

VAS3356A Advanced Media Audio.Video Fall 2018
Department of Visual Arts, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Western University

Class time: Tuesday 9:30-1:30

Location: VAC room 135/lab 134

Professor Daniela Snepova

Office: FNB 4087 Tuesday 1:45-2:45, or by appointment. Or VAC211 by appointment

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We live in a world where the screen has become a major interface for our culture. Video art, which exists only in conjunction with a screen (but not necessarily a flat rectangle), bridges a number of media practices including performance art, experimental cinema, broadcast television, sound art, music production, photography, sculpture and animation. Sound fills our everyday environments in a myriad of forms, but gets much less attention than visual media. The Audio component of this course involves an exploration of our sonic environment, both natural and constructed.

Advanced Media will take a closer look at the reciprocal relationship of sound and image across varied practices. Highlighted will be the history of audio and video art and its intersections both with other art genres and with commercial practices that utilize these media. The objects we refer to as “video” and “audio” are technologies that possess a range of social and cultural uses and meanings and possibilities. This course will explore their theory and practice in relation to contemporary art through lectures, screenings, listening sessions, discussions, readings, lab experimentation and studio projects.

Learning outcomes:

1. Advanced media will develop student technical skills in the use of the camera, lighting, and editing (Premiere Pro), and in audio production (mic technique, sound processing, mixing, editing).
2. Examining and understanding theoretical concepts related to the study of video and audio art and developing student analytic skills will enable students to better understand and articulate how meaning is created and structured through audio-visual practices.
3. The course will outline the historical development of moving image and audio techniques and technologies, their social and economic contexts, and the relationships between their aesthetic and political values.
4. Students will use these media as critical, discursive and expressive tools to develop creative works; to better understand the potential viability of their works; and to utilize reflection on their course work to explore and develop further projects in order to create a body of work for portfolios.

Evaluation:

Assignments

1 Gesture Assignment, Due Oct.2	22 %
2 Terrestrial Assignment, Due Nov. 6	22 %
3 Space + Time Assignment Due Nov 27	22 %
4 Online Portfolio Assignment Due Dec. 4	8 %
5 in-class exercises – ongoing:	13 %
ex 1 rig –solo (5%)	
ex 2 walk – group, in class (1%)	
ex 3 body pressure – solo (4%)	
ex 4 installation group, in class (3%)	

Participation/attendance

13%

Studio Assignments: Detailed descriptions of the studio assignments will be handed out in class and be available on-line via Owl. All completed studio assignments must include a 1-2-page (double spaced) artist statement that explores the conceptual and formal decisions the artist has made in relation to the assignment. This statement is not to be a description of what we see or hear or a defense of the project. Instead, it should demonstrate your ability to think critically about your work using concepts from class. You should also hand in preliminary sketches, notes, and research as documentation of the development process for each project. You will be expected to be regularly compiling this collection of materials throughout the term so that they can then be used in your class on-line portfolio. Students enrolled in the fourth year version of the course will have the option of developing their own, specific projects for assignments two and three.

Grading and Evaluation: Student performance will be based on an evaluation of:

1. Participation and attendance in class activities, active engagement in class discussions and critiques, including any assigned online discussions.
2. Innovation and determination in studio work as demonstrated in class projects and assignments. Grades for studio assignments are based on 4 categories: creativity, conceptual development, technical execution and resolution (the relationship between the concept and its manifestation).
3. A demonstrated understanding of relevant issues and theoretical problems introduced in the class, and the ability to integrate them into studio work and assignments.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Do not hand in work you created in or for another class, or work done by someone else (including words, ideas, images, or sounds). This is considered plagiarism, a serious scholastic offense resulting in an F on the assignment or in the course or ultimately in expulsion. For more information see the University's document on plagiarism in the undergraduate student handbook. If you use any material you did not create yourself you are responsible for citing it appropriately. In the case of a media work this means you must acknowledge all stills, video/film clips and audio, including music. If you intend to have your piece broadcast, you would need to get signed contracts and releases for all material included and for all the identifiable people who appear on screen.

In-class exercises will vary from week to week. Instructions will be handed out at the beginning of each class in which they are to occur. A detailed class schedule is available on-line on Owl.

Participation/attendance: You are expected to attend every class. Many in-class exercises build on knowledge acquired from class to class that you must participate in. You are expected to complete all reading assignments and actively engage in discussions. Pop quizzes related to the readings may also be given without notice, so come to class prepared.

Readings: Will be available on Owl. A detailed reading schedule is on-line.

Required Materials: sketch book for notes and storyboards or to use as a log book. A Mac compatible portable storage device to back up your files – minimum memory 32GB. A portable Hard drive is recommended. If you would like to work from a portable device and not just use it as storage, you

should purchase a HD that runs at 7200 and has a fast connection like thunderbolt, or USB3. For just backing up your files, a normal USB hard drive is fine. An SD card min. 16GB is needed for cameras and audio devices (for shooting video purchase a class 10 fast SD card).

Rules to know

Attendance is mandatory for all screenings, workshops, reading discussions and lectures. In the case of group assignments, you are responsible for keeping in contact with your group outside of class time in order to complete all required assignments.

Missing class time without proper (medical or other) documentation will have a negative impact on your final grade. Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for accommodation on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation must be submitted to the Academic Counseling office of a student's home Faculty. For UWO Policy on Accommodation For Medical Illness, see: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf> (downloadable Student Medical Certificate -SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading.

Being consistently late for class will be penalized. If you are more than 20 minutes late for class, you will be marked as absent.

Refrain from using cell phones or email during class time, since we only have 4 hours each week. All assignments must be completed; failure to do so will result in an automatic F for the course.

Assignments and papers not uploaded to the projects area on OWL, or directly handed to me, must be handed in at the VA main office for date stamping. Each assignment must be clearly labeled with: instructor name, student name, assignment, course title and number. Digital submissions to OWL must have the student name and assignment in their title, e.g., **janeDoe_alterEgo.mov**. Owl does not support large video files, so digital video assignments must be handed in on the teaching station, on a USB stick or hard drive.

All assignments must be handed in for final grading. Late assignments will lose 5 points for each day late. Assignments more than 7 days late will not be accepted.

You must keep a copy of all submitted projects/papers. Back up all of your digital projects (often). In case of lost materials, you are responsible for providing a replacement.

All students will have access to the OWL Sakai course site: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

**Western University
Visual Arts Department**

POLICIES

Student Conduct:

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryId=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_19

Attendance:

A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams, or participation in final studio evaluations. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.

Prerequisites:

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as 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 adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism, which may be defined as “The act or an instance of copying or stealing another’s words or ideas and attributing them as one’s own,” will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from Black’s Law Dictionary, 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170). (Refer to http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryId=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_189 with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.) This includes presenting the visual or aural work of another creator as your own. Visual or Aural Plagiarism may involve both hand-based media such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, as well as digital media such as photography, video and sound. It includes work subsequently manipulated or transferred between different media, as well as self-plagiarism – work submitted for assignments previously produced and graded for another course. Similar to textual plagiarism, all student work involving the visual or aural work of others must be appropriately cited/identified whether in print or orally. Failure to do so will lead to similar academic penalties as those identified in Western’s Academic Calendar.

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments.

Mental Health:

“Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western

https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”

Building Access (September 1st to April 30th):

The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:00pm each night Monday to Friday. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00pm-5:00pm unless otherwise posted; access by side entrances only. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:00pm and 5:00pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

Permission re: Promotion:

You grant permission for Western University to reproduce your name, information describing your artwork, representations of your work and any other information you have provided for the purpose of display, promotion and publicity either now or in the future.

By installing your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you grant Western University an irrevocable, perpetual, royalty-free world-wide licence to photograph your artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, flickr, Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed

should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Artlab Gallery or Cohen Commons. As the area is open to the public, students, faculty, staff and other visitors will not be prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre.

You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.

Artwork Installation Liability Release:

You understand that the area where your artwork will be hanging or displayed is unsupervised and is in a part of the building that may be open to the public, day and evening, whether or not the building is open. Western University accepts no responsibility for damage to, or loss of, artwork at any time while on display or while being transported to or from the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. By displaying your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you accept all risk of loss or damage to your artwork. Western University does not provide insurance for the artwork on exhibition. **If you wish to insure artwork, it is your responsibility to do so.**

Removal:

Western University reserves the right to dispose of artwork not picked up by April 15th of each year.

Please remember:

One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Professor C. Barteet (tel. 519-661-3440; vaugc@uwo.ca). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty. Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the academic counselors in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities located in University College Room 2230.

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; www.sdc.uwo.ca) offers a wide range of useful services including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.

The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: www.lib.uwo.ca.

Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program which offer part-time positions on campus for Western students. Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail finaid@uwo.ca; or check out their website at http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html

Academic Sanctions:

In instances of non-payment of prescribed tuition and other fees, the University shall seal the academic record. When an academic record is sealed, the student will not be able to: a) view grades; b) register in future courses; c) receive transcripts or a degree diploma; d) obtain admission or readmission.

The above prohibitions shall be in force until such time as indebtedness to the University, including payment of fee for removal of the seal, has been cleared to the satisfaction of the University

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&Keywords=academic%20sanctions&SubHeadingID=169&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_169

June 13, 2018