

San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
Art 198, BFA Interdisciplinary Seminar, Section 3, Fall, 2017

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Lance M Fung
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Office Hours:	(Wednesday 1:30 – 2:30)
Class Days/Time:	Wednesday / 10:30 – 1:15
Classroom:	Art 110
Department Office:	ART 116
Department Contact:	Website: www.sjsu.edu/art Email: art@sjsu.edu

Web Access to course materials

All materials such as the Green Sheet, required reading, announcements, class assignments, deadlines, grades, etc. can be found on the Canvas Management system course website: <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You should visit this site often to be up to date with information. Log in and with your SJSUOne information for access.

Course Description

This course hopes to empower each student and the art media they feel most comfortable with to experiment and challenge them through the exploration of unfamiliar media through interdisciplinary art. Each class will comprise of different learning exercises such as daily lectures, group discussions, class critiques, one-on one time with the professor and class time to work on their final project. There will be several distinguished guest lecturers to share their working and professional experience with the class. Access to working artists and curators should encourage you to be proactive in your learning process and seek any information that may be useful to you in the future.

The final project will be a combination of an artist's proposal and a diorama / maquette of a large-scale art installation that incorporates at least two art media such as: painting, sculpture, photography, performance, film, etc. There is a possibility of creating an exhibition with all of the dioramas that are made. Although there will be class time for working on the final project, students may feel the need, based on their concept, to work on the project outside of class. Students will be required to attend two artist lectures arranged by the SJSU gallery and attend one local museum exhibition.

Course Content Learning Objectives

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

1. Have a clear understanding of interdisciplinary art
2. Know the work and motivation of some of the leading contemporary artists of our time
3. Conceive a large scale installation and create a written proposal
4. Improve self critical skills
5. Create a diorama / maquette for an art installation
6. Present your conceptual ideas and defend them through the critique process
7. Begin to understand where your art stands within a global context
8. Have a better understanding of how to judge installation and public art
9. Learn your creative comfort zone
10. Be able to embrace risk and possible failure for a deeper sense of discovery

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Reading assignments will be supplied weekly from a number of resources such as art publications, art websites, theoretical texts. The goal is to read about current trends more so than historical thoughts.

Required Materials

Each student must have a notebook for each class. A laptop is highly recommended as well. All materials required to complete the final project will be at the student's expense. However, in order to foster true creativity rather than relying on expensive art supplies, most of the material can come from repurposed or recycled materials.

Library Liaison

Elisabeth Thomas can be reached at elisabeth.thomas@sjsu.edu or found on the fourth floor of King Library. Her phone number is (408)808-2193. You may also visit the library website at: <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/collectiondevelopment/CDhumanities>

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU expectations for out of class work is three hours per week for this course. Although students will be given time to work on their final projects in class, it is anticipated that time outside the class will also be required. Additional work outside of class may be contemplation and reflection on class lectures, discussions, critiques. Time to research and complete the writing assign as well as class preparation may also be required.

Grading Information

Although this course will embrace flexibility and experimentation which are some of the benchmarks for success, there will be five main components that will be reviewed and evaluated throughout the semester. Each student will have ample time to make revisions to submit their best possible submission to receive the desired grade however quality and meeting deadlines will be paramount to receiving the best grade possible. Each component will comprise a percentage of your overall grade. The five main elements for this course are: a written essay, presentation, artist's written proposal, diorama / maquette, and class participation.

Essay:

A three page, double-spaced written essay about an artist will be the first assignment. A list of exciting contemporary artists who work in an interdisciplinary manner will be provided through Canvas for you to research and select which artist excites or infuriates you the most to write about. Cover pages, reproductions, bibliography, etc. do not count towards the three-page minimum.

Presentation:

A fifteen-minute presentation will be made to the class based on what you have learned from your writing assignment. The presentation shall include accompanying visuals. You may embed a brief (under two minute) video clip only if beneficial to the sharing of information to your other students. Creativity is encouraged in how you best want to convey the philosophy and artistic contribution the artist has made to the Art World so that the learning process is enriched and more entertaining than a standard presentation or student lecture. The goal is to distill the artist's essence, motivation, or conceptual underpinnings and share them with your classmates.

Student Proposal:

You will be required to submit a written proposal about your art concept. It should include a simple one paragraph description befitting a standard museum wall label as well as a two page artist's statement. You may incorporate sketches, drawings, renderings to present a convincing and thorough proposal. As an addendum you should include several photographs of your diorama with at least one over view and one detail image.

Diorama / Maquette

You will make a convincing diorama of your project concept. Materials and cost are less important to execution, content, and believability. The goal is to create a diorama that conveys the aesthetic and visceral response you would like your gallery visitors to feel when entering your installation. Every square inch of the scale design should be considered and a polished and professional end result is the goal while retaining a sense of creativity, spontaneity, and process.

Class participation

Each class will be very interactive, reactionary, and hopefully fun. Participation and the ability to share your thoughts in an unedited but constructive yet respectful fashion will help cut to the chase and get to the true substance of each lecture, discussion and idea. Each class will be divided into lecture and process time. The teacher will lead the lecture portion of the class followed by a Q & A period. In this period, it is anticipated that you will come with thoughts, images, and questions to further the discussion. The second portion of the class will be often devoted for the students to research, work in groups, or work on their individual assignments. Every minute of class time should be used in an active capacity as there is not room for idleness.

Grades

All grades will be available on Canvas and as quickly as possible. Any assignment turned in late will automatically receive one lower grade.

Grade Breakdown

- Writing assignment: (20%)
- Presentation: (15%)
- Proposal: (20%)
- Diorama: (30%)
- Participation: (15%)

Extra Credit Assignments:

Upon occasions there may be extra credit assignments offered. However, students have the opportunity to present individual extra credit assignments that are directly related to this course for the teacher’s discretion. 10% is the total maximum credit that can be earned and should be commensurate with the workload and required skill of the normal class assignments.

Grade Scale

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

- A = Excellent work
- B = Above average work
- C = Average work
- D = Below average work
- F = Unsatisfactory work

Classroom Protocol

The class should be a safe space for every student to learn, express and grow. The environment should be a medium for self-discovery, doubt, experimentation and new challenges. Through basic empathy and respect, deep conversations about philosophy, artistic concept and content, and visual communications should be at the center of every interaction and conversation.

You should be on time, prepared for class and prepared to give your full attention. It is equally important that you have eaten, used the facilities and have had proper sleep the night before so that you can fully engage with the teacher and your fellow students. If for any reason you miss a class or any portion thereof, it is your responsibility to review Canvas, speak with your fellow classmates, or come to office hours to understand what you need to do to remain current with all lessons.

Cell phones, music devices and any other distractions to yourself and others around you are not permitted unless approved for class purposes. If improperly used your participation grade will be affected.

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 198/BFA Interdisciplinary Seminar, Fall 2017, Course Schedule

Below is week-by-week guide to the class however some minor alterations may be made on an as needed basis. In the unlikely event of a schedule change you will be give ample warning for the change. This class will also be meeting only once a week – on Wednesdays from 10:30 – 1:15

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	August 23	Introductions, review of Green Sheet, description of class learning objectives and grading procedure, review of class and school policies, introduction to Interdisciplinary Art, discussion of the four class assignments and deadlines, presentation of curatorial work of Lance Fung of Fung Collaboratives.
2	August 30	Lecture on installation art
		Student research time on provided artist list
3	Sept 6	Lecture on video installations
		Student group discussion about artists from the artist list
4	Sept 13	Lecture on photographic installations by guest Professor J Fung
		Student time to work on writing assignment
5	Sept 20	Lecture on how to create a proposal and all it’s elements, writing assignment due on Canvas by end of day
		Student time to work on research for presentation & diorama concept
6	Sept 27	Lecture on Public Art & Social Practice Art
		One on one discussion with teacher about diorama themes and proposal
7	Oct 4	Lecture by Robin Lasser
		Student presentations
8	Oct 11	Library research Day

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
9	Oct 18	Lecture on Venice Biennale 2017 and previous biennales
		Students finalize proposal
10	Oct 25	Lecture on Museum installations
		Proposals due on Canvas by end of day, students commence diorama making
11	Nov 1	Lecture on Muenster Skulptur Projekte
		Students begin diorama making
12	Nov 8	Lecture on Documenta &
		Students continue diorama making
13	Nov 15	Lecture on the Biennial format (Whitney Museum, SITE Santa Fe, Istanbul, etc)
		Students continue diorama making
14	Nov 22	No class
15	Nov 29	Delivery of final artists' proposals with addendum and completed dioramas, class critique, discussion of installation timetable and responsibilities
16	Dec 6	Installation of gallery exhibition (pending)
Final Exam*		Venue and Time

*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.