

Sample Syllabus:

The Daily Grind/Spring 2021
Professor: Grant Mahan
Email: mahang2@mailbox.winthrop.edu

Course: Senior Studio
Course Number: 401
Location: Room 123
Class Time: Monday 8:00am-12pm

Course Description: This course will teach students to keep up a daily painting practice. The goal of this course is for students to work with the instructor to establish goals for their art. After establishing goals students will work to meet their own criteria. The student is the priority, and it is up to the student to keep up with their own work and research, and complete work by time of critique. The goal of the professor is to help students through ideas and introduce theory by meeting individually and occasional Instructor led discussions. Students will build proficiency in talking and thinking about art through individual making, but also through group critiques. Learning outcomes are for students to strengthen their painting practice and gain independence to learn how to continue their career after graduating from Winthrop University by creating an active and driven painting practice.

Expectations: Student expectations are to show up on time to class. Students are expected to put in at least an hour a day, five days a week painting. Any time sitting in studio just looking at paintings is encouraged, but does not count towards homework time. Students are expected to show up ready, with homework completed. All students are expected to not discriminate based on gender, sexuality, race, political views, spiritual views, ect.

The teacher is expected to create a safe learning environment by listening to students, and being flexible to the students needs. Teacher is expected to give as equal attention to each student, without any form of discrimination. All conversations are welcomed, as long as they are handled with respect.

Course price-\$150

Required supplies-warm and cool-yellow, blue, and red... titanium white? Maybe flake. No black.

Students can use acrylics or oils

Oil- Linseed oil, gamsol, liquin, cup, small medium large brush, Winton minimum quality.

Acrylic-cup of water, small medium large brush. Liquitex minimum quality.

Course fee will cover canvas and stretcher bars for small canvases. Students will have to pay for larger canvases.

Additional materials will be suggested per student.

Office Hours: Meeting times are set up by email to schedule appointment times. Office hours are Tuesdays between 8am-12pm and Thursdays between 8am-12pm.

Readings: A large portion of senior studio is dependent on individual research. Students are required to conduct their own research and find readings using reputable sources found at the library. The professor will occasionally assign readings.

Attendance: Attendance is a large part of each student's grade. Each student is permitted two absences, and after that each absence will affect the students overall grade by half a letter grade. Other absences may be excused by talking with student affairs or disability services or discussing with the professor In private if the student is comfortable. We can work together if needed. Tardiness will also not be accepted. Two late appearances equal one absence. Establish a buddy in the course that you can have relay information to me, or notify an absence.

Critique: There will be a midterm and a final critique. It is expected that each student will contribute to the critique in order to get a grade. Each student is expected to present work in a professional manner. Taking notes is a requirement, either by yourself or from a peer.

Grade:

Attendance: 10%

Readings and research: 20%

Midterm critique: 30%

Final critique: 40%

Schedule:

Week 1-3: make 5 paintings a week.

Week One: Introduction and assign studios. Give time for Students to set up studios as needed.

Homework: Read Joan Didion's "On Keeping a Notebook"
<http://bfox.wdfiles.com/local--files/en303day/notebook.pdf>

Week Two: Discuss reading. Students assigned a "fire" project. Students must paint a fire in whatever they see possible. Demonstration on glazes

Homework: Finish fire painting

Week Three: Teacher gives presentation on their work. Brief critiques on fire paintings.

Homework: Make a painting a day using desired medium, thinking about technique.

Week Four: Teacher meets with each student while they work on three week painting. Painting must be worked on at least an hour a day 5 days a week.

Homework: Begin working on a painting that will take three weeks to make

Week Five: Continue three week painting. Meet with professor

Homework: Read "Sculpture in the expanded field" by Rosalind Kraus. Work on three week painting
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/778224?seq=1>

Week Six: Discuss reading. Talk about how reading relates to the painting process. Meetings with the professor.

Homework: finish three week painting.

Week Seven: Midterm Critique. *Critique schedule made for students... ideally 20 mins a student*

Homework: Open studio for rest of semester. Start at least one painting that must be done by end of semester, or as many paintings as you want. An hour a day of working is still a requirement, at minimum.

Read David Getsy and Jennifer Doyle interview on queer formalism.
<http://artjournal.collegeart.org/?p=4468>

Week Eight: Talk about reading and presentation from professor. Individual meeting and creating a game plan for the rest of the semester.

Homework: Work on individual projects. One of the paintings must take at least one hour.

Week Nine: Individual meetings.

Homework: Work on paintings. Read Susan Sontags "Notes on Camp"
http://classes.dma.ucla.edu/Spring15/104/Susan%20Sontag_%20Notes%20On%20-Camp-.pdf

Week Ten: Discuss reading. Individual meetings. Introduce group presentation topics with themes selected from the professor.

Homework: Work on paintings. Meet with a partner for the presentations. Begin individual research. Presentation due in three weeks.

Week Eleven: Work individually. Professor will meet with pairs and present readings and artists to research.

Homework: Work with partners to create powerpoint presentations on themes that must be presented next class. Work on individual work.

Week Twelve: Presentations with open discussions.

Homework: Finish independent work. Prepare for final critiques for the next class. Write an exhibition statement for final critique.

Week Thirteen: First half of final critiques

Homework: Second half of class work to finish paintings and exhibition statements. First round of critique students can prepare to clean the studio.

Week Fourteen: Second half of final critique, and start cleaning studio. Last day!

Homework: Clean Studios.