

ART 6897

Professional Practices in the Visual Arts

3 credits

Monday

Period: 11-E2 (6:15-9:10 PM)

Classroom: FAC0102

Instructor: Sergio Vega

Office: FAD 229

Office hours: Wednesday 3PM (by appointment only)

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Description

This course will address the field of possibilities for professional development in the aftermath of Graduate School. We will explore questions surrounding how emerging artists support themselves, how to talk and write about your creative work, and consider various paths available to pursue an artistic life. Opportunities for emerging artists including grants, residencies, shows, jobs, and freelance work will be examined and discussed. We will explore what professional growth, success, and networking look like in a field where the terrain is constantly shifting.

Course Methods

This course is an experiential course that will consist of lectures, readings, discussions, critiques, individual presentations and the identification of resources for professional development.

Objectives

- Conceptualize what living and working as an artist can look like
- Meet artists, curators, and arts professionals
- Build a website, Instagram, and online presence
- Conceptualize the why and how of one's individual creative practice
- Begin to understand the etiquette and unwritten rules present in many creative fields
- Build financial and practical literacy

Material Requirements

- A Laptop, regular internet access
- A method to take notes
- A website domain + hosting service
- Good quality photographs of your artwork

Required Bibliography

Seven Days in the Art World by Sarah Thornton (any copy)

Evaluation & Grading

Your work will be graded on specific criteria defined by individual project goals. However, all projects will be graded on their success in the following areas: development, design making, risk-taking, experimentation, ambition, and meeting deadlines.

EVALUATION

The course grade for each student will be evaluated based on:

- The completion and success of a series of projects/exercises
- Completion of readings, writings, and discussions.
- Attendance at all assigned field trips and lectures.
- Presentation – all work should be presented in critique in a finished and professional manner.
- Effort, hard work, and a diligent, consistent effort toward excellence.
- Active participation and discussion.

Reading Presentation	15%
Artist Statement + Talk	30%
Studio visit	20%
Personal Website	15%
Participation	20%

Participation includes arriving ready to work, on time, with materials, keeping studio clean, device use, respectful behavior, and participation in critiques and discussions.

GRADING

Letter Grade and Corresponding Grade Points are as follows

1. Completion: The project addresses the assignment and its parameters, is completed on time, has taken significant effort and thought, and critiques/feedback have been considered.
2. Creativity: The project and ideas are unique and thoughtful; research has been engaged in
3. Execution: The project is well crafted and presented, technically executed at a high level

Generally, project grades in this course are considered in the following way:

A 4.0 Exceptional work, all criteria of assignment have been surpassed in a distinguished way and solutions to problems presented exhibit a depth of understanding. In addition, student is engaged in exceptional studio practice, which includes active research, looking up artists recommended, asking relevant questions about other artists' works or ideas, and being thoroughly engaged in the course content.

A-3.67 Well-presented, superior work: all criteria of assignment were surpassed in a distinguished manner (including exceptional studio practice highlighted above). Minimal improvements could be made to the project overall.

B+ 3.33 Very good work: all criteria of assignment were surpassed, minor changes could be considered and executed to bring piece together.

B 3.0 Very good work: above average solutions and clear potential. Most criteria of assignment were surpassed with some improvements to be made. Execution was well done.

B- 2.67 Good work: most criteria of assignment were met. Work showed promise with a few significant improvements to be made.

C+ 2.33 Slightly above average: work, most of the criteria of the assignment were met. The works not yet a unified whole or cohesive statement, yet effort was made; adequate but could be more reflective and thoughtful.

C 2.0 Average work: the assignment directions were followed and the requirements were met in a relatively routine way. Slippage in levels of quality, originality and presentation; adequate but could be more reflective and thoughtful.

C-2.67 Slightly below average work: the assignment directions were followed and the requirements were minimally met, but there is much room for developing assignments further. Breadth and depth needs development; work lacks quality and quantity.

D+ 1.33 Below average work: an attempt to solve the problem was made, but there is much room for improving skills and developing further. The criteria of the assignment are barely met. Basic skills have been neglected and there is a lack of breadth and depth, and both the quality and quantity are lacking.

D 1.0 Inadequate, below average work: the requirements of the assignment are not addressed. The execution of the work is careless, the effort is incomplete and substandard.

D- .67 Unacceptable work and effort: the requirements of the assignment are not addressed. The execution of the work is careless, the effort is incomplete and substandard.

F 0 Unacceptable work and effort: the work submitted is inadequate; the requirements of are not addressed. Work is substandard not submitted, efforts are careless and/or incomplete.

For more information: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx> Students must earn a grade higher than C- to earn credit toward their major.

Attendance

- Students are expected to attend all classes and work/participate for the full duration of the scheduled class period. Full participation by showing completed work during all deadlines is required along with active participation through shared ideas and commentary.
- Absences and lateness should be reported to the instructor via email prior to occurring.
- Absences will be counted from the first class meeting onward. Appropriate documentation from the student health service should be obtained for medical excuses. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. Other sound reasons may be offered.
- Unexcused absences will be cause for a lowered grade. Your fourth absence will result in ONE grade drop.
- If an absence occurs it is the student's responsibility to make up all work. Students should check with the instructor or another student outside of class time when they miss a class (prior to missing the class if possible), as in- and out-of- class exercises are spontaneously assigned.
- Arrival to class fifteen minutes after start of class will be noted and three such incidences will count as one absence. Leaving early from class will also be considered as tardiness.
- Students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Students who do not attend at least one of the first two class meetings of a course or laboratory in which they are registered, and who have not contacted the department to indicate their intent, may be dropped from the course. The university recognizes the right of the individual professor to make attendance mandatory. After due warning, professors may prohibit further attendance and subsequently assign a failing grade for excessive absences.
- Individual issues should be discussed during open work time or office hours.

Information about **university-wide policies and resources** can be found here: <https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

The **Health and Safety Handbook** can be found here: <http://arts.ufl.edu/academics/art-and-art-history/health-safety/>

SA+AH health and safety

GENERAL SAFETY

- Common sense and your best judgement are required at all times
- Closed toed shoes are recommended in studios and required in many labs
- Do not eat in any areas where art supplies are being used
- Avoid significant and prolonged skin contact with paint, especially cadmium colors
- Label paint water clearly
- Be careful, alert, and sober in the studios
- Wear clothes you can afford to get paint on. Some of our materials are very staining.

HAZARDOUS WASTE SATELLITE ACCUMULATION

Please make yourself familiar with the SAAH Health and Safety Program at:

<http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/healthandsafety> during the first week of class. Refer especially to the H&S Rules by Area sections pertaining to WARPhaus, Drawing and Painting. Each student will be asked to complete a H&S student waiver form (which will be given and signed during studio).

SA+AH facilities have an area designated for art materials/hazardous waste pickup. This area should NOT be used for art making and bins and storage containers utilized in this area should NEVER be moved or used for any other purpose. When in doubt about the safety or disposal of your art materials, please speak with faculty. A Handbook of Hazardous Wastes Disposal, Health and Safety will be posted at the studio for consultation as well.

DRUG-FREE SCHOOL & WORKPLACE & CLEAN INDOOR AIR ACT

The School of Art and Art History is committed to upholding the policies set forth by the University of Florida in regards to drug and alcohol use and smoking in educational facilities. Possession and use of drugs or alcoholic beverages are not allowed in the classroom or outdoor areas. In addition, The Florida Clean Indoor Air Act of 1992 prohibits smoking in educational facilities, including vaping. Violation of university policies and applicable laws is grounds for disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and does not preclude the possibility of criminal charges.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

As conditions continue to shift, we ask for your patience and flexibility. The last 18 months has been hard for all of us in different ways and I expect compassion, respect, and empathy from everyone. Please adhere to all health and safety protocols and make thoughtful choices.

Use of facilities

SHARED STUDIO

Please leave the studio clean. Regardless of the condition you find it in, we request that you leave it clean for the next person. Remember to place all work in progress on the storage shelves. Leave the worktables clear and clean. This is a shared studio, and we all need to work together to keep it a clean and productive environment.

STUDIO PRACTICE

The instructor and the School of Art and Art History are not responsible for student work left in workspaces, installation spaces, the critique space, the shops, or the classrooms.

Projects/materials are not to be stored in the group working space. Each student is responsible for ensuring that his/her projects and materials are safely stored, displayed, installed, and removed from the classroom and critique space. Projects must be set up and removed from the critique space at the times and spaces designated for each project.

POLICIES REGARDING BEHAVIOR IN LECTURES, CLASSROOMS, STUDIOS, & OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL SPACES

Please make every effort to maintain the facilities and grounds of the WARPhaus, the School of Art and Art History, the College of Fine Arts and the University of Florida. Specifically, we ask that you follow these guidelines:

1. Do not mark, paint, or deface any interior or exterior of the school or college facilities. Take care to always use protective tarps, drop cloths or masking material when working with paint media or similar materials to protect the floors in public spaces such as hallways and classrooms. This also applies to the sidewalks, walls, and grounds.

2. If a special project requires temporary modification to a wall surface or to the grounds you must obtain specific permission from your instructor prior to undertaking the project. The site must be returned to its original condition immediately following the project unless prior written permission has been obtained from the School of Art and Art History.
3. No art project may interfere with or impede access to classrooms, hallways, public spaces.
4. All site-specific art projects must be installed & engineered with the safety of the public in mind.
5. Grades will not be issued for the project, or the class, until the project has been completely removed, and the site has been restored to its original condition
6. Failure to comply with these rules will result in disciplinary action, withholding of grades, the possible lowering of a grade, or failure

Working in the community

Proper care should be taken to assure all property in the surrounding area is respected and well maintained, and projects should be executed with public health and safety in mind. Vandalism of any kind will not be tolerated. As on campus, students doing site-specific work off-campus will be legally and financially accountable for any illegal or destructive actions. In addition, projects involving the greater community should be carefully considered and faculty must be consulted throughout. All public projects must be cleared by faculty and permission granted. The School of Art and Art History at the University of Florida retains the power to require a more appropriate solution to any project that may violate any of the guidelines outlined above.

Please do not litter or leave materials out in the area. Respect property, surrounding businesses and the rights of individuals in the community. Failure to comply with these rules will result in disciplinary action, withholding of grades, the possible lowering of a grade, or failure of the course.

Guidelines for conduct

Student Conduct Code; Violations, Penalties and Procedures for Adjudication can be found at <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4016.htm>

UF PHILOSOPHY

The University of Florida is an institution that encourages the intellectual and personal growth of its students as scholars and citizens. As an educational institution, the University recognizes that the transmission of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, and the development of individuals require the free exchange of ideas, self-expression, and the challenging of beliefs and customs. In order to maintain an environment where these goals can be achieved safely and equitably, the University promotes civility, respect and integrity among all members of the community. As stated in the Standard of Ethical Conduct, students are expected to exhibit high standards of behavior and concern for others.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: "I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all of their academic endeavors and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action to and including expulsion from the University." Detailed Academic Honesty Guidelines may be found at <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm>

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR

Faculty, students, Administrative and Professional staff members, and other employees who intentionally act to impair, interfere with, or obstruct the mission, purposes, order, operations, processes, and functions of the University shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by University authorities for misconduct, as set forth in the applicable rules of the Board of Regents and the University and state law governing such actions. A detailed list of disruptive conduct may be found at <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/1008.html>. Be advised that you can and will be dismissed from class if you engage in disruptive behavior.

