



## ART 340 / SECTION 1E / Sculpture II

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2024

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Josephine Durkin, Associate Professor of Art  
Office Location: A116 (Art building) and Sculpture Lab (ASL 119)  
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. by appointment  
Office Phone: 903.886.5208 (Main Art Office)  
Office Fax: 903.886.5987  
University Email Address: Josephine.Durkin@tamuc.edu  
Preferred Form of Communication: email  
Communication Response Time: 1- 3 business days

### COURSE INFORMATION

We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 – 10:50 a.m., in the Sculpture Lab (ASL 119).

There are no textbooks required for this course. Any reading materials or video links will be distributed online through D2L, as needed, throughout the semester.

Materials: Students will need the following set of basic materials, as well as other materials as needed and specified for each assignment. Each assignment will be given one-at-a-time.

**For the first class day (Thursday, January 11th), please bring a pencil or pen and a sketchbook or notebook to write in.** Also, please make sure to **wear comfortable closed-toe shoes that you can safely and comfortably work in (tennis shoes or comfortable boots)**. You will not need other items on the first day. I will go over all of these materials so you know what they look like. You are welcome to start gathering these items or you may wait to do so until after the first day of class.

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Bin / plastic tote with a lid for basic materials  
Unlined, 9 x 12 sketchbook  
Pencils and pens  
Sharpie markers  
X-acto Knife  
Utility Knife  
18 in. (or longer) cork-backed metal ruler  
Cutting mat  
Glue gun and glue gun sticks (mini or regular)  
Loctite Super Glue Gel  
Scotch Magic Tape  
Blue painter's tape and masking tape  
Scissors (adult sized)  
Small brushes  
Safety goggles  
Extension cord  
Measuring tape  
Needle, thread, pins and pin cushion

Other necessities:

Ambition and drive

Enthusiasm and appreciation – especially when it comes to the unfamiliar and unknown, as well as identifying and overcoming obstacles – both large and small.

Curiosity

Creativity

Sense of wonder and adventure

Kindness and empathy

Dreams and goals – large and small, both personal and community-based.

In addition to basic supplies, students are required to gather and purchase their own materials for each project. Materials for demonstrations will be provided. Again, there are no required textbooks for this course. Any assigned essays will be available via web link or distributed in class. Materials will. Readings will also be made available through D2L.

## **Course Description**

This course focuses on material, technical, practical, conceptual and creative problem solving with attention to material choice, construction, installation, technical ability and advancement. Art history, the relationship, interaction and importance of surface, structure, space, movement and color, realism and abstraction, and the power of metaphor will be discussed and explored.

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Each creative, more conceptually driven project will be introduced with a more specific, material and technically-based, short-term project (exercise). This helps students gain skill sets necessary to bring their creative project ideas to fruition using solid material and technical problem-solving knowledge.

## **Course Objectives / Student Learning Outcomes**

- Gain technical and problem solving skills as they apply to creating objects, multi-media and multi-format work, as needed, with attention to formal and conceptual decisions.
- Advance visual, physical and conceptual problem solving abilities.
- Understand how sculpture, in particular, sewing, woodworking and casting, is utilized in a variety of disciplines. During this semester, we will focus on a variety of flexible mold making and casting projects.
- Understand the importance of craftsmanship and installation strategies, while learning how formal decisions impact the meaning of the work.
- Understand that art functions as a vehicle for meaning and expression, with the possibility of initiating introspection, conversation, awareness and change.
- Adopt creative and ambitious thought processes and work habits.
- Be familiar with a variety of contemporary artists whose works relates to the current assignments.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students must be able to use Word, work and communicate in-person, as well as online through D2L and zoom when needed. In addition to meeting at the scheduled class

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times, each student will need to dedicate a minimum of six additional hours outside of class each week to pass this course.

All other technical skills required (material, tool and construction) will be taught throughout the class, as they apply to each assignment.

### **Instructional Methods**

In addition to following all COVID guidelines to protect yourself and others, please come to class wearing closed-toe shoes (tennis shoes or boots) and comfortable clothes (not fancy dress clothes) that you can work in.

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

Your health, as well as the health of your family, classmates and community comes first. PERIOD. It is everyone's responsibility to follow COVID guidelines and DO THEIR BEST to protect themselves, schoolmates, family members, friends, and members of the community from infection, illness and death. It is a team effort. If you have any hesitation about coming to class in-person, wearing a mask or getting vaccinated (both are STRONGLY encouraged) please let me know. I care about and prioritize the safety and well-being of all of my students and their families – as well as the safety and well-being of myself, my family, friends and community. I want each student to do well in this class while also staying safe AND keeping others safe. Should students need to participate online for health and safety reasons, please let me know so I can help.

### **GRADING**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 59% or Below

Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

Studio Assignments 1 and 2	20%
Studio Assignments 2 and 3	20%
Studio Assignments 3 and 4	20%
Final project (individual artist websites with documentation of each project)	20%
Class participation, including critiques, preparedness, safety, teamwork and class cleanup	20%

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TOTAL 100%

## Assessments

Studio assignments will be graded on craftsmanship, creativity, conceptual strength, presentation, effort, work ethic and consistency of work ethic, attention to detail, problem solving methods, resourcefulness and level of difficulty.

Students are expected to have a positive attitude, communicate regularly and thoughtfully, come prepared with materials, observe lab rules and safety protocol, as well as work diligently and regularly both inside and outside of class. Cell phone use is not prohibited during class. Should you need to be reached in an emergency, please tell family and/or friends to call the art office at 903.886.5208 during your class time.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

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## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

#### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

### **University Specific Procedures**

#### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

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## **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

## **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

## **COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Assignment pairs (both the material, technical, short-term exercise, as well as the corresponding, personal, more conceptually-driven project) will be given, in detail, one-at-a time throughout the semester.

We will begin with the following skeleton of due dates. This schedule of due dates is subject to change. Students will be notified of any changes in advance.

Tuesdays and Thursdays not listed below will consist of studio work time, demonstrations, as well as lecture, videos and class discussions.

Thursday, January 11th: First Class Day

(Introduction / Review Syllabus and Introduce First Assignment)

Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>: First assignment pair is due at the beginning of class (Critique)

Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>: Introduction to the second assignment pair

Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>: Second assignment pair is due at the beginning of class (Critique)

Week of March 14<sup>th</sup>: Spring Break (Campus is closed)

Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>: Introduction to the third assignment pair

Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>: Third assignment pair is due at the beginning of class (Critique)

Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>: Introduction to final project (website assignment)

Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> (Last class day: Website projects due)

Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> (Class clean-up / Wrap Up)

Note: This syllabus is a basic outline. Dates and assignments are subject to change.

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