

Department of Visual Arts
Western University

Foundation of Visual Arts VAS 1020

Welcome to Foundation of Visual Arts at Western! This course outline and syllabus contain pertinent information about the Lecture and Studio Lab components of VAS 1020 including art materials and a timeline of the assignments and media that will be covered. You will also find important information about learning outcomes, Western University's Grade Descriptors and your responsibilities as a student in VAS 1020. We will go over the course outline in class, but please do read this document thoroughly and refer to it throughout the year.

Tricia Johnson

Calendar Description

A studio course designed to introduce students to the techniques and processes of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media; the formal and material concepts, which act as the foundation of direct studio practice, will be emphasized.

Please Note: Students are responsible for ensuring they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no fee adjustment. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Course Objectives

This course is an introductory studio survey where students will learn, discuss and investigate the fundamental formal, material and aesthetic concepts of art making. Such concepts will be discussed in the Lecture and will be investigated through the creation of visual exercises and artworks in the Studio Lab Assignments and Sketchbook Assignments. The course focuses primarily on two-dimensional media, but three-dimensional and time-based disciplines will be explored. Students are also encouraged to take full advantage of all Visiting Artist talks presented by the department, exhibitions at the ArtLAB and events in the Visual Arts Department as a member of our community here in Visual Arts.

Course Information

Instructor: Professor Tricia Johnson
Office: Room 215, John Labatt Visual Art Centre
519-661-2111 x 85721
tcjohnso@uwo.ca

Professor
Office Hours: Official hours – Tuesday & Wednesday 1:30 to 3:00 pm or by appointment

Lecture: North Campus Building (NCB) room 113

Monday 2:30 – 3:30pm

Studio Labs: John Labatt Visual Arts Centre room 302 or room 206

Studio Lab -002 Monday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -003 Tuesday, 8:30 – 11:30 am (room 302)
Studio Lab -004 Tuesday, 11:30 – 2:30 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -005 Tuesday, 2:30 – 5:30 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -006 Tuesday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -007 Wednesday, 8:30 – 11:30 am (room 302)
Studio Lab -008 Wednesday, 7:00 – 10:00 pm (room 302)
Studio Lab -009 Tuesday, 2:30 – 5:30pm (room 206)

Teaching Assistants:

Studio Lab -002 – Quintin Teszeri (qteszeri@uwo.ca) FALL
- Sarah Munro (smunro5@uwo.ca) WINTER
Studio Lab -003 – Michelle Wilson (mwils227@uwo.ca)
Studio Lab -004 – Claire Bartleman (cbart15@uwo.ca)
Studio Lab -005 – Tyler Durbano (gdurbano@uwo.ca)
Studio Lab -006 – Raheleh Saneie (rsaneie@uwo.ca)
Studio Lab -007 – Quinn Smallboy (qsmallbo@uwo.ca)
Studio Lab -008 - Joy Wong (jwong856@uwo.ca)
Studio Lab – 009 – Sharmistha Kar (skar2@uwo.ca)

Teaching Assistants office hours – by appointment

RECOMMENDED Text: *Art Fundamentals: Theory and Practice, 12th Edition* Ocvirk, Stinson, Wigg, Bone, Cayton Purchase copies 2nd hand at the BOOKSTORE in U.C.C.
(I refer to Ocvirk’s textbook a lot during lecture – it is an excellent resource. If you are new to art, you will find it very helpful)

Online: To facilitate VAS 1020, students can access the VAS 1020 OWL site through
<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

Learning Outcomes

Students will acquire a fundamental knowledge of the basic formal concepts and vocabulary of form, as presented and discussed during the VAS 1020 Lecture. Such concepts create the foundation for the design of artwork in 2D, 3D and time-based media.

Students will explore and apply this fundamental knowledge, discussed in the Lecture, in the creation of exercises and assignments, in the Studio Labs. Further independent exploration of formal and visual concepts will continue in the Sketchbook Assignments.

Students will recognize familiar and challenging formal approaches to subject matter throughout the course by applying different formal and technical strategies when creating subject matter observed

directly from life, subject matter created through self-imaginative exploration and subject matter appropriated from popular culture.

Students will analyze their knowledge and experience in creating their studio assignments by discussing their own artwork and the artwork of others during Critique, an end of assignment class presentation and discussion of the artwork in the Studio Labs. The Critique orally assesses how each artwork responds to the specific assignment objectives. Various Critique strategies will be employed by the Teaching Assistant for students to become more familiar with this discipline specific method of evaluation.

Final Grade will be comprised as follows:

| | |
|---|------------|
| Studio Lab Assignments (12 assignments – 3 at 3%, 1 at 4%, 1 at 5%, 6 at 7%, 1 at 10%) | 70% |
| Sketchbook Assignment submissions through OWL (10 assignments – 5 at 1%, 4 at 2%, 1 at 7%) | 20% |
| Commitment to Lecture and Studio Lab: <i>Which includes:</i> Attendance & Punctuality for Lecture and Studio Lab Preparedness (bringing materials to Studio Lab) Work Ethic in Studio Lab, including cleaning up Attention, Participation & Engagement in Lecture Participation & Engagement during Studio Lab discussions & critiques i.e. you are a student here to get the most out of VAS 1020! (5 points allotted each semester in December and April) | 10% |

Commitment to Lecture and Studio Lab marking Rubric

- 5/5 - Outstanding
- 4/5 - Very Good
- 3/5 - Good
- 2/5 - Satisfactory
- 1/5 - Unsatisfactory
- 0/5 - Unacceptable