

San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
Art 168, Topics in Woodworking: Wood Sculpture

Section 1, Fall 2019

Instructor:	Shannon Wright
Office Location:	Art 119
Telephone:	Use email
Email:	shannon.wright@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Thursday 11.15PM to 1.15 PM and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Friday 9.30 AM to 3.30 PM
Classroom:	Art 108
Prerequisites:	Art 13 or instructor consent

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on our class Canvas page. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU. Please make sure your email notifications are turned on, or you will miss announcements.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to sculptural processes that use wood as the primary material. A wide variety of woodworking processes will be taught. These include milling wood on the jointer, planer and table saw; turning wood on the lathe; using the band saw, sanders and drill presses, hand carving, making bent laminations, and so on. Class time will be divided between classroom lectures, wood shop demonstrations and supervised work time. Students will turn a hardwood carving mallet on the lathe as a technical exercise. They will then complete two fully-realized sculpture projects. Three units.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

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

CLO1 Safely use a wide variety of power tools and hand tools to create sculptural objects plus one technical exercise (mallet) completed on the lathe. Tools demonstrated and supervised will include the wood lathe, the jointer and planer, band saws, sanders, drill press, table saw, carving gouges and a variety of other hand tools.

CLO2 Apply technical skills in inventive ways to respond to the conceptual prompts, in order to create between two and four sculptures over the course of the semester.

CLO5 Employ an iterative process of concept development and materials-testing in the creation of sculptural artworks.

CLO6 Incorporate concepts from slide lectures and videos about contemporary sculpture into your projects, and describe them in critiques.

CLO7 In critiques, discuss the roles historical processes like wood carving play in contemporary art, and their relationship to new processes like CNC routing.

CLO8 Professionally present wood sculpture work in a gallery-ready form.

Required Texts/Readings

A selection of excerpted course readings will be available online in PDF form for you download and print, through the class Canvas site.

These readings will be referenced in the Wood Sculpture Techniques and Concepts quiz.

- 1) Chris Pye's Woodcarving Course and Reference Manual
- 2) Dick Onians, *Essential Woodcarving Techniques*, Guild of Master Craftsman Publications, 1997
- 3) Michael Cullen, Turn A Carver's Mallet, in Fine Woodworking magazine online, 2012, The Taunton Press

Supplemental Reading on Canvas

Understanding Wood, R. Bruce Hoadley
Hand Tools, Their Ways and Workings, Aldren A. Watson
The Woodworker's Guide to Making Jigs, Fixtures and Setups, David Schiff and Kenneth S. Burton, Jr.
Sculpture Magazine

Resources for Researching Contemporary Sculpture

Hyperallergic online magazine

Sculpture Magazine (Spatial Art has a subscription)

Classroom Omnilock Code: Will be announced In class. Do not pass out to others.

Library Liaison

Rebecca Kohn 408 808 2007

Materials and Tools Needed

Expect to spend between \$25 and \$100 on wood, dependent on the projects you design.

Clothing:

Dress for working in the Shop— No open-toed shoes (sandals), no loose clothing or jewelry, long hair must be tied back securely.

The Shop Safety Test

This is required for this class.

Students who use the shop facilities will be required to pay a \$20 fee to take the Shop Safety Test before they can use the facility. The fee must be paid prior to the student taking the Shop Safety Test. Students may pay at the Bursar's Office, located in the Student Services Center, directly into Fund 62089 with cash or check. The test and fee are required only once a calendar year, so if you took the test during the Spring 2019 semester, you will not be required to pay this fee again until Spring 2020. If you paid the fee in Fall 2019, you must pay the fee again for Fall 2020. The shop test is valid for one (1) calendar year.

In order to take the Shop Safety Test and use the School of Art & Design Shop Facilities, you must:

- Bring a receipt for the fee paid at the Bursar's Office into Fund 62089. The Bursar's Office accepts cash or check only.
- Be enrolled in at least one 3-unit Art or Design course during the Fall, 2019 semester.

You may watch the Shop Safety Test online at:

<http://www.sjsu.edu/at/atn/webcasting/events/shopysafety/>

The test is an open-notes test. I suggest writing EVERYTHING down that you can as you watch the video.

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) must be on file for all potentially hazardous materials before they can be used in any of the Art & Design facilities. Submit one copy of the material's MSDS to the department in Room 104 and a second copy to the faculty member or technician responsible for the facility where the material will be used. Please explain this to the students in your classes. This is a commonly missed question on the shop safety test and should be discussed with your class prior to the shop test.

The safety orientation and test are given only during the first 3 weeks of the semester, from **August 21st to September 13th**.

If a student misses more than three (3) questions on the safety test, or fails the Second Chance Test, your presence is required in the shop at all times while that student is working in the facilities. All students who wish to use the shop facilities must pass the shop safety test, no exceptions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

~PLEASE INCLUDE THIS INFORMATION ON YOUR GREEN SHEET FOR THE FALL 2019 SEMESTER~

Material Data Safety Sheets (MSDS) must be on file for all potentially hazardous materials before they can be used in any of the Art & Design facilities. Submit one copy of the material's MSDS to the department in Room 104 and a second copy to the faculty member responsible for the class in which the material will be used. **Please explain this to the students in your classes. This is a commonly missed question on the shop safety test and should be discussed with your class prior to the shop orientation.**

DATES AND HOURS OF OPERATION- FALL 2019

August 21st to December 9th.

NOTE: the operating hours below are based on historic allocations and do not reflect the impact(s) of any budget cuts that may occur. Check the posted schedule outside the shop for updated hours of operation. Please be aware that clean-up starts 30 minutes before closing.

MONDAY 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

TUESDAY 8:30 AM – 7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

THURSDAY 8:30 AM – 7:30 PM

FRIDAY 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Classroom Protocol

You must attend all equipment demonstrations in order to be allowed to use the equipment in the Wood Shop. If you did not see my demonstration on how to use a

particular machine or perform a particular process, you must request a repeat demonstration from the TA. There will be a sign-in sheet for each class's demonstration.

Do not perform any process for this class if you did not see a safety demonstration on that process, or if you have forgotten any detail of the demonstration.

Cell phones and laptops should remain put away in this class, unless we are specifically doing a Google search or a calculation within a critique or a discussion. Texting during a slide lecture or a technical demonstration is absolutely unacceptable.

Email addresses:

Faculty can email a whole class at once through MySJSU and also through Canvas. Make sure the University has your correct email address, or you won't receive my or other instructor's emails about class-related issues.

Questions:

It is important that you ask any and all questions you have as we go along. If you are confused about an assignment, or if I haven't made something clear, please ask me in class or stop by during my office hours. I will be happy to discuss a project at any stage with you.

Emergency Phone Numbers:

Emergency: dial 911 (FROM A SCHOOL PHONE, NOT A CELLPHONE!)

Escort Service: dial 42222

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/>

Library Liaison

Gareth Scott

email: gareth.scott@sjsu.edu

phone: (408) 808-2094

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library

4th Floor Administration Offices

Art and Art History Resources: <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/Art>

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Projects

Grading:

Turn a hardwood carving mallet on the lathe	10%
Equipment and Safety Quiz	10%
First Sculpture Project	25%
Second Sculpture Project	25%
Class Participation:	25%
Class Show install and de-install	5%

Class Participation refers to involvement in lectures, safety and technical demonstrations, videos, field trips and supervised work time in the wood shop, cleaning up after yourself in shop, helping one another with glue-ups, etc. Students will be expected to enter two to three sentences commenting on the day's demo, lecture or critique, via Canvas for each class session. In an all-day class, one class is equal to two normal class sessions.

NOTE that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “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 insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

Grading Policy

(Instructor reserves the right to change an assignment with adequate advance notice.)

Grades will be assigned according to University policy from A to F as outlined in the SJSU catalog. All work must be finished and turned in according to ascribed deadlines and instructions.

I will assign you a numerical grade for each of your projects in this class, as follows:

97-100 = A+

93-96 = A

90-92 = A-

87-89 = B+

83-86 = B

80-82 = B-

77-79 = C+

73-76 = C

70-72 = C-

67-69 = D+

63-66 = D

60-62 = D-

59 and below = F

A= Excellent work

B= Above average work

C= Average work

D= Below average work

F= Unsatisfactory work

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See [University Policy F13-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf> for more details.

Penalty for Late Work

Projects will lose 7 points per week that they are late (1 point per day,) unless proof of illness or extraordinary circumstances is presented.

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Final Examination or Evaluation

Tuesday, December 17, 7.15 AM to 9.30 AM

This exam slot will be used for a mandatory classroom cleanup.

University Policies (Required)

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/>”

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Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/23 AM	Class intro, slide show, demos toward mallet project. Video: Ursula von Rydingsvard.
1	PM	Safety video, Fill out review. Homework: pay shop test fee at Bursar's office, study for test.
2	8/30 AM	9.30: go over test review. 10.30: Shop Test.
2	PM	Milling re-demo, then class mills up beech for mallets. End of class: I will glue up 3 thicknesses of beech for demo mallet.
3	9/6 AM	Demo: bandsawing the blank into an octagon. Turning with the duplicator. Students glue up blanks.
3	PM	Demo: finishing on the lathe without duplicator. Students try turning with small pieces of basswood, first.
4	9/13 AM	Slide show on carving and other processes. Intro to sharpening and carving. Students meet with me one on one to discuss ideas for first and second sculpture projects while others turn on lathe.
4	PM	Video: Tony Cragg. Demo: laser cutting, and using a laser template to cut thicker wood using the bandsaw followed by the router.

5	9/20	AM	Students work on individual projects
5		PM	Hour-long demo at end of class: multi-sided edge mitres (octagonal tubes, etc.) More carving demos.
6	9/27	AM	Slide show and video, Martin Puryear. Mallets are due.
6		PM	Hour-long demo at end of class:
7	10/4	AM	Field trip to MacBeath hardwood in Berkeley to purchase 12/4 basswood.
7		PM	Put wood away upon return.
8	10/11	AM	Sculpture slide show. Vocabulary quiz. Then work time for first project.
8		PM	Demos as needed. Last hour of class: bent lamination demonstration.
9	10/18	AM	Present final sculpture plan to me, one on-one, per sign-up sheet. Collect necessary materials before first work day for second project.
9		PM	Supervised work time for first sculpture project.
10	10/25	AM	Critique of First Sculpture Project
10		PM	Photo shoot and work time.
11	11/1	AM	Working with the "Tenonator", inventing connective systems. Begin work on second project.
11		PM	Supervised work time with demos as needed
12	11/8	AM	Demo: working with paint finishes.
12		PM	Supervised work time
13	11/15	AM	Week to be confirmed: Install class show!
13		PM	Gallery access usually begins at 1 PM.
14	11/22	AM	Carving demos and other demos as needed.
14		PM	Supervised work time.
15	11/29	AM	Thanksgiving
15		PM	Thanksgiving
16	12/6	AM	Critique of Second Sculpture Project
	PM	Afternoon: photo shoot of pieces
Final Exam	Tues, 12/17		7.15-9.30 Classroom cleanup