

Department of Art

AR 493(3) Professional Practices in Art

Class Time: Fridays 9:00 am–11:45 am, Tuesdays 5–7:45 pm.

Approved by the University Curriculum Committee on March, 8, 2012

Implementation begins Fall 2013

Course Description

Through a blend of reading, research and hands-on activities, this course focuses on practical issues concerning art students' readiness to enter the marketplace at the onset of their early professional lives in the field of visual art and design. This course is a mandatory course for BFA and BS/ED degrees but also offered as an elective for BS and BA degrees. (Junior Standing; Fall, Spring)

Course Objectives

- Learn future career and educational options beyond the undergraduate study.
- Understand how an artist/designer functions as a professional while maintaining personal creative productivity.
- Demonstrate advanced abilities in one area of art production or art theory.
- Gain working knowledge and skills relating to exhibitions, critiques and curatorial practices.

COE CF 1, 4; Alabama Standard/Rule 290-3-3-.31 Visual Arts (2) (b) 2. (iii) and (2) (b)2.(iv)

Standard	Assessment
290-3-3-.31(2)(b)2.(iii) Ability to demonstrate advanced abilities in one area of art production or art theory.	Students will identify their personal creative direction in studio art. They will develop a coherent portfolio, learn to craft a logical artist statement and document their artwork in preparation for exhibition.
290-3-3-.31(2)(b)2.(iv) Ability to exhibit their work and experience and participate in critiques and discussions of their artwork and the work of others	Students will participate in Lights and Shadows juried competition and exhibition within the University, as well as participating in regional/national competitions. They will lead gallery discussions for community outreach, interview mid-career artists, and visit commercial gallery establishments.

Required Reading

Practical Handbook for the Emerging Artist–Margaret R. Lazzari

Living the artist's life–Paul Dorrell

Course Topics

- Finding a personal voice and developing a body of work.
- Documenting artwork, preparing for exhibition and presenting artwork.
- Researching galleries, museum and other art venues.
- Writing on art—résumé, artist statement, project proposal and press release.
- Research on further educational opportunities.
- Artist in the marketplace—for profit or non-profit

Course Evaluation (grading)

- 30% Reading and Research Summaries
- 30% Gallery Exhibitions and Curatorial Practicum;
Working with the University Gallery Exhibition Program
- 20% Professional interview fieldtrips;
One independent artist studio and one commercial gallery
- 20% Community art center and museum engagements;
Two project assistance activities

Accommodation Statement

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University offers reasonable accommodations to students with eligible documented learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities as compared to an average person in the population. It is the responsibility of the student to contact Developmental Services prior to the beginning of the semester to initiate the accommodation process and to notify instructors within the first three class meetings to develop an accommodation plan. Appropriate, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow each student to meet course requirements, but no fundamental or substantial alteration of academic standards will be made. Students needing assistance should contact Developmental Services.