



## **ARTS 515.01E CRN84225 (3cr) MFA EXHIBITION STUDIO ART**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor:	Dr. Laurel Jay Carpenter (Grad Coordinator)
Office Location:	ART 208
Office Hours:	By appointment
University Email Address:	laureljay.carpenter@etamu.cedu

### **Course Description**

Upon the approval of the Graduate Coordinator, students will mount an exhibition-ready body of new work that demonstrates a unified vision and clearly articulated methodology, supported by an extended exhibition statement and visual documentation. This course guides students in the preparation for this capstone experience of the terminal degree. Focus during this initial 3cr semester will be on refining the theoretical underpinnings as related to the research, and writing chapters/sections toward a final, cohesive support document as evidence of constructing new knowledge.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

- Develop, clarify and communicate artistic goals by continued resolution of a focused and substantial body of artwork which will include the installation of a capstone exhibition and written exhibition statement.
- Pursue active production and critical methodology of studio work through individual meetings with graduate committee and other faculty members towards developing a mastery of tactics, approaches, methodologies, and skill sets in support of a sustainable artistic practice.
- Engage the appropriate materials and tools of the media used to produce the work and invest an appropriate level of research to develop the work, from both a conceptual and formal perspective.
- Demonstrate a critical awareness of the relationship of the final artwork to its social, cultural, historical, theoretical and contemporary contexts in an extended exhibition statement. Set and meet writing goals.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Access to D2L and Zoom  
Reliable Internet connection

### Instructional Methods and Student Responsibilities

MFA Exhibition is a self-propelled and capstone course in the studio art terminal degree. As such, the expectation is regular and extensive time commitment to, personal responsibility for, and follow-through on your practice, and the course commitments that support the finalization of an exhibition-ready body of new work and the contextualization of the research within an extended artist statement. As in all terminal degrees, the onus is on the student to make the most of what is available—studio equipment, space, faculty feedback. Ask for what you need. Then ask again. Seek alternative approaches if what you need is proving a challenge. Prepare your work for exhibition within the requirements of the gallery space. Request specs and expectations for installation/de-installation early.

### Resourcefulness is perhaps the most valuable skill for an artist!

The first item on our agenda is to make a calendar. You will need to meet with the following faculty on the following schedule:

Laurel Jay Carpenter/Grad Coordinator:	<b>every other week (in person or Zoom).</b>
Committee Members:	<b>one</b> of the members <b>each week</b> . Arrange to meet whole committee together around mid-term-ish time (informal, in-studio or WTFA exhibition)
MFA Cohort for additional feedback:	<b>as needed/suggested.</b>

*This calculates to at least 1-2 meetings each week.* (which, of course, may be scheduled one after the other, or even concurrently, if all in agreement.)

Please make your projected calendar and submit to Dr. Carpenter for accountability.

You should make notes following each meeting, and submit as well.

After-meeting notes take the form of bullet-points or handwritten quick reminders of artists, techniques, materials, installation methods, conceptual development and theories, artist statement points of clarification, etc. as suggested/discussed.

Regular drafts of written sections should be discussed with any/all faculty above. Please submit a draft at mid-semester for in-depth feedback, and the final draft at least 10 days before final exhibition installation to Dr. Carpenter for proofreading.

## GRADING

Grading for the Exhibition Hours is Pass/Fail, as related to the conferment of the degree, according to these weightings:

Submission of Weekly Notes	5%
Regular Meetings with Faculty	15%
Draft Writings + Edits	50%
Exhibitions/Mid-Term + Final Crits	30%
TOTAL	100%

## Assessment

Your work and activity in the course will be evaluated using the following criteria:

1. Your self-motivated, sustained and thoughtful attention to your work, and the reflection of that attentiveness in the quality in the discrete works in development, overall exhibition, and exhibition statement.
2. The final works meeting your own goals, as notated by Faculty Committee.
3. The quality of the works within the Final Exhibition, as well as the follow-through on professional expectations of a gallery show: wall text, artist statement/CV (available to viewers), etc.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University 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)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

## 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.

## 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>

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY 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>

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>

## **ETAMU Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedures 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 East Texas A&M University 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/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormId.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@etamu.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu)

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

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

## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University 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 East Texas A&M University 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.

## **ETAMU 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)

## **AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]**

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors'

guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

[13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty](#)