San José State University  
Department of Art & Art History  
Art 68, Beginning Sculpture, Section 1, Spring, 2014

Instructor: Ryan Carrington  
Office Location: Art Foundry, 1036 S. 5th St  
Telephone: (608) (279-4323)  
Email: rtcarrington@gmail.com  
Office Hours: Thursdays from 1:30PM to 3PM at the Foundry  
Class Days/Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3PM to 5:50PM  
Classroom: SJSU Art Foundry, 1036 S. 5th St  
Prerequisites: Art 13 or Instructor Permission

Course Description

This course is designed to further your understanding and ability of what it means to make three-dimensional objects in conjunction with concepts and ideas. We will cover a wide range of topics and mediums, all the while trying to prepare you for a future of art making and appreciating in a conceptually oriented art world.

There will be an opportunity to try almost every major sculpting tradition in art making today. Activities will include woodworking and construction techniques, beginning welding, metal casting, mold-making, working with epoxies and resins, using found objects, learning basic wall hanging and presentation options, as well as any other traditional or non-traditional three-dimensional art making techniques needed to fully realize the potential of your ideas.

This course is designed to not only to teach you the basic fundamentals and techniques of sculpture making, but also to begin a dialogue between what you are thinking about and what you are making. There will be a large emphasis on thinking about the concepts behind your finished pieces and how the objects that you make can best convey your ideas.

Course Outline:

We will be going through a number of exercises that I have put into two broader categories called “Skills and Drills” and “Expansion Projects.” The “Skills and Drills” projects are designed to help you learn a particular technique or skill with regards to making sculpture. These assignments are designed to teach you the subtle nuances of a process without the pressure of completing a bigger
project. They coincide with the “Expansion Projects” in that your new skills will help aid you in solving the problem at hand, but with your own creative spin.

Skills and Drills:
- Autobiographical Object Oral Presentation- Two minute introduction
- Wood Basics- Beginning wood working techniques
- Weld it up- Beginning welding techniques
- Why Is That Art? Reading and discussion
- Gallery Quest Spring Break Writing Assignment

Expansion Projects:
- Three Negatives and a Positive- An introduction to a variety of wood working tools and techniques where you are required to use three or more subtractive strategies as well as at least one connective system.
- Two Surfaces, and Surfacing- A steel project that must interact with two surfaces such as the wall and the floor, ceiling and wall, or two walls. It must also have a finished surface as part of the final piece.
- Resin-Bonded Sand Casting- An aluminum casting project using a high resolution sand casting process for simple objects or relief tiles.
- Re-Imagine, Re-Brand- A project based on re-contextualizing an object, product, or material using humor, absurdity, or practicality.

Expectations:
We will be moving at an incredibly fast pace, so it is imperative that you are here for every class period. Throughout the semester I will be showing you a number of building techniques using a variety of materials through demonstrations followed by hands-on activities. I will also be sharing with you some of the most exciting art that is out there today through slide lectures and will be asking for your participation in an evolving conversation about what is considered art today.

This class may sound like a lot of work. That’s because it is. It is also going to be a lot of fun. By the end of it you will have a much greater knowledge not only of materials and construction techniques, but of how to speak about, write about, look at, critique, and create three-dimensional art. Not only will you have made lots of things, but you will have made lots of things that you have thought about. This course is designed to give you the necessary tools you will need to continue on in the wonderful world of sculpture.

Course Goals and Learning Objectives

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- CLO1 Practice and refine new sculpture making techniques
- CLO2 Refine and sharpen the craftsmanship essential to being a practicing artist
- CLO3 Identify different ways of presenting and installing your work
- CLO4 Learn and execute basic woodworking, mold making, welding and casting techniques to support your artwork and ideas
- CLO5 Utilize a vocabulary that allows for talking about and understanding art
- CLO6 Explore personal concepts as well as address public issues and integrate them into the objects that you create
- CLO7 Design, execute, and record serious “portfolio” works of art
- CLO8 Practice critical thinking about artwork on paper and in a group format

Materials:
We will be working with a vast array of materials in this course. Although some of the funds you have paid to the Student Success, Excellence, and Technology (SSET) fee may help to provide materials or image/website support for this class, you are responsible for obtaining the supplies and/or materials needed to complete assignments and will not be able to pass this class without them. Certain materials will be available to you at the Foundry, purchased in bulk by the Sculptors Guild and sold back to you at cost. Other materials you should expect to purchase on your own, especially for the larger projects. Part of being an artist is investing in your materials to make your work, and you should be prepared to spend at least $50 on your own for materials. I have been creating a list of vendors where I like to purchase certain items and would be happy to share with you the places that I like to shop.

I suggest that you begin to collect your own safety gear, but eye, ear, and simple repertory protection can be found in the shop. If you are interested in buying any gear, I can direct you to the cheapest stores in the area. As far as hand tools go, the shop is a well-equipped creation facility, and should have everything that you need to have a productive semester. If you need it, and don’t see it, just ask.

Required Texts/Readings


Recommended Readings:

Deconstructing Installation Art-Fine Art and Media Art, 1986-2006, Graham Coulter-Smith, Free Online Book at http://www.installationart.net/


Any newspaper, even if it is a few days late, or just Sundays. They are free online, and if you don’t listen to NPR you should definitely be reading some sort of current newspaper. It is important to know what is going on in our neighborhood and the world.

Any art periodical! I can’t stress this enough. Even if you are just looking at the pictures, you should have a sense of what type of work is being made out there.

Classroom Protocol

Cell Phones:  
Turn them to silent when you get to class. Unless it is an emergency, there will be no cell phone usage tolerated during class time.

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 calendar web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. 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/.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Your assignments will be graded on craftsmanship, concept, effort, fulfillment of assignment requirements, individual growth, verbal and visual articulation, creativity, and originality.

You will also be receiving a grade for all of your writing and presenting throughout the semester, so please take them seriously and turn everything in.

Your participation grade will be affected by your involvement in class discussions, trying out new processes, staying on task during class hours, and class attendance as it is hard to participate if you are not present.
Semester Breakdown:
Autobiographical Object Oral Presentation: 5%
Wood Basics: 2.5%
Weld it up: 2.5%
Why Is That Art? Reading and discussion: 5%
Spring Break Writing Assignment: 5%

Three Negatives and a Positive: 15%
Two Surfaces, and Surfacing: 15%
Resin Bonded Sand Casting Project: 10%
Re-Imagine, Re-Brand: 20%
Participation (Critiques, Class Activities, and Discussions): 20%

If you are here, trying, engaging, and learning, you should have nothing to worry about. This class is like any other class that you will take at this school, there is a lot of work to do, but if you stay current with the work, you should have no problem getting it done. If you are having an issue, please come and talk to me in private. I consider myself a very understanding person, and as long as we are communicating, I’m sure we can work out whatever problem you are having.

Late Work:
Late work will drop a full letter grade each week it is late. You will also miss out on what is really valuable, the class looking at and critiquing your work. If you have a special circumstance, please make sure you call or email me before the class period of which the project is due. Once again, communication is key, and I understand that life sometimes is unbending, and we will work together to find an appropriate solution.

Participation:
Your participation in this class accounts for 20% of your grade. This includes being an active participant in class discussions and lectures, paying attention and speaking up in all class critiques, and engaging with your fellow classmates about their projects and ideas. It is imperative to the success of our semester that you help build the community necessary to allow everyone to grow as artists throughout the semester. This growth begins with your participation, and what you take away from this course directly relates to the amount of effort and time that you put into it.

Course Website:
http://art68.weebly.com/
I have created a website for this class so that we can better communicate with each other. I will be posting images and other important information here that is pertinent to the class. I will be expecting that you check your email and the website often, as that is the easiest way for us to communicate.
University Policies

Academic integrity
Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University’s Academic Integrity policy, located at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm, 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 is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.
Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

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 Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/ to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources (Optional)
Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and 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 digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Learning Assistance Resource Center (Optional)
The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to inspire them to become independent learners. The Center’s tutors are trained and nationally certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). They provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills
assistance. Small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring are available. Please visit the LARC website for more information at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

SJSU Writing Center (Optional)
The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.

Peer Mentor Center (Optional)
The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/.
Art 68: Beginning Sculpture, Spring 2014, TR 3pm-6pm

Below is the agenda for the semester. The schedule is subject to change throughout the semester. If any changes occur I will adjust the calendar on the website and send you an email indicating the change and announce it in class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/23</td>
<td>Welcome! Introduction to course, myself, Steve, Chauncey, each other, and SCULPTURE! Shop walk through and safety test.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/28</td>
<td>Turn in short answer questions to survey. “Autobiographical” 2-minute presentation introducing yourself to us through metaphor using and object that you bring in. Introduce The Three Negatives and a Positive Assignment. Demonstrate the Drill Press, Band Saw, Disc Sander, and Miter Saw.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/30</td>
<td>Demonstrate carving, sanding, pinning, and pneumatics. Work on Three Negatives and a Positive Assignment</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2/4</td>
<td>Work on Three Negatives and a Positive Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2/6</td>
<td>Work on Three Negatives and a Positive Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2/11</td>
<td>Work on Three Negatives and a Positive Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2/13</td>
<td>Introduce Two Surfaces and Surfacing Assignment. Work on Three Negatives and a Positive Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2/18</td>
<td>Peter Richards Presentation at 5PM in Art building. No class, but shop will be open until 4:30PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2/20</td>
<td>Critique Day!! Three Negatives and a Positive Assignment due! Please come to class with finished project and prepared to talk about it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2/25</td>
<td>Demonstrate steel processes! Cutting, Preparing, Bending, and welding.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2/27</td>
<td>Work on Two Surfaces and Surfacing Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Demonstrate surface treatment for steel. Work on Two Surfaces and Surfacing Assignment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Work on Two Surfaces and Surfacing Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>3/11</td>
<td>Work on Two Surfaces and Surfacing Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3/13</td>
<td>Introduce Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignment. Work on Two Surfaces and Surfacing Assignment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3/18</td>
<td>Critique Day!! Two Surfaces and Surfacing Assignment due!</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/24-3/28</td>
<td>Spring Break!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4/1</td>
<td>Gallery Quest writing assignment due. Work on Resin Bonded Sand Molds.</td>
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<td>4/3</td>
<td>Finish and Pour Aluminum into Resin Bonded Sand Molds!</td>
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<td>4/10</td>
<td>Advancement to Candidacy Graduate Presentations. Class meets at MLK library to see presentations. Foundry closed.</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>4/15</td>
<td>Work on Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignment.</td>
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<td>4/17</td>
<td>Work on Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignment</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>4/22</td>
<td>Demonstrate Vacuum Former. Work on Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignment</td>
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<td>4/24</td>
<td>Work on Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignment</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>4/29</td>
<td>Discuss Why Is That Art? Reading. Then work on Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5/1</td>
<td>Work on Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Work on Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignment</td>
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<td>5/8</td>
<td>Work on Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>5/13</td>
<td>Final Critique!! All Re-Imagine, Re-Brand Assignments due! We will also have a class potluck, with critique to follow.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5/21</td>
<td>The final exam slot scheduled for this course is at 2:45PM. This counts as a mandatory class time, and we will be cleaning up the Foundry after a fantastic semester!</td>
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Art 68: Beginning Sculpture, Carrington Spring 2014