San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
Art 149, Topics in Casting for Jewelry and Small Sculpture: Casting multiples and modular design, Section 2, Spring 2014

Contact Information

Instructor: Yvonne Escalante
Office Location: Art 321
Telephone: (408) 924-4390
Email: yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 10:30 am – 11:30 am, or by appointment
Class Days/Time: Monday/Wednesday 3:00 pm – 5:50 pm
Classroom: Art, Room 210
Prerequisites: Upper division standing or instructor’s consent

Class Communication/Blog

Class assignments, reading, and reading responses will be uploaded to Canvas. Detailed information on how to access this information will be provided as soon as the class page is published.

Course Description

This course is an upper-division, graduate and undergraduate studio class that explores the fundamentals of casting for jewelry and small metals with an emphasis in multiples and modular design. Through completion of three projects students will gain knowledge of casting multiples, casting silver and bronze, mold making, and basic tools used in finishing and polishing as well as basic techniques including soldering and patination. In-class demonstrations, lectures, and hands-on practice will allow students to develop skills that will expand with each successive project. Additionally, students will gain an understanding of working with multiples and the role metal sculpture and jewelry play in contemporary art, while developing an eye for detail and craftsmanship. An outline of each project will be provided in class.
Course Goals and Learning Objectives

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

CLO 1: Identify and safely use tools and equipment

CLO 2: Employ casting techniques including wax working, gating, investing, casting, soldering, moldmaking, and patination to complete class projects.

CLO 3: Complete four casting projects as outlined in class assignments.

CLO 4: Participate and contribute to the critical evaluation of finished work through instructor-led class critiques.

CLO 5: Apply the content described in course readings and individual research to the lost wax casting projects completed in the class.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

There is no required textbook for this class.

Suggested Text

Practical Casting, by Tim McCreight:
Davis Publication Inc. ISBN:0-9615985-5-X.
Available at www.Amazon.com, in-class copy available during class hours.

Other Readings

Course reading will be available in PDF form on Canvas.

Other equipment / material requirements

Students are required to purchase investment and any silver needed for the completion of projects. Cost will vary from student to student depending on individual needs and current market prices. Students can expect to spend $50-$100. A list of vendors will be provided.

Shop safety video and test and fee

You are required to watch the shop safety video on the first day of class. This video will provide an overview of shop safety and proper use of tools found both in the shop and in this classroom. You are required to pay a $20 fee at the Bursar’s office and will need to bring the receipt to the first class meeting along with your student ID with a current VTA sticker.

The video requires copious note taking. You will be allowed to use these notes during the test, which will be scheduled directly after the video. Upon passing the test, you will
gain access to shop usage along with the ability to check out tools you may need to complete class projects. The test may be taken up to two times.

Course Requirements and Assignments
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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

Peer Contacts: Name, Phone Number and Email
1. _________________________________________________________________
2. _________________________________________________________________

Making up Missed Work:
It is YOUR responsibility to make arrangements to make up missed demos, acquire notes from missed lectures and to contact me with special circumstances regarding attendance and late work.

Contact your Peers: To keep up to date on any information you may have missed due to an absence, contact your peers.

If you missed a demo or need my assistance on equipment: You will not be permitted to use equipment until you make up the demo with me. Email me to let me know you need to make up a demo and schedule a time during my posted office hours. If you are unable to make an appointment during my office hours, please include three times when you are available to meet and I will do my best to accommodate your request.

Open lab hours are not my office hours. You may see me in class from time to time during open lab hours. Unless you have made arrangements ahead of time, this is not a time to ask for assistance. I use this time to set up and prep for upcoming classes as well as maintain equipment. If you need to talk to me do not assume I will be present during open lab hours. Your consideration allows me to maintain the classroom while still offering as much access to the lab as possible.

Process Sample 1: Cuttlebone casting
This project will serve as an introduction to basic concepts in casting including safe use of torch, melting and casting metal, and introduction to finishing tools and equipment.
Due: 2/5/14 5%

Process Sample 2: Carving wax: centrifugal casting 101
This project will serve as an introduction to lost wax centrifugal casting, working with carving wax to create patterns, gating, investing, casting in sterling silver, and finishing. This project will introduce basic tools such as the jeweler’s saw, torch, and flex shaft.

Due: 2/24/14 10%

**Process Sample 3: Iron jewelry: an experiment in small foundry casting**

This is a unique opportunity to create jewelry at the annual SJSU Foundry iron pour. Inspired by Berlin Iron Jewelry produced in the 1800’s, we will embark on the experimental production of modern iron turned precious adornment.

Due date: TBA 10%

**Project 1: one object, three solutions, two metals**

This project will serve as an introduction to bi-metal casting (casting with two metals). Starting with one object, you will create three variations, each cast in silver combined with bronze. Demonstrations will cover alginate mold making, advanced spruing techniques, bi-metal centrifugal casting.

Due: 4/2/14 15%

**Final Project: The Lego Challenge: creating modular design**

You will be designing a “building block” or link that, once multiplied, will allow you to create modular designs, both wearable and sculptural. Building on techniques learned thus far, demonstrations will include hot and cold connections, rubber mold making, vacuum casting and alternative spruing techniques.

Due: 5/12/14 25%

**Critiques and class participation**

In order to provide a safe and fruitful learning environment you are required to be present at all lectures and demonstrations before using tools and techniques covered. You will also be required to attend and participate in class critiques. If you are unable to attend a scheduled demo or lecture you are required to contact me ahead of time in order to schedule a makeup demo. Class critiques cannot be made up so make sure you talk to me about making up participation points. A mandatory class clean up will be held on the day of the final critique.

15%

**Writing Assignment: Multiples and Modular Design**

Based on lectures and assigned reading (TBA) you will be writing a 700-word essay. This will serve as a point of inspiration for concept on final designs.

10%

**Blog Entries**

Research five artists that influence your work or that you find interesting. Write a 200-word blog entry on each artist. Please upload one or two images of the artist’s work to accompany the blog entry.

10%
NOTE that University policy F69-24, “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to ensure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

Grading Policy

Your final grade will be assessed as follows:

1) Process Sample 1  5%
2) Process Sample 2  10%
3) Process Sample 3  10%
4) Project 1  15%
5) Final  25%
6) Class participation  15%
7) Writing Assignment and blog entries  20%

Extra Credit
Extra credit is welcome and encouraged in order for you to further explore any of the techniques covered. You may submit up to two extra credit pieces each worth 5% for a total not to exceed 10% of your grade.

Late work
Late work will be accepted, however, 10% will be deducted from late work for each class meeting it is late.

Grades will be assigned according to University policy from A to F as outlined in the SJSU catalog.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100-97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>96-93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92-90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89-87%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86-83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>82-80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79-77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>76-73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>72-70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>69-67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>66-63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>62-60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59-0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Students using lab must:

- Be enrolled in Art 47, 147 or 149, unless otherwise cleared by instructor and granted volunteer status with HR.
- Always abide by general shop safety protocol as outlined in class and posted signs.
- Never operate equipment without being cleared by instructor.
- Never allow a friend or relative not enrolled in one of the classes listed above to use or operate any equipment.
- Never operate any equipment under the influence of medication, illegal substances, or alcohol – none of these substances are allowed in the lab at any time unless I am notified of the medication along with a doctor’s note. Infraction of this rule will result in loss of lab privileges and possible legal action.
- Always be respectful of lab assistants in charge of open lab hours. If you are asked to stop doing something or asked to leave, do so, immediately. Talk to me directly if you feel there was any unfair treatment. You may email me at yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu and/or come by my office, Art 321 during posted office hours.
- Never cast alone.

Clothing

When working with tools and the torch, special safety considerations are necessary. You are required to have long hair securely pulled back and any dangling jewelry must be removed before operating equipment. Avoid wearing loose clothing that could get caught up in equipment and always come to class with close-toed shoes on. A limited number of safety glasses are available to use in the classroom, however, you may want to purchase your own.

Keep your workspace clean!

As a courtesy to others, always leave your workspace clean at the end of class. Always clean up around equipment immediately after use, and return all tools to their designated space in the tool cabinets. **Failure to adequately clean up after yourself is not only inconsiderate, but is also a safety hazard and is hard on the tools.** Proper clean up protocol will be reviewed in class and you are required to strictly adhere to it. Failure to do so can result in lost shop privileges and will severely impede your ability to finish class assignments.

Demos and Lectures

You are required to attend all demos and lectures. You will not be allowed to use tools/equipment until you have been shown how to in class. This means if you are going to miss a class, it is your responsibility to schedule a makeup demo with me before.
continuing with the project. This will also affect your participation grade as outlined in the grading rubric. I recommend you keep a dedicated notebook for taking notes during these demos and lectures.

**Laptops and Cell Phones**

Laptops are allowed for class research only but are not required. **Cell phones must remain off during demos and lectures. Failure to do so will be treated as a missed demo.**

**University Policies**

**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](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at [http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html](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](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/late_drops/policy/) is available at [http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/late_drops/policy/](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/late_drops/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](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 S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.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 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 Integrity 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 at 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 (Optional)**

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 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 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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.
Art 149 / Topics in Casting for Jewelry and Small Sculpture: multiples and modular design, Spring 2014, Course Schedule

The schedule is subject to change with fair notice. Any updates will be emailed to students using the email provided by the student to the University.

After our first scheduled casting, every Monday will be an investing day and every Wednesday will be a casting day. In order to keep a safe and efficient workflow there will be no investing on Thursdays.

Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 1    | 1/27/14    | Introduction, Cuttlebone  
Demo: jewelers saw, and finishing                                                                       |
|      | 1/29/14    |                                                                                                        |
| 2    | 2/3/14     | Last day to cast cuttlebone, Introduction to Carving wax  
Process sample 1 due  
Introduction to lost wax casting  
Work on Process sample 2 |
|      | 2/5/14     |                                                                                                        |
| 3    | 2/10/14    | Demo: spruing and investing  
1st day to invest (M)  
Demo: centrifugal casting  
1st day to cast (W)  
Demo: Flexshaft safety & buffing wheels |
|      | 2/12/14    |                                                                                                        |
| 4    | 2/17/14    | Blog due (1), Invest  
Introduction to Project 1, Cast                                                                           |
|      | 2/19/14    |                                                                                                        |
| 5    | 2/24/14    | Process sample 2 due  
Demo: Alginate molds and soft wax  
Work on molds  
Blog due (2) |
|      | 2/26/14    |                                                                                                        |
| 6    | 3/3/14     | Invest 1st wax  
Cast bronze                                                                                                  |
|      | 3/5/14     |                                                                                                        |
| 7    | 3/10/14    | Invest Bronze  
Cast silver                                                                                               |
|      | 3/12/14    |                                                                                                        |
| 8    | 3/17/14    | Demo: soldering 101  
Demo: soldering cont’d  
Blog due (3)                                                                |
|      | 3/19/14    |                                                                                                        |
| 9    | 3/24/14    | Spring Break!  
Campus closed                                                                                              |
<p>|      | 3/26/14    |                                                                                                        |
| 10   | 3/31/14    | Ceaser Chavez Day – Campus closed                                                                           |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/2/14</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to the Lego challenge</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Project 1 due</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Blog due (4)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4/7/14</td>
<td><strong>ATC Week- visit galleries (time permitting)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Demo: Rubber molds, multiples</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Work on shell cycle</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Open Lab- no class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/9/14</td>
<td><strong>Work on shell cycle</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Open Lab- no class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>4/14/14</td>
<td><strong>Writing Assignment Due</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Demo: Spruing multiples</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Demo: Vacuum casting</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>(Iron Pour Prep)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/16/14</td>
<td><strong>Demo: Vacuum casting</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>(Iron Pour Prep)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>4/21/14</td>
<td><strong>Blog due (5)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Individual meeting</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Individual meeting continued</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/23/14</td>
<td><strong>Individual meeting continued</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>4/28/14</td>
<td><strong>Work on final project</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Work on final project</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/30/14</td>
<td><strong>Work on final project</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>5/5/14</td>
<td><strong>Last day to invest</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Last Day to Cast</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5/7/14</td>
<td><strong>Last Day to Cast</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>5/12/14</td>
<td><strong>Final critique and potluck- All work and extra credit due</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mandatory class cleanup</strong></td>
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