

**San José State University**  
**Department of Art and Art History**  
**Art 47: Introduction to Metalsmithing, Section 01**  
**Spring Semester 2021**

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor(s):	Yvonne Escalante
Office Location:	Virtual office hour will be held on Zoom. A link will be provided on the Canvas course page
Email:	<a href="mailto:Yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu">Yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu</a>
Office Hour:	Tuesday 3:30 – 4:30 pm and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday / Thursday 9:00 – 11:50 am
Classroom:	<a href="http://sjsu.instructure.com">http://sjsu.instructure.com</a>
Prerequisite:	None

**Course Description**

Introduction to tools, materials, and techniques for small-scale metal work. Primer course for metalsmithing and jewelry.

**Course Format**

(Activity)

**Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses**

This course is designed as a hybrid studio course and an online studio course. Asynchronous class lectures and demonstrations will be prerecorded and available on Canvas or YouTube. Synchronous lectures, demonstrations, and office hours will be held on Zoom. Occasional in-person meetings will be scheduled with small cohorts and will meet in Art building, Room 210, the Art Quad, or at the [SJSU Foundry](#) located at 1036 South Fifth Street, San Jose, CA 95112. For students who are able, opportunities to participate in in-person campus activities will be scheduled as safety and health guidelines allow. **For students not able to attend in-person activities, alternative online content will be available to fulfill the requirements of each project.**

**Students participating in on-campus activities** must comply with [SJSU's health and safety protocol](https://www.sjsu.edu/healthadvisories/health-safety-protocols/index.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/healthadvisories/health-safety-protocols/index.php>) Students must review these policies prior to participation.

Students will need internet connectivity to access the Canvas course page, watch demonstration videos and lectures and to participate in discussion groups. A device that allows for digital documentation will be required to document and upload images of in-progress and finished work for submission to Canvas. This does not need to be a professional camera; a cell phone camera will suffice.

### **Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging**

All course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](http://my.sjsu.edu) at <http://my.sjsu.edu> and Canvas to learn of any updates.

### [A guide to getting started in canvas](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-18574-getting-started-with-canvas-as-a-student)

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### **Course Goals**

This course is designed to introduce correct and safe use of basic tools, equipment, and techniques used in the creation of jewelry and small-scale sculpture. As the semester progresses, students will build a toolkit of skills that will provide a strong foundation for further exploration in metals and an understanding of how these techniques can be applied to alternative materials and disciplines. Discussions, readings, one-on-one meetings, and practice will aid in developing and identifying expectations of craft, successful design development, and independent problem solving. This knowledge will be applied to complete 3 Modules.

### **Students in this course will:**

Gain confidence and proficiency in the use of tools and equipment associated with basic fabrication, casting, and stone setting in non-ferrous metals. In addition, students will understand and apply the vocabulary and terminology used in jewelry and small metals to create, discuss, and critically review works. Upon completion of this course students will have a clear understanding of all shop safety protocol and industry best practices.

### **Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

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

- CLO1: Identify and safely use tools and equipment associated with techniques covered.
- CLO2: Apply techniques covered in demonstrations to create finished work that meets expectations outlined in each assignment.
- CLO3: Apply the lost wax process to cast and finish a piece in silver.
- CLO4: Participate in and contribute to the critical evaluation of finished work through active involvement in instructor-led class critiques.
- CLO5: Apply the content described in course readings and individual research to the projects completed in the class.

### **Required Texts/Readings**

#### **Textbook (not required)**

Eco Jewelry Handbook: A practical guide for a healthy, safe and sustainable studio.

By Christine Dhen

ISBN: 9781929565740

May be purchased on through [riogrande.com](http://riogrande.com) or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

The Complete Metalsmith: An Illustrated Handbook by Tim McCreight

ISBN-10: 0871922401

ISBN-13: 978-0871922403

A class copy is available for reference in Art 210 during class and lab hours.

Students may purchase a copy at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) or at other book retailers.

Practical Casting: A Studio Reference, Revised Edition by Tim McCreight

ISBN-10: 096159845X

ISBN-13: 978-0961598457

A class copy is available for reference in Art 210 during class and lab hours.

Students may purchase a copy at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) or at other book retailers.

### **Other Readings**

- Required readings will be provided on Canvas in form of a pdf.

### **Other requirements**

#### **Tool kits**

To support your online studio experience, you are required to purchase tools. Though most tools are available for checkout, some tools will be required beyond what I can provide on loan.

#### **University tool kit**

A limited number of tool kits are available, through the lab, for checkout for the semester and will be distributed to local students who do not purchase kits. These kits will be available on a first come, first served basis. Please email me at [yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu](mailto:yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu) to request a kit. Students who check out kits are required to return tools in good working order upon the completion of the course.

#### **Purchase of supplemental tools (required)**

If you wish to check out a kit, you will still need to purchase a few additional tools not included in the kit.

Links will be provided on canvas. Expect to spend around \$60.

#### **Purchasing a tool kit (optional)**

For those who would like to own the tool kit or cannot come to check out tool kits, I will provide a list of tools and item numbers so that you may purchase your own. Otto Frei, a local jewelry retailer, has agreed to carry these kits and make them available for a discounted rate for SJSU students enrolled in a JSM course. Kits can be found at [OttoFrei.com](http://OttoFrei.com). A specific link will be provided once kits are available. Students should expect to pay around \$100- \$160 depending on what you already have available to you.

### **Materials**

A dedicated sketchbook for notes and design sketches and a small toolbox or tackle box is strongly recommended. Students are required to purchase silver and any materials or supplies that exceed the class allotment such as additional saw blades, sandpaper, and metal as needed for the completion of projects. Cost will vary from student to student depending on individual needs and current market prices. Students will be given fair warning when outside materials are needed as projects are assigned.

## Library Liaison

**Gareth Scott**

email: [gareth.scott@sjsu.edu](mailto:gareth.scott@sjsu.edu)

phone: (408) 808-2094

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library

4th Floor Administration Offices

## Department Advising

For information about majors and minors in Art & Art History, for a 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](mailto:art@sjsu.edu)

## 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>.

## Assignment Outline

### “Start Here” module

Introduction to the course and practice activities concluding with a practice Zoom session.

- Zoom session: 1/28/21, 1 point participation
- Introduction activities: 2/9/21, 4 points participation
- Safety quiz #1: 15 points

### 20 points participation

### Module 1: Primer Module

An introduction to basic tools and safety protocol for working with metal at home.

- Safety quiz #2 due 2/16/21, 10 points
- Self-assessment due 3/4/21, 5 points
- Zoom group discussion 3/4/21, 5 participation points
- Final samples due 3/4/21, 10 points
- Final discussion 3/4/21, 5 participation points

### 35 points

### Module 2: Snowflake Challenge

This project will apply the techniques learned in Module 1 to complete a finished pendant and chain.

- Designs due 3/11/21, 10 points
- Rivet samples 3/23/21, 10 points
- Self-assessment due 4/8/21, 10 points
- Discussion post due 4/6/21, 10 points
- Final piece due 4/6/21, 10 points
- Final discussion 4/6/21, 10 points participation

### 60 points

### **Module 3: Rings with Bling**

Introduction to soldering, forming silver, stone setting, and lost wax casting to create two rings with cabochon stone settings.

- Safety quiz #3, due 4/15/21, 15 points
- Wax due, 4/20/21, 10 points
- Fabricated ring due, 4/27/21, 10 points
- Cast ring due, 5/4/21, 10 points
- Self-reflective statement due, 5/13/21, 10 points participation
- Final rings due 5/13/21, 20 points
- Final critique 5/13/21, 10 points participation

**85 points**

### **Final Examination or Evaluation**

Final critique – The final critique will be held on the final day of instruction during the regularly scheduled time. All students are expected to participate in the critical discussion of the final project for participation points. This is the final day that late and extra credit work will be accepted for credit.

### **Grading Information**

#### **Assignment Format and Submission:**

This course requires students to complete an introduction module and four project-based modules. To ensure a safe and fruitful learning environment, students are required to complete and pass all safety tests and review equipment demonstrations before handling equipment. Students should be prepared to actively participate in all the course content including lectures, demonstrations, discussions, and critiques. Students are expected to budget time to work outside of class time to complete projects and exercises. Research, discussions, writing assignments, and final documentation will be submitted electronically to Canvas for evaluation. Grades and comments will be posted on Canvas along with a rubric detailing the point value earned. A final critique will be held on the scheduled final exam day.

#### **Determination of Grades**

- **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.

#### **If you missed a synchronous activity:**

- Recordings of all Zoom discussions will be available on Canvas. Please allow at least 24 hours for content to be posted.
- If the synchronous activities cannot be recorded it is the student's responsibility to obtain notes from a peer and contact me to make arrangements to make up participation points.
- Email me at [yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu](mailto:yvonne.escalante@sjsu.edu) to set up an appointment during office hours or to request an appointment outside of office hours. If you cannot make office hours, please **include three times** you are available to meet.
- You may come to my office hours for drop-in visits; however, this is first-come first-served and is limited to the time posted

#### **Evaluations will be based on:**

- Student's level of participation in discussions and critiques associated with each assignment.

- Student’s ability to successfully apply skills learned through demonstrations and practice to a finished work of their own design.
- Evidence of thoughtful project development through sketches, models, and research.

A grading rubric will be included with each assignment.

### Determination of Grades

- Numeric grades will be determined by the total points earned for all assignments including class participation. Letter grades will be given based on percentage equivalents.
- **Extra Credit** – Extra credit is welcome and encouraged in order for you to further explore any of the techniques covered. I may also offer extra credit in class as unforeseen opportunities arise. You may submit one extra credit piece worth up to 5% of your grade. Extra credit is given a point value based on complexity of the piece and quality of the end product. 5% is not guaranteed and can range from 1-5%.
- **Late projects** – Late projects will be accepted; however, 5% will be deducted from late work for each class meeting it is late and 10% for every week it is late. All late work must be submitted by the final critique for credit.
- **Missed participation** – Missed participation activities such as peer reviews and group discussions will not be accepted as late work. Students must request an alternative assignment to makeup participation points or take a zero for that activity. **\*Please note: in-person activities do not count as participation credit. These are activities scheduled to help facilitate completion of a project. If you are unable to attend in-person activities it will not negatively impact your grade if you follow the online project requirements.**
- **Class participation** – Participation is assessed as follows:
  1. Active participation in the critical evaluation of projects through class critiques.
  2. Active participation in class discussions.
  3. Active participation in group and peer reviews.

### Relative weight of course requirements:

1) Start Here module	10%
2) Module 1	17.5%
3) Module 2	30%
4) Module 3	42.5%

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>200 +</i>	<i>100% or more</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>185 -199</i>	<i>93 to 99%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>179 - 184</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>171 - 178</i>	<i>86 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>165 - 170</i>	<i>83 to 85%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>159 - 164</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>151 - 158</i>	<i>76 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>145 - 150</i>	<i>73 to 75%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>139 - 144</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>131 - 138</i>	<i>66 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>125 - 130</i>	<i>63 to 65%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>120 - 124</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>

## Classroom Protocol

### Zoom discussions

Zoom discussions will be scheduled throughout the semester. Students are expected to arrive on time and prepared to discuss the day's topic. Students will remain on mute unless presenting and will use the "raise hand" feature to ask questions or comment. In addition, students may use the chat feature to comment and ask questions. Students are not required to join with video turned on, but must be able to participate in the discussions as required by the topic.

If you miss a synchronous session or need to review content of a discussion, synchronous discussions will be recorded and archived on Canvas. All chats will also be archived and available to view by all.

Students are not allowed to record without instructor permission. Students are prohibited from recording class activities (including class lectures, office hours, advising sessions, etc.), distributing class recordings, or posting class recordings. Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. This university policy (S12--7) is in place to protect the privacy of students in the course, as well as to maintain academic integrity through reducing the instances of cheating. Students who record, distribute, or post these materials will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office. Unauthorized recording may violate university and state law. It is the responsibility of students that require special accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability to notify the instructor.

Students are expected to present themselves in a professional manner and treat all participants with respect.

### Zoom Classroom Etiquette

- **Mute your microphone:** To help keep background noise to a minimum, make sure you mute your microphone when you are not speaking.
- **Be mindful of background noise and distractions:** Find a quiet place to "attend" class, to the greatest extent possible.
  - Avoid video setups where people may be walking behind you, people talking/making noise, etc.
  - Avoid activities that could create additional noise, such as shuffling papers, listening to music in the background, etc.
- **Position your camera properly:** Be sure your webcam is in a stable position and focused at eye level.
- **Limit your distractions/avoid multitasking:** You can make it easier to focus on the meeting by turning off notifications, closing or minimizing running apps, and putting your smartphone away (unless you are using it to access Zoom).
- **Use appropriate virtual backgrounds:** If using a virtual background, it should be appropriate and professional and should NOT suggest or include content that is objectively offensive or demeaning.

### Submitting images

All images submitted must be documented on a solid neutral background with the object or subject matter in clear focus. Images may not be altered using editing software to improve the finish, form, or in any way falsely represent the object being submitted. Images must be saved as a .jpg before uploading to Canvas. Images must be of your original work and be supported by process documentation such as sketches and in-progress video or images. Formatting will be covered on Canvas.

### In-person activities

Students are required to **Review SJSU's Health and Safety Protocol** [here](https://www.sjsu.edu/healthadvisories/health-safety-protocols/index.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/healthadvisories/health-safety-protocols/index.php>) and must self-assess health prior to visiting campus. Students are required to wear appropriate face coverings at all times and maintain 6 feet of distance, and wash hands before and after using equipment, tools, and restrooms. Students must also abide by the facility health and safety protocol at all times while using the shop. Students failing to follow any of the above protocol will be asked to leave immediately.

### **Sign up for in-person activities**

Prior to all in-person activities, you will be prompted to sign up on Canvas to attend. You must be signed up by the deadline provided in order to attend any activity.

### **If you are unable to attend in-person activities**

All in-person activities are optional. **If you know you will not be participating in in-person activities for a module, you must request an alternative assignment.** Email me to arrange an alternative assignment.

### **Clothing for in-person activities**

- Always wear close-toed shoes during class even if you are not operating equipment.
- Keep long hair securely pulled back and remove any dangling jewelry or accessories (such as earbuds) before operating equipment.
- Remove any loose clothing that could get caught up in equipment prior to operation.
- Always wear safety glasses when operating equipment.
- When casting, you are required to have fire-resistant clothing on. Avoid synthetic fabrics such as polyester that can flash at low temperatures, resulting in severe burns. Long cotton or canvas pants such as jeans are required on casting days.
- Failure to comply with the shop clothing protocol will result in loss of lab privileges for the day or until student is appropriately clothed.

### **Timeframe for in-person activities**

In order to properly follow all cleaning guidelines and allow time for setting up temporary working stations, in-person activities will start 20 minutes after the scheduled class time. Activities will be required to stop and clean up 30 minutes prior to the end of class. These time limits are non-negotiable. Students who show up late, or are unprepared for the day's activities, will find it difficult to finish the scheduled activities in the time allowed. This can impact the success of the project.

### **Lab access outside of class**

There will be no lab access outside of scheduled activities. Please contact me directly to discuss concerns regarding this policy.

### **University Policies**

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo>), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

# Art 47, Section 01 / Introduction to Metalsmithing, Spring 2021

## Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change with fair notice. Notice of all changes will be made available through Canvas announcements and on the home page of the Canvas course page.

**In-Person (On-Campus) Activities:** Due to the rapidly changing health and safety guidelines and other factors beyond our control, scheduled activities could be cancelled on short notice. Please check Canvas prior to each scheduled event to confirm details have not changed.

**Review SJSU's health and Safety protocol [here](https://www.sjsu.edu/healthadvisories/health-safety-protocols/index.php)** (https://www.sjsu.edu/healthadvisories/health-safety-protocols/index.php) Students are required to self-assess health prior to visiting campus for any reason.

### Course Schedule

Module	Date	Topics and Activities	Deadlines *all assignments are due before the start of class.	On Campus activity *Subject to change
Start Here	01/28/21	<b>Zoom practice activity:</b> Meet, Greet, and Q & A	Schedule kit pickup/ order tools	
	02/02/21	Work on Intro activities		
	02/04/21	Work on Intro activities		
Module 1	02/09/21	Zoom discussion: introduction to Module 1	First week activities due	
	02/11/21	Begin Module 1 reading and videos		
	02/16/21	Materials pickup	Safety Quiz #2 due	Scheduled facility tours and kit pick-up
	02/18/21	Materials pickup	<b>Kits and tools required by 2/18 to continue</b>	Scheduled facility tours and kit pick-up
	02/23/21	Work on module		
	02/25/21	Zoom check in		
	03/02/21	Last day to work Module 1		
	Module 2	03/04/21	Zoom intro to Module 2	Module 1, discussion post and self-assessment due
03/09/21		Work on designs		
03/11/21		Work on designs	Designs due	
03/16/21		Zoom group discussion		
03/18/21		Rivets		
03/23/21		Metal finishes at home	Rivet samples due	

<b>Module</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics and Activities</b>	<b>Deadlines *all assignments are due before the start of class.</b>	<b>On Campus activity *Subject to change</b>
	03/25/21	Patina at home		Scheduled kit pick-up
	03/30/21	<b>Spring Recess – No Class</b>		
	04/01/21	<b>Spring Recess – No Class</b>		
Module 3	04/06/21	Zoom Intro to Module 3	Final pendant due	Scheduled kit pick-up
	04/08/21	Wax working	Module 2 discussion and self-assessment due	
	04/13/21	ATC / Making a ring		
	04/15/21	Soldering	Safety Quiz #3 due	
	04/20/21	Solder shank	Wax due	Scheduled foundry workday/ wax drop-off
	04/22/21	Preparing for the bezel		
	04/27/21	Solder bezel/ pick up castings	Fabricated ring due	Scheduled foundry workday/ pick up castings
	04/29/21	Stone setting		
	05/04/21	Solder bezel	Cast ring due	Scheduled foundry workday
	05/06/21	Work on rings		
	05/11/21	Final work day		Scheduled foundry workday
	05/13/21	Final critique	Module 3 due <b>All work including late and extra credit due</b>	
<b>Final Exam</b>	05/20/21	<b>7:15 am – 9:30 am</b> Tool/ Material drop-off, Art pickup		