

San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
ART 281, Interdisciplinary Critique, Section 01, Fall 2017

Course and Contact Information

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| Instructor: | Adam Shiverdecker |
| Office Location: | IS 124C |
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| Email: | adam.shiverdecker@sjsu.edu |
| Office Hours: | W, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm; R, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm |
| Class Days/Time: | W, 3:00 – 5:45 |
| Classroom: | Art 110 |
| Prerequisites: | Graduate standing |
| Department Office: | ART 116 |
| Department Contact: | Website: www.sjsu.edu/art Email: art@sjsu.edu |
| Course Format: | Seminar |

Course Description

This interdisciplinary graduate peer-group seminar is dedicated to the artistic creation, presentation, discussion and critique of graduate student artwork. As an interdisciplinary critique seminar, students will bring a wide range of materials and methods, as well as a diverse range of theoretical and philosophical positions to the table. Students will be responsible for leading discussions concerning their own work as well as the work of other artists influential in their creative praxis. Students will further develop their artistic practice, articulating their concepts in both visual presentations and critique formats. Students are encouraged to engage in meaningful dialogue pertaining to their work and the work of the larger contemporary art sphere.

This course will also provide a democratic and interactive forum for the voicing of opinion in an informed context. Through essay readings, instructor and peer selected, students will develop applicable terminology and discourse surrounding their own art and practice, as well as their peers and artists. Students are expected to regularly attend local and regional art events, including, but not limited to, SJSU Tuesday Night Lectures, gallery openings, visiting artist workshops, Art Murrur, First Fridays, and others.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Students will gain understanding of:

- CLO1 Advance individual creativity and research leading toward successfully graduate thesis project.
- CLO2 Identify, compare and articulate contemporary art strategies from examples, readings and their own work in discussion and writing.
- CLO3 Articulate what it means to create works of art in contemporary culture, speak and write clearly about their own work in relation to art and culture.

- CLO4 Develop professional strategies and objectives for success inclusive of exhibition, publishing, funding, marketing and personal.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course; however, several texts will be read and discussed.

Other Readings

Each student will assign one reading to the group no later than two weeks in advance of their respective critique session. Students are encouraged to develop their catalogue of writers, essayists, and critical theorists for personal research and reference.

Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT)

A basic training powerpoint, including recognition and procedure for following a healthy and clean lab (studio) can be found at the following link: <http://www.sjsu.edu/fdo/docs/hazmatandlabsafetyguidance.pdf>

Library Liaison

Elisabeth Thomas, elisabeth.thomas@sjsu.edu

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

Course Requirements and Assignments

Students are required to attend scheduled class meetings and engage in meaningful dialogue. Participation in group critiques is essential.

Participation: 40%

Studio visits/critiques (2 @ 15%): 30%

Written response: 10%

Journal: 10%

Artist Statement: 10%

Written Response

There is one two-page, double spaced response paper of a chosen essay due the third week of class. The essay and requirements of the response will be outlined in the first class meeting.

Journal

Students are required to maintain a research journal throughout the semester. The journal should include notes from student's personal critique sessions, sketches, outlines for artist statement, and pertinent information relating to studio practice.

San Jose Museum of Art Visit

This term we are visiting the SJMA exhibition, "Diana Al-Hadid: Liquid City," on August 30. Please arrive as close to 3:00 as possible so we can view and discuss the exhibition as a class.

Artist Statement

Students should begin semester with a minimum one-page statement, working towards a full three-page artist statement due at the end of the semester. One page statements should be presented to the class on the day of the student’s first critique. A revised and lengthier statement should be presented to the class on the day of the student’s second critique. A full three-page statement is due on the final exam day.

Final Examination or Evaluation

Students are responsible for attending and participating in ALL seminar discussions and must complete a **journal of documentation** containing personal writings and research informing their work which serves as the final exam.

Grading Information

Grading in this course will be determined by a point system. There are a total of 100 possible points that can be earned. At the end of the semester these points will be totaled, and your final grade will then be impacted by participation as outlined above. You will receive a grade upon completion of each project. At midterm I will let you know where you stand in terms of class participation.

GRADING SCALE

90-100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

60-69 = D

59 and below = F

Determination of Grades

A= Excellent work. Student exhibits exemplary effort and mastery of critical inquiry.

B= Average work. Student actively participates in classroom discussions and critiques. Student exhibits competency in individual presentations of studio work.

C= Below Average work. Student completes assignments without appropriate critical inquiry.

D= Unsatisfactory work. Student does not participate in critique and does not complete assignments.

F= Failing work. Student is completely unengaged in the critique process and substantial problems exist in student’s work.

Classroom Protocol

Attendance/Lateness

You are expected to come to class awake, fed, and ready to think and talk. Your timely and engaged presence is expected at every class meeting.

Arriving late or leaving early disrupts the flow of class and undermines your own success. Please make every effort to arrive on time and prepared for class. Please let me know before class if you will need to leave early.

No Cell Zone

Cell phones are wonderful devices that must be put away during critique and class discussions (that is, unless, cell phones are part of your work). You can rejoin them later over break or at the end of class. Absolutely NO TEXTING during class.

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 281 / Interdisciplinary Critique, Fall 2017, Course Schedule

****This calendar is subject to change. You will be notified in class and via email in advance.*

Course Schedule

| Week | Date | Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines |
|------|---------------------|---|
| 1 | 8/23 | Course introduction; Critique practices |
| 2 | 8/30 | SJMA Visit: Discussing contemporary art |
| 3 | 9/6 | DUE: Written response to essay. Studio Visit 1 – Critique and Discussion |
| 4 | 9/13 | Studio Visit 2 – Critique and Discussion |
| 5 | 9/20 | Studio Visit 3 – Critique and Discussion |
| 6 | 9/27 | Studio Visit 4 – Critique and Discussion |
| 7 | 10/4 | Studio Visit 5 – Critique and Discussion |
| 8 | 10/11 | Artist Statement Workshop |
| 9 | 10/18 | Studio Visit 6 – Critique and Discussion |
| 10 | 10/25 | Studio Visit 7 – Critique and Discussion |
| 11 | 11/1 | Studio Visit 8 – Critique and Discussion |
| 12 | 11/8 | ATC; Venue TBA |
| 13 | 11/15 | Studio Visit 9 – Critique and Discussion |
| 14 | 11/22 | NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK |
| 15 | 11/29 | Studio Visit 10 – Critique and Discussion |
| 16 | 12/6 | Studio Visit 11 – Critique and Discussion |
| 17 | 12/13 12:15-2:30 | FINAL EXAM; DUE: Journals and Artist Statements |