

Course Syllabus
Book Arts
ARTS 4309, Section 01, CRN: 20819
3 credit hours
Spring 2018

Class Location: Art Complex, Art Building A, Room 103
Class Meeting Times: Monday, Wednesday, 3:00pm-5:50pm

Instructor: Professor Kate Borcharding
Office Location: Huntsville Campus, Art Complex, Art Building A, Room 103B
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Office hours: M, W: 11:00 -12:00, or by appointment

Course Description

In this course students explore artistic expression in the form of handcrafted books. These artists' books utilize any art medium—with or without words, to create physical, visual expressions of an idea. Contemporary artists' books and their historic foundations are examined. Students will develop a working vocabulary of major bookbinding techniques concurrent with producing a series of artists' books during the semester.

In this ACE course you will not only learn knowledge, foundational techniques, and artistic skills, but also actively use them to make a difference in our community to improve the quality of life. This experience, it is hoped, will help you see yourself as a positive force in the world and deepen your understanding of your role as a citizen.

You each will be paired up with a student to work collaboratively with, and "mentor" through the project. Part of this ACE course introduces you to collaborative work with the community outside the university. Plan to spend 12-15 hours working on this ACE project. There will be a required written reflection at the conclusion of it.

In our ACE project this semester students in this course will partner with a senior citizen in Huntsville, Texas. These partnership teams will develop friendships through repeated shared visits, stories, letters, and exchanged visual/written materials about their lives. The students will take the shared material, analyze it, and create a Book Arts project inspired by their findings and visits. Students will share their progress on the book with their partners. Two final copies of the books will be made, with one copy being presented to the community partner on their final visit at the end of the semester. One reflection paper will be required at the end of the project.

Learning Objectives

1. Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
2. Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories
3. Developing creative capacities
4. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decision skills)
5. To understand and master research gathering and translation development skills for visual projects (“Diversity Project”)
6. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments and points of view.

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand print terminology
2. Master foundational print methods
4. Master more skills in developing conceptual, analytical, and creative thinking skills
5. Master more skills in developing sound and exhaustive methods in visual problem solving
6. Develop a series of related print ideas

Textbook and Required Materials

Please see attached material supply list.

This semester there is not a required text. A copy of the recommended text, *The Complete Printmaker* by Ross and Romano is in the classroom, and in the library.

General Class Policies

1. Your sketchbook is required for all class sessions. They may be graded monthly.
2. Follow class rules, safety rules, and clean up procedures or lose your privilege to work independently in the print studio. If you continue to not follow class rules you will be asked to leave class and counted absent for that day.
3. Technical demonstrations are a very important part of this class. **Take notes and ask lots of questions!**
4. Class related Questions: First, read the handouts, assignments and calendar. If you do not understand, or find the answer, please ask.
5. Participate fully in every class, because discussion about and viewing other student prints are very important learning tools.
6. **Listening to music or the use of headphones is not allowed during class. Your grade will be lowered if you do.**
7. Semester end shop clean up is mandatory. If you do not participate your grade

will suffer.

Attendance Policy

Due to the nature of this studio class I have a strict attendance policy.

Being late, leaving early or lack of attendance will negatively affect your final grade.

After two absences, your grade will be lowered 1 grade per absence.

After 6 absences, you will automatically fail the course.

Two times arriving late or leaving early equals one absence.

If you arrive late or leave early it is your responsibility to tell me, or you will be marked absent. In general, **I do not accept excused absences except for emergencies beyond your control.**

***Remember**, other class field trips and activities that are held during this class time are not excused absences. Doctor's notes are not automatically excused, and are considered on an individual basis. **Plan your missed days carefully to avoid missing demonstrations. It is your responsibility to get notes from another student if you miss class.** Emergencies are treated on an individual basis. Contact me as soon as possible so that we may work toward a successful outcome.

In general, for things to work smooth in this course, communicate with me as soon as possible whenever you know you will miss class or have missed class.

****If you do not have your supplies to work at the beginning of class you will be marked absent.**

Grading Policy

Your final grade will be an average off all given grades, which are weighted equally.

These include homework grades, in-progress grades, project grades, **ACE Book Arts project, ACE written reflection**, quizzes, critique grades, review grades, research and idea generation assignments, sketchbooks. ***Remember** your grade is based on much more than your finished prints. **Your final grade may also reflect your classroom demeanor, effort, and ambition.**

Grading scale

A = 100-90 (superior work, going well beyond the minimums all areas)

B = 80-89 (above average work, going beyond the minimums)

C = 70-79 (average work, doing exactly what the minimums specify)

D = 60-69 (below average work, not understanding a concept, or technique)

F = 59 and below (not acceptable, not completing out of class work, missing the big picture, come talk to me immediately to remedy the situation!)

****Read project sheets carefully. They list objectives for each project and the grading criteria.**

Homework/ In-Progress Grades

Homework and in-progress are **essential** for progress to be made in this course.

They will bring your final grade down quickly if you do not complete them fully.

Here is how it works: **Complete all of the in-progress / homework that has been assigned prior to the next class meeting. If you have completed 100 percent of the assigned work you will be checked off, or assigned a grade. If the work is not completed 100 percent you receive a grade of 0.** Here is a real world example taken out of my grade book to show what will happen to your final grade if you elect not to do your in-progress / homework. The following student at the end of the semester had the following 8 grades recorded, one of them being a 0 on an in-progress grade. (65, 78, 0, 85, 93, 70, 90, 81) giving an average of 70, which translates into a low C. With out the 0 that student would have averaged an 80, which translates into a B.

Late Work

Your project grade will be lowered one letter grade per day after the due date and time.

Not happy with your grade because you missed a concept or technique?

If you are not happy with a grade on a fully completed project that was turned in on time please come and talk to me immediately. I will help you figure out what you did not understand, and then you may redo and resubmit the project for a replacement grade.

All resubmitted work must be turned in prior to the last 2 weeks of class.

Make-up Work

In general I do not accept make-up work unless there have been circumstances beyond your control. In these cases contact me as soon as possible so I may work with you to create a successful make-up plan.

Course Calendar (brief): Detailed calendar is on a separate handout.

Wednesday 1/17:

-Class Introduction: syllabus, supplies, calendar, ACE Intro.

Monday, 1/22

-DEMO: Pamphlet Stitch and variations

Wednesday 2/24

-DEMO: Fold Books and variations

Monday 1/29

-Work Day: Artist Book 1

Wednesday 1/31

-Work Day: Artist Book 1

Monday 2/5

-DEMO: Long Stitch

-Class Presentations: Artist Book 1

Wednesday 2/7

-DEMO: Coptic Stitch

Monday 2/12

-Work on Artist Book 2

Wednesday 2/14

-Work on Artist Book 2

Monday 2/19

- Class Presentations: Artist Book 2
- DEMO: Compound books with Concertina structures

Wednesday 2/21

DEMO: Dos'- A-Dos, French-Door, Fold Outs

Monday 2/26

- Critique: Book Dummies and Ideas

Wednesday 2/28

- Orientation ACE Project
- Work on Book 3

Monday 3/5

- Work on Book 3

Wednesday 3/7

- Preparation and First visit with ACE Partner
- Work on Book 3

Monday 3/12 , 3/14

Spring Break-No Class

Monday 3/19

- Work on book 3
- Class Presentations: Book 3

Wednesday 3/21

- Preparation and Second visit with ACE Partner

Monday 3/26

- Class Critique.
- Work on Book 4

Wednesday 3/28

- Work Day Book 4

Monday 4/2

- Work Day Book 4
- Class Discussion

Wednesday 4/4

- Preparation and Third visit with ACE Partner

Monday 4/9

- Work Day Book 4

Wednesday 4/11

- Class Presentations and Critiques
- Work Day on Book 4 with remaining time

Monday 4/16

- Work Day Book 4

Wednesday 4/18

- Preparation and Forth visit with ACE Partner

Monday 4/23

- Work on Book 4

Wednesday 4/25

- Work on Book 4
- Class Critique

Monday 4/30

-Work on Book 4

Wednesday 5/2

-Work on Book 4

May 7-11 Finals

-Final Exam Date: Presentation of Artist Books to ACE Partner.

See detailed course calendar handout for more details and homework. Refer to each project sheet for project requirements.

Academic Dishonesty (ACADEMIC POLICY 3810213)

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: [Dean of Student's Office](#)

Students with Disabilities Policy (ACADEMIC POLICY #811006)

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/7ff819c3-39f3-491d-b688-db5a330ced92.pdf>

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy (ACADEMIC POLICY 3 861001)

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that

purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20....” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: [/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf](http://dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf)

Academic Grievance Procedures Policy (ACADEMIC POLICY 3 861001)

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/bb0d849d-6af2-4128-a9fa-f8c989138491.pdf>

Visitors in the Classroom

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

Use of Phone and Text Messaging in the Classroom

(ACADEMIC POLICY #100728)

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus impedes the mission of the university. Please *turn off or mute your cellular phone and/or pager before class begins*. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a directive to leave class or being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy

Department of Art BFA Review

The purpose of the BFA Review is to ensure that students have learned basic principles and techniques needed for advanced art courses.

All Art students must successfully complete all of the Art Foundation courses and the BFA Review before being accepted into a BFA program in Computer Animation, Photography, or 2323) and participate in a BFA Review at the end of the semester that they are enrolled in Typography (ARTS 3322).

For more information on the BFA review see the Department of art web page: <http://www.shsu.edu/academics/art/review/>

Defacing University Property

Defacing University property is prohibited by University policy. It is also a criminal offense. Students will be held responsible for the cost of damages to the facilities. Violations will be reported to University Police.

Students should not paint on concrete, asphalt, trees, sides of buildings, interior walls or floors of buildings, locker doors, etc. When using any kind of paint use a drop cloth or tarp to protect the surface from overspray.

Department of Art Laptop Requirement

Students in the Department of Art are required to own a laptop as specified by each BFA program. Macintosh laptops are strongly recommended and can be purchased at discounted rates for students. The specifications for each BFA program and links to the Apple Store can be found on the Department of Art website: <http://www.shsu.edu/academics/art/resources/laptop-initiative.html>. Students will be required to have laptops and the Adobe Creative Suite software in art courses that require computers. Laptops must meet or exceed the specifications described and be capable of interfacing with Department printers and other peripheral devices.

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A Final Note: Class Related Concerns

If you have class related concerns during the semester **please** talk to me immediately. I am here to help you succeed.