jewelry and Small Sculpture, Fall 2017 Course Schedule

*The schedule is subject to change with fair notice updates will be emailed or posted to CANVAS.*

Casting Schedule:

Tuesday- Cast

Thursday- Invest

\*All flasks must be invested, cleaned and placed in the appropriate location by the end of lab Friday to participate in Tuesday castings.

### Course Schedule

| Week | Date     | Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines   |
|------|----------|--|
| 1    | Aug. 24  | Introduction greensheets and Project 1: Zip-tied   |
| 2    | Aug. 29  | Demo: Zip tie rings, working with wax  |
| 2    | Aug. 31  | Demo: Sprue and invest   |
| 3    | Sept. 5  | First day of casting   |
| 3    | Sept. 7  | Demo: Saw, file, sand and polish   |
| 4    | Sept. 12 | Finish rings<br>Advanced students- Cast  |
| 4    | Sept. 14 | Project 1 due- beginning of class, 15 points<br>Introduction to Project 2: Pin Swap!<br><b>Homework: work on designs, upload 3 sketches to CANVAS by 9/18, 11:30 pm.</b> |
| 5    | Sept. 19 | Lecture: designing for production<br>Demo: wax working- hard wax and using the Foredom   |
| 5    | Sept. 21 | Designs due- progress critique<br>Work on wax  |
| 6    | Sept. 26 | Work on wax<br>Cast<br><b>Safety Test review</b>   |
| 6    | Sept. 28 | Demo: mold making for production<br><b>Safety Test</b>   |
| 7    | Oct. 3   | Demo: Using your mold and spruing multiples (trees)<br>Molds due<br>Cast   |
| 7    | Oct. 5   | Work on waxes  |
| 8    | Oct. 10  | Cast   |
| 8    | Oct. 12  | Demo: Soldering 101  |



|             |         |  |
|-------------|---------|--|
| 9           | Oct. 17 | Cast   |
| 9           | Oct. 19 | Finish pins  |
| 10          | Oct. 24 | Cast   |
| 10          | Oct. 26 | Project 2 Due, 20 points,<br>Introduction to Project 3: Site-specific jewelry- adorning the everyday<br><b>Homework: scout your location, upload 3 images to CANVAS by 11/30, 11:30 pm</b> |
| 11          | Oct. 31 | Class discussion: site-specific art<br>Demo: approach to patternmaking   |
| 11          | Nov. 2  | Designs due: individual meetings   |
| 12          | Nov. 7  | Cast   |
| 12          | Nov. 9  | Demo: Patinas  |
| 13          | Nov. 14 | Cast   |
| 13          | Nov. 16 | Work on wax (ATC)  |
| 14          | Nov. 21 | Cast   |
| 14          | Nov. 23 | <b>Thanksgiving- Campus closed</b>   |
| 15          | Nov. 28 | <b>No casting due to holiday</b>   |
| 15          | Nov. 30 | Last day to cast   |
| 16          | Dec. 5  | Last day to work   |
| 16          | Dec. 7  | Project 3 due – 25 points<br>Final Critique<br><b>Last day to turn in extra credit and late work for credit</b>  |
| Final Exam* | Dec. 14 | Final cleanup and art pickup<br>Room 210, 2:45 – 5:00 pm<br>Attendance is mandatory!   |

\*There shall be an appropriate final examination or evaluation at the scheduled time in every course, unless specifically exempted by the college dean who has curricular responsibility for the course.