

**San Jose State University**  
**Department of Art & Art History**  
**Art 169, Metal Sculpture, Section 01 Fall 2017**

**Instructor:** Adon Valenziano

**Office Location:** Art 119

**Office Hours:** Office hours for this class will be held at the Art Foundry 1036 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street. On MW between 6:00-7:00 PM

**Email:** [adon.valenziano@sjsu.edu](mailto:adon.valenziano@sjsu.edu)

**Class Days/Time:** MW 3:00-5:50

**Classroom:** Art Foundry 1036 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street

**Class Website:** <http://sjsufoundry.weebly.com/>

**Greensheets:** <http://ad.sjsu.edu/greensheets/>

**Department Office:** Art 116

**Department Contact:** [Website: www.sjsu.edu/art](http://www.sjsu.edu/art) [Email: art@sjsu.edu](mailto:art@sjsu.edu)

**Course Description:**

This course will introduce you to the history, theories and techniques of creating sculpture in cast aluminum and bronze. The exploration of different mold making and casting techniques, connective systems, and materials will allow you to develop a personal vocabulary and repertoire of skills for creating your work. My goal is to assist each student in developing a unique visual vocabulary through honest, constructive criticism and informed debate. Exercises and projects are designed to expand and widen the range of technical skills and conceptual perspectives that you can draw upon—to clearly communicate ideas and physically manifest your artistic vision.

**Expectations:**

Be prepared to spend the time necessary to produce exceptional work, investigate, question, explore, look closely, dig deeply, harness your obsessions and put them to work. Be aware that casting molten metals is an exhilarating and addictive activity, but is also potentially dangerous. Students will understand and abide by the foundry safety rules at all times. Do not use any tool you are not familiar with. If you are in doubt about the proper use of a tool ask me or the Foundry Technician Steve Davis for assistance. Casting metal, unlike most other art processes is a team activity that requires a relatively large number of people to do safely and effectively. You will not be able to do most of the processes involved alone so be prepared to participate in investing, pouring and clean up even if you do not have anything in a particular pour. This is an advanced level class that demands a large commitment of your time,

energy and resources. To complete all assignments on time you will need to work on your projects outside of class meetings. Expect to have additional expenses beyond class fees for personal materials and supplies as well.

### **Materials and Supplies:**

You will be using a variety of materials over the semester, some of which will be provided, others you will need to acquire on your own. While the foundry facility has an extensive selection of hand and power tools I highly recommend that you begin to put together your own “tool box” of your favorite tools and personal safety gear such as a good respirator, eye and ear protection and gloves. Expect to supply some of your own cut off and grinding wheels, sanding and polishing discs and drill bits.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Manipulate microcrystalline wax using a wide variety of techniques including direct sculpting, mold casting, fabricating “welding” and brushed texturing to create wax patterns for the lost wax casting process.
2. Reproduce and replicate forms through basic mold making techniques including ridged plaster molds and clay press molds.
3. Effectively gate, sprue and invest wax patterns in plaster and sand slurry as well as rammed greensand molds.
4. Cast bronze and aluminum sculpture and use the process and medium of cast metal to solve technical, visual and conceptual problems in their artistic practice.
5. Safely clean, chase, weld, grind, sand and polish metal castings to prepare for surface treatment.
6. Apply traditional patina chemical color treatments as well as “alternative” surface treatments to a variety of metals to enhance their work.
7. Join various sculptural elements and materials through the use of “cold” or mechanical connective systems, such as tap and die, positioning and locking pins and epoxies as well as “hot” systems such as welding and brazing.

8. Clearly communicate their artistic methods, techniques and conceptual intent through written report, visual presentation and critical discussion.

### **Required Texts/Readings**

Chapter 6 of *The Nature of Order An Essay on the Art of Building and the Nature of the Universe*. Book: *The Phenomenon of Life*. Christopher Alexander.

### **Other Readings**

Art Magazines/Blogs and Newspapers/News Sites.

### **Library Liaison**

Elisabeth Thomas

[elisabeth.thomas@sjsu.edu](mailto:elisabeth.thomas@sjsu.edu)

408-808-2193

### **Course Requirements and Assignments:**

In this course you will complete 2 projects and 4 related exercises. Power Point presentations and in class demonstrations will explore technical solutions and provide ideas and inspiration for developing your problem solving skills in a variety of materials. Each project will culminate in a group critique where you will evaluate and discuss each other's work. Each student will be responsible for a research presentation and written report on an artist or technique/process/material of their choice. Assigned readings will be followed by group discussions of the ideas and concepts covered.

Skill Building Exercise 1 "Tool Making" Primarily Addresses CLO1

Skill Building Exercise 2 "Wax Work" Primarily Addresses CLO3, CLO7

Skill Building Exercise 3 "Mold Making" Primarily Addresses CLO1, CLO2, CLO3

Skill Building Exercise 4 "Patination" Primarily Addresses CLO3, CLO4, CLO5, CLO6

Assignment 1 Primarily Addresses CLO4, CLO5, CLO6, CLO7

Assignment 2 Primarily Addresses CLO4, CLO5, CLO6, CLO7

Required Readings, Writing Assignments, Critiques and Presentations Address CLO8

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>.

**Grading:**

Skill Building Exercise 1 Tool Making.	10%	
Skill Building Exercise 2 Wax Working.	10%	
Skill Building Exercise 3 Mold Making.	10%	
Skill Building Exercise 4 Patination/Color.	10%	
Participation.	10%	
Written Research Report.		10%
Assignment 1.	20%	
Assignment 2.	20%	
Total	100%	

All assignments will be assessed on a scale of 0-100.  
Percentage Breakdown

- 97-100 = A+
- 93-96 = A
- 90-92 = A-
- 87-89 = B+
- 83-86 = B
- 80-82 = B-
- 77-79 = C+
- 73-76 = C
- 70-72 = C-
- 67-69 = D+
- 63-66 = D
- 60-62 = D-
- 59 and below = F

An “A” grade is reserved for exceptional work that shows inspiration and demonstrates significant insight developed to its fullest extent and presented with exquisite craftsmanship.

A “B” grade indicates good work that is definitely above average, though not of the highest quality. This work shows thorough exploration and development, and is well presented with good craftsmanship, but does not rise to the highest level of excellence.

“C” indicates fair work of average or medium character. Work in this category demonstrates complete fulfillment of the stated requirements

and an understanding of the issues covered, but does not exceed the expectations of understanding, development, or execution.

“D” is the lowest passing grade and indicates work below average and unsatisfactory. Though work may meet the minimum requirements, it lacks depth, development or is unsatisfactorily crafted.

“F” is for fail and indicates that the student understands so little of the subject that it must be repeated in order for credit to be received. Work in this category may be unfinished, unimaginative, underdeveloped or poorly executed, and shows minimal understanding of issues.

### **Classroom Protocol:**

#### **Attendance:**

There will be demonstrations of particular materials and techniques almost every class meeting, these demonstrations may be difficult to reproduce on an individual basis so it is important that you attend class. Please arrive punctually with all required materials and stay for the entire class. If for some reason you do have to miss a class it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed. We have lots to cover and the semester goes by surprisingly fast.

#### **Questions? Ask! Ask! Ask! Ask! Ask!**

It is important that you ask questions you have as we go along. If you are confused about a project or exercise, or if I haven't made something clear, please ask me in class, if you have a question it is likely that many of your classmates are wondering the same thing. You can also make an appointment during my office hours. I will be happy to discuss any stage of a project with you.

#### **Late Work**

Work that is not finished and presented on the assigned critique day will drop a full grade for every day it is late. Late work will not be critiqued by the class which means you miss out on one of the most valuable aspects of a studio course: honest evaluation, critical feedback and suggestions from your fellow students.

#### **Material Safety Data Sheets:**

Forms called MSDS sheets are required for all potentially hazardous materials and are to be supplied to the department by students bringing hazardous materials into the building. They are available from the vendor (store) where the material was purchased, and are required to be on file with the department before materials can be used in any department facility (including the Shop or the 3-D room.) Potentially

hazardous materials could include spray paints and adhesives, epoxy resins, etc. Students are required to supply MSDS sheets to the department whenever bringing hazardous materials into the building.

### **Cell Phones:**

Students will turn their cell phones off or put them on vibrate mode while in class. They will not answer their phones in class. Students whose phones disrupt the course and do not stop when requested by the instructor will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University.

### **Computer Use:**

In the classroom, computers are to be used for class-related activities only. These include activities such as taking notes on the lecture underway, following the lecture on Web-based PowerPoint slides that the instructor has posted, and finding Web sites to which the instructor directs students at the time of the lecture. Students who use their computers for other activities or who abuse the equipment in any way, at a minimum, will be asked to leave the class and will lose participation points for the day, and, at a maximum, will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University for disrupting the course. (Such referral can lead to suspension from the University.) Students are urged to report to their instructors computer use that they regard as inappropriate (i.e., used for activities that are not class related).

### **Projected Calendar Schedule**

This is the proposed schedule for the semester, be aware that this schedule may need to be adjusted or changed as the class progresses. Any changes to the schedule will be announced in class and via email. We have lots to do and the semester is going to seem far too short. Students are expected to use any class time that is not dedicated to demonstrations or presentations to work towards completing the assigned exercise and projects.

#### **ART 169/Metal Sculpture, Fall 2017, Course Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
1	8/23	Introductions, facility tour and rules
1	8/28	Wax working demo
2	8/30	Assign Project #1, and tool making demo
2	9/4	<b>Labor Day no class.</b>
3	9/6	Mold making demo, individual meetings on project proposals

3	9/11	Tool making exercise due, metal welding demo, metal chasing demo
4	9/13	Direct wax working exercise due
4	9/18	Work time for Project #1
5	9/20	Patterns due for Project #1 components,
5	9/25	Invest and load kiln for burn out cycle
6	9/27	Pour bronze and or aluminum, break out molds, chase castings,
6	10/2	Patina and surface treatment demo
7	10/4	Work on Response Project, individual progress meetings,
7	10/9	Mechanical connections demo
8	10/11	Assign Project #2, progress meetings
8	10/16	Work on Project #1
9	10/18	Critique Project #1
9	10/23	Work on Project #2
10	10/25	Pour day, chase castings
10	10/30	Work on Project #2
11	11/1	Hybrid Project components due, invest, load and fire kiln
11	11/6	Work on Project #2
12	11/8	Pour day
12	11/13	Work on Project #2
13	11/15	Work on Project #2
13	11/20	Invest, load and fire kiln
14	11/22	Work on Project #2
14	11/27	Last Pour day
15	11/29	Work on Project #2
15	12/4	Work on Project #2
16	12/6	Clean Up Day
Final Exam	12/19	12:15-2:30

## 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/>"

### Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](#) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](#) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](#) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](#), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course. "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material." It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis. In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well. "Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

### Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity](#)

[Policy SO7-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/SO7-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/SO7-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential ART 13 \(3-D Concepts\)](#), Spring 2014 Page 7 of 11 [Directive 97-03](#) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center \(AEC\)](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to SJSU students with disabilities and the University's continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus.

### **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

### **SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals. In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a

number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

### **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)

### **SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>. at: <http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/counseling/index.html>