

San José State University
Department of Art & Art History

Art 281, Interdisciplinary Critique Seminar, Section 01, Spring 2018

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Rhonda Holberton
Office Location:	ART 319
Telephone:	(408) 924-4348
Email:	rhonda.holberton@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Wed 10:45-11:45 Thur 4:00-5:00
Class Days/Time:	TH 6:00PM - 8:45PM
Prerequisites:	Graduate Standing
Classroom:	Art Building 141
Department Office:	ART 116
Department Contact:	Website: www.sjsu.edu/art Email: art@sjsu.edu
Course Format:	Seminar

Course Web Page

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](http://www.sjsu.edu/art) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>.

Course Description

Insert course description from the University catalog augmented by section-specific description.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

FOR SINGLE SECTION COURSES: Describe the outcome in terms of specific and measurable actions, capabilities or skills students will be able to perform through course activities/experience at the end of your course.

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

1. Advance individual creativity and research leading toward successfully graduate thesis project.
2. Identify, compare and articulate contemporary art strategies from examples, readings and their own work in discussion and writing.

3. 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.
4. Develop professional strategies and objectives for success inclusive of exhibition, publishing, funding, marketing and personal goals.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course. All readings will be made available on the Canvas Course Site.

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)

All studio classes that use any “hazardous materials” should include one graded assignment that helps students understand HAZMAT regulations and develop consistently safe practices—this might be as simple as a labeling assignment. Note that food containers cannot be used for chemical storage and that common household items (bleach, vinegar, etc.) are deemed hazardous materials and must be stored appropriately. The campus EHS (Environmental Health & Safety) office and the County will schedule inspections with increasing frequency; fines assessed by the County are now high enough to put us out of business, so this is a serious matter. The techs are NOT responsible for cleaning up facilities and classrooms and offices—this is your responsibility. If you need information or help, please let us know. Additional note: clutter is deemed a hazard, and we can be fined for clutter.

Basic training powerpoint: <http://www.sjsu.edu/fdo/docs/hazmatandlabsafetyguidance.pdf>

Library Liaison

Aliza Elkin
 email: aliza.elkin@sjsu.edu
 phone: (408) 808-2043
 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library
 4th Floor Administration Offices

Shop Safety

Shop safety test—Safety tests for Spring 2018 will ONLY be given between January 24th and February 16th .

Course Requirements and Assignments

Participation	30%
Critiques (Studio Visits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Work 60% ○ Presented Work 50% 	30%

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Title & Documentation 10% ● The Work in Relation to your Artist Statement 20 % ● The Work in Relation to your Assigned Essay 20 % 	
Artist Statement (Final)	20%
Written response to Critical Essay	10%
Journal	10%

Participation

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

Critique (Studio Visits)

Each student will receive two visits to their studio to review work in progress and finished projects. Students will submit a contextual essay for class review no later than 2 weeks before their visit. On the day of the review the students will provide an artist statement, project documentation, and discussion directives to Canvas for class review.

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.

Written Response

Students will provide a critical analysis of an essay of their own selection due the third week of class. The two-page, double spaced essay and additional 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. Every week the students will submit: one mid-career artist, one emerging artist, and one established artist they draw inspiration from as well as one critical essay they find useful.

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

Critiques will be evaluated on the following categories

You will not receive a grade until the following is submitted to Canvas:

- 1) Documentation (even if work in progress)
 - Photograph (.jpg 1200 pixels on the long side)
 - Stills/Storyboard (.jpg 1200 pixels on the long side)
 - Video (link)
- 2) Work list
 - Title
 - Medium
 - Size/Duration
- 3) Artist statement that addresses
 - Process/Tools
 - Inspiration (existing work)
 - Concept
- 4) Critical Essay that helps inform your process

Determination of Grades

A = 100 - 90% Exceptional.

Overall - The student's presented work demonstrates an exceptionally clear understanding of the concerns of their practice in terms of its professional excellence; is exceptionally original in its exhibition of practice and research; deploys comprehensive and outstandingly innovative critical analyses of the concerns and contexts of their practice; utilise source material highly effectively in order to achieve the original and self-directed objectives of their individual practice and research.

Writing - Essays demonstrate highly original independent research advancing the student's understanding and contextualisation of their key concerns; comprehensively and rigorously analyse the relevant sources to establish a well-articulated independent critical position; clearly demonstrate that the adopted mode of writing enables the rigorous articulation of an independent and imaginative critical position.

B = 89 - 80% Above Average

Overall - The student's presented work: demonstrates a high degree of understanding the concerns of their practice in terms of its professional excellence; is highly original in its exhibition of practice and research; deploys comprehensive and highly innovative critical analyses of the concerns and contexts of their practice; utilises source material effectively in order to achieve the original and self-directed objectives of their individual practice and research.

Writing - Essays demonstrate highly original independent research advancing the student's understanding and contextualisation of their key concerns; rigorously analyse the relevant sources to establish a very well-articulated independent critical position; clearly demonstrates that the adopted mode of writing enables the clear articulation of an independent and imaginative critical position.

C = 79 - 70% Average

Overall - The student's presented work: demonstrates a good understanding the concerns of their practice in terms of its professional excellence; is very original in its exhibition of practice and research; deploys comprehensive and innovative

critical analyses of the concerns and contexts of their practice; utilises source material well in order to achieve the original and self directed objectives of their individual practice and research.

Writing - Essays clearly demonstrate independent research advancing the student's understanding and contextualisation of their key concerns; clearly analyses the relevant sources to establish an independent critical position; demonstrates that the adopted mode of writing enables a good articulation of an independent or imaginative critical position.

D = 69 - 60% Unsatisfactory

Overall - The student's presented work: demonstrates an attempt to understand the concerns of their practice in terms of its professional excellence; is lacking in exhibition of practice and research; attempts critical analyses of the concerns and contexts of their practice; utilises source material in order to meet the bare minimum of self -directed objectives of their individual practice and research.

Writing - Essays demonstrate independent research and basic understanding and contextualisation of the student's concerns; analyse the relevant sources to establish an informed critical position; demonstrate that the adopted mode of writing articulates an critical or independent position.

F = < 60% Fail

Overall - The student's presented work: does not demonstrate any understanding the concerns of their practice in terms of its professional excellence; fails to address its exhibition of practice and research; deploys little critical analyses of the concerns and contexts of their practice; does not utilise source material appropriately or critically.

Writing - Essays do not demonstrate independent research or contextualisation of their concerns; fail to analyse the relevant sources to establish a critical position; do not demonstrate that the adopted mode of writing enables the articulation of a critical or independent position

Classroom Protocol

Email

All emails MUST include Art 281 in the subject line. Emails that don't include Art 281 won't be answered. Expect a reply within 1-2 business days (Monday-Friday).

Attendance

Show up on time. If you need to miss a class, let me know ahead of time and tell me what you will do to make up the missed work and when you will turn it in.

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/>"

Department Advising

For information about majors and minors in Art & Art History, for change of major/minor forms and a list of

advisors: <http://www.sjsu.edu/art/> or the Art & Art History department office in ART 116, 408-924-4320, art@sjsu.edu.

Art 281 / Interdisciplinary Critique, Spring 2018, Course Schedule

**This calendar is subject to change. Students are responsible for checking the Calendar in Canvas for updates*

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/25	Course introduction; Critique practices; Due: In-Class Assignment 5 Pillars
2	2/1	Due: Student Presentations Previous Work & 3 Examples of Artist Statements
3	2/8	Artist Statement, Bio, & CV Workshop Due: Draft of 1 paragraph Statement, Bio, & CV
4	2/15	Field Trip: San Jose Museum of Art
5	2/22	Due: Student Presentations Studio Visit Documentation
6	3/1	Studio Visit 1 – Critique and Discussion
7	3/8	Studio Visit 2 – Critique and Discussion
8	3/15	Studio Visit 3 – Critique and Discussion
9	3/22	Guest Artist TBD Due: Written Response to Critical Essay 1
10	3/29	NO CLASS SPRING RECESS
11	4/5	Studio Visit 4 – Critique and Discussion
12	4/12	Studio Visit 5 – Critique and Discussion
13	4/19	Studio Visit 6 – Critique and Discussion
14	4/26	Guest Artist TBD Due: Written Response to Critical Essay 2
15	5/3	Due: Artist Presentation
16	5/10	Due: Artist Presentation
Final Exam*	5/17	5:15-7:30 Due: Journal

**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.*