

San José State University
Department of Art & Art History
Art 003, Medium and Message, 1, Fall, 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Prajakti Jayavant

Office Location: Zoom via CANVAS.

Email: prajakti.jayavant@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: M and W 10:15-10:45 AM or by appointment.

Class Days/Time: M and W 9:00- 10:15 AM

Classroom: On-line only.

Course Description

This undergraduate seminar introduces intermediate-level artists to a research and project-based approach to art making with a focus on contemporary, idea-appropriate mediums and methods.

Course Format Technology Intensive, Hybrid, Online Courses

On-line only. Access Zoom via CANVAS on the SJSU website. Students will receive invitations to class from the Instructor on the day that class will be held. These invitations are accessed through student messages on the CANVAS site for this class. Computer with internet access, microphone, and camera are required.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

CLO1: Demonstrate knowledge about different media.

CLO 2: Demonstrate and apply knowledge about the relationship of medium and content.

CLO 3: Demonstrate fluency in the language of visual critique.

CLO 4: Demonstrate sensitivity to a variety of media and cultural modes of representation.

CLO 5: Track their own iterative working progress.

Required Texts/Readings

All texts will be available on CANVAS.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

- Sketchbook and/or binder/folder. Suggested size: no smaller than 8" x 12".
- Basic art supplies and found objects. Plan on spending at least \$50-\$100.

Please communicate with instructor if you do not have access to the following:

- Camera. (Camera phone is fine.)
- Color printer

All course materials such as the syllabus, readings, links, and announcements are available on the CANVAS page for this class. Any changes to the syllabus will be posted on CANVAS. Students are responsible for checking the announcements weekly. The Instructor has archived heavily detailed information regarding every facet of this class on CANVAS. Students are responsible to consult questions of a logistical nature such as assignment details, due dates, course schedule, etc., on CANVAS. The Instructor is available to provide assistance and feedback for art projects and written assignments via email

Library Liaison

Liaison 4th Floor Administration Offices Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library
Gareth Scott email: gareth.scott@sjsu.edu phone: (408) 808-2094

Course Requirements and Assignments

Studio activities, readings, videos, and writing assignments are designed to creatively and conceptually build upon, define and redefine ideas regarding subject, content, material, and method. Individuality, collaboration, logistical comprehension, innovative thinking, art history and culture are all topics that are built into the assignments.

There are two main projects that will be worked on mainly outside of class. Some class time will be allotted for individual feedback throughout the semester.

Project 1: 'Capsule' will be completed and critiqued first.

Final Project: 'Touchstone' will be worked on throughout the duration of the semester. Your Touchstone will be executed as two separate artworks. Each artwork will be made in different media. Students decide their own Touchstone ideas and media. The critiques for Final Project: 'Touchstone' will take place at the end of the semester.

Reading and writing assignments range from analytical to more freeform and creative. These topics serve as idea generators and things to consider in the context of different disciplines and projects. Questions or prompts will be given by the Instructor for each writing assignment. Responses should be at least 250 words and submitted via CANVAS. Responses are to be turned in on the due date at the beginning of class.

Visual art assignments are smaller exercises for students to experience the possibilities of meaning, materials, and art making. These are meant to be exploratory and experimental. Use your imagination. Participation includes engaging in discussion, being prepared with the appropriate materials or assignments, overall effort and growth.

Important: I introduce concepts that interweave in complex ways. These concepts are developed, discussed, and integrated within the projects. Students are expected to maintain a consistent studio practice; be willing to learn; to move past their comfort zones; to exhibit significant effort for reading, writing, and art assignments. The enthusiasm and extent of your learning ultimately depends on the individual. The more effort that is put in, the greater the outcome for success in this class. Further information about teaching philosophy, art critique, fine art requirements, reading and writing guidelines are available on CANVAS.

[*University Policy S16-9*](#), “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 three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Final Examination or Evaluation

The final exam is the written response that students complete on their own prior to the final exam date.. Students must turn in this written assignment on the final exam day of the semester.

More details can be found in [University policy S17-1](#) which states that “Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”

Grading Information

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

- **IMPORTANT:** Plagiarism and the submission of former art projects are strictly prohibited.

Plagiarism and the recycling of art projects are against school policy. Any assignments that are suspect of these offenses are required to be reported to and disciplined by the administration. Please familiarize yourself with the defining factors of plagiarism.

- Basic grading structure is as follows: 2 Main Projects=40%; Visual/ Writing/ Reading Assignments=45%; Final Exam = 5%; Participation=10%.

- Visual/ Writing/ Reading Assignments will be 2-5 points each. The grade given in points for each assignment reflects the competence and creativity of each assignment. For example: If an assignment is worth 5 points, a grade of 'D' would be 1 point and a grade of 'A' would be 5 points.

Determination of Grades

A = Excellent ; B = Above average ; C = Average ; D = Below average ; F = Unsatisfactory

*Effort and growth are the key factors for success in this class. *

Instructor will assess grades by the competency, effort, and growth of each student's: participation; preparedness; effort; ability to meet deadlines; creative thinking; critical thinking; writing competence; execution and craftsmanship of ideas.

Grades are determined by college level standards for the Fine Arts. This includes text comprehension and writing quality. Crafts and video games are not appropriate for this class.

- Late assignments will automatically be marked down by one third of the original grade. It is always in the student's best interest to, at the absolute least, attempt each assignment.
- Failure to turn in three assignments will lower the final grade by one entire letter grade. Ex. If final grade was A, it drops to B. Failure to turn in 6 assignments will lower the final grade by two letter grades. Ex. If final grade was A, it drops to C. The final grade continues to drop when assignments are not completed or are not completed by the due date.
- Missing main projects will receive a grade of F.
- Materials are the essence of this class. Without the proper materials, you will not be able to successfully participate in the day's class. Not being prepared will lower your grade.
- No extra credit will be given.
- The quality of writing is expected to be at the college level. Writing should be focused, academic, professional, creative, and critical. Overt uses of quotations and paraphrasing are not acceptable. Students are expected to critically assess ideas and to thoroughly develop their own thoughts.
{Accommodations will be made for students with learning disabilities and for students whose primary language is not English.}

Classroom Protocol

Students are required to complete all assignments by the due date. This includes: main projects, visually based art assignments, readings, written responses and any other assignment as indicated on the syllabus. All media must be submitted by the exact file types specified by the Instructor. Individual small resolution jpeg and pdf files are preferred. Do not send links to other websites, platforms, etc. The most effective connection for Zoom is a computer. The extra use of phones, laptops, tablets, etc. are prohibited with these exceptions: 1) Family emergency or urgent health matter. 2) Designated photograph taking time for specific projects. 3) Specific film/ video projects. Note: No person or audio may be recorded without consent. 4) Documentation of artwork. 5) As technological assistance for accessibility purposes.

All class participants are expected to be visible by turning their computer cameras on for the duration of the class and for any other appointments with the Instructor. Being visible is a respectful gesture towards being part of a class community. Accommodations can be made if necessary. Students will be normally muted but may use the chat window or the raise hand icon to communicate. Please note that the Instructor will field these requests after the lectures and pertinent information for the class have been presented.

Classes will be recorded to the cloud on Zoom by SJSU. Recordings will never be published by students.

Students are required to bring in all necessary materials for each class.

For the interest of health and safety only use materials that are inanimate, non-flammable, and nonhazardous. Human and other animal substances are strictly prohibited. Please be mindful when using sharp objects such as hand or power tools on your own.

All students are expected to equally participate in class discussions and smaller group discussions. Please be visible to your fellow classmates during these sessions. Each class session is designed to build upon the next in complex ways. Students who miss class are responsible for catching up on their own. Do not rely solely on recordings, as technical issues do arise.

Every person is expected to conduct ourselves with respect for one another. Aggressive behavior, verbal insults, harassment, manipulative tactics, and inappropriate words or actions will not be tolerated. Such behavior will be reported to the appropriate university personnel for further assessment and possible dismissal from the class.

The role of the Instructor is to evaluate, question, guide, challenge, and provide critical feedback to students. Effort, application of ideas, attitude, and ultimately, learning, are all student responsibilities.

I am available to address questions and concerns during office hours or by appointment. Emails will be answered within a few days. If you would like extra help with a particular assignment, please contact me in a timely manner. All assignment materials are available on CANVAS which grants students ample time for review. Do not wait until the last minute or after the assignment is due for assistance. Please note that technology support, academic and personal counseling are available free of charge to students. These are the appropriate channels to attain such specified assistance

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](#) , 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](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/> Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Additional Information

Details available on SJSU website.

Disability Resource Center (DRC) Administrative building 110. Phone: (408) 924-6000

Educational Counseling: (408) 924-5910

Academic Tutoring via the Writing Center: (408) 924-2308 writingcenter@sjsu.edu

Personal Counseling: (408) 924-5910

Campus Technology Support:(408) 924-2337 ecampus@sjsu.edu

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(H)(PHOT) 116, 408-924-4320 art@sjsu.edu

Art 3/ Medium and Message, Fall 2021, Section 1

**Syllabus is subject to change per the discretion of the Instructor. Students will be notified verbally during class and/ or as "Announcement" on CANVAS with fair notice.*

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	M 8/23	First day of class. Introduction.
1	W 8/25	Topic: Characteristics of materials.
2	M 8/30	Topic: Identifying line through photography.
2	W 9/01	Topic: Constructed lines.
3	M 9/06	Labor Day. No class.
3	W 9/08	Lecture.
4	M 9/13	Introduction to 'Capsule' project.
4	W 9/15	Topic: Texture/ Adhesion/ Support.
5	M 9/20	Topic: Joseph Cornell.
5	W 9/22	Lecture.
6	M 9/27	Topic: Alexander Calder.
6	W 9/29	Studio/ meetings.
7	M 10/04	Studio/ meetings.
7	W 10/06	Lecture.
8	M 10/11	Midterm critiques group 1.
8	W 10/13	Midterm critiques group 2.
9	M 10/18	Midterm critiques group 3.
9	W 10/20	Midterm critiques group 4.
10	M 10/25	Lecture.
10	W 10/27	Discussion on reading.
11	M 11/01	Lecture.
11	W 11/03	Topic: Video.
12	M 11/08	Lecture.

12	W 11/10	Discussion on reading.
13	M 11/15	Discussion on reading.
13	W 11/17	Studio/ meetings.
14	M 11/22	Studio/ meetings.
14	W 11/24	Final Critiques: Group 4.
15	M 11/29	Final Critiques: Group 3.
15	W 12/01	Final Critiques: Group 2.
16	M 12/06	Final Critiques: Group 1.
Final Exam	R 12/09	Zoom. Thursday, December 9. Time: 7:15 AM – 9:00 AM