Syllabus

Art 86-01

Clay Sculpture

Robert Ortbal, Assistant Professor

Monday - Wednesday: 4:00pm to 6:50pm

Robert Ortbal, Assistant Professor

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Office: ASL 110A

Office Hrs: Mon- Wed 7:00am to 8:00am - Wed 11:00am to 12:00pm and by appointment

3 units - General Education Course in Area C-4

Description:
This is a studio course that introduces the fundamentals of clay sculpture working with variety of forms and fabrication processes. Four projects serve as the framework to examine the organizing principles of design while giving practical instruction to successfully create finished ceramic sculptures. We will explore theoretical and conceptual ideas to deepen our awareness of the surrounding environment while drawing upon each individual’s creativity to effectively communicate with visual form.

Methods of Instruction:
This course will be taught using in class lectures and demonstrations, group and individual critiques, readings, slide lectures and course projects which will include short student presentations in class. Projects will have either an individual or a group critique on the scheduled days listed in the Class Schedule (see separate handout).

Goals – Student Learning Outcomes:
I. To demonstrate an understanding of the ceramic/three-dimensional design fundamentals introduced with each project. II. To participate in critical discussion and dialogue related to the sculptural and theoretical concerns presented in this course with awareness to the vital and diverse communities represented by the entire student body. III. To demonstrate the ability to realize an idea from a notebook drawing to a completed work. IV. To demonstrate a competent understanding of how to fabricate sculptural ceramic forms using a wide range of techniques and processes.

Grading Percentages:
Class Projects 60% (final two projects worth double beginning projects)
Exhibition Projects 10%
Lecture Projects 5%
Home Project /Visual Journal 10%
Attendance - Studio practices 15%

Grading:
Class Projects are graded on craftsmanship, active participation in the critiques (both individual and group), your ability to demonstrate a visual understanding of the concepts, theories and vocabulary introduced with each assignment, any assigned homework, creative exploration and individual growth.
A = 95 to 100  
A- = 90 to 94  
B+ = 87 to 89  
B = 83 to 86  
B- = 80 to 82  
C+ = 77 to 79  
C = 73 to 76  
C- = 70 to 72  
D+ = 67 to 69  
D = 63 to 66  
D- = 60 to 62  
F = 59 and below

Attending and participating in the project critiques is essential. If you miss the scheduled project critique you will receive an “F” for that project unless you have made prior arrangements with me or can verify, in writing, extraordinary circumstances beyond your control.

**Attendance and Studio Practices:**

Active participation and attendance are critical to successfully complete this course and help you get the best grade possible. It accounts for 15 percent of your grade. **Arriving late or leaving early more than three times will be counted as an absence.**

After the first warning of excessive socializing, a student will be asked to leave the class for the day and be marked absent.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Missed classes</th>
<th>Grade Attendance Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<td>1</td>
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**Seven or more unexcused absences will result in failing the course.**

An absence only becomes an excused absence with a note from a doctor, court and/or the university. For a family crisis please communicate with me as soon as possible (email or call my office) and provide a letter upon return, stating the situation.

If you are absent it is your responsibility to find out what homework you have missed preferably by talking with a classmate. Make a friend, exchange emails.

**Each student is responsible for cleaning up after themselves.**

Cell Phones are to be used responsibly. If not, this privilege will be taken away.
Homework:

Homework is to be completed by the beginning of the class. You can plan on spending around six hours working on your projects outside of class each week. The Exhibition and Lecture projects will graded three times during the semester. Guidelines will be under a separate handout.

All students are responsible for working on their Home Projects and to maintain a Visual Journal/Notebook throughout the duration of the semester. It will be collected at least twice, reviewed and graded and accounts for 10% of your final grade. A separate handout will outline the requirements and grading.

Disability Services:

If you have a disability and require accommodation, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008, and (916-278-6955). Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours early in the semester.

Required course materials:

We will discuss the required course materials in the beginning weeks of the semester.

Add/Drop Policy and Deadlines:

Refer to the 2010-11 Registration & Advising Handbook, or go to: http://www.csus.edu/schedule/Fall2010Spring2011/change.stm#adds

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LAB FEE REQUIRED: $45.00

Beginning Fall 2007, lab fee sheets will no longer be used. When a student registers for a class requiring a lab fee, the charge will appear on the student’s account on My Sac State. If the student drops the class by the Census Date the fee will be reversed. Lab fees can be paid online, in person or by mail.

Note: The Class Schedule is approximate and may change during the term.
STANDARD GRADING RUBRIC FOR ART STUDIO COURSES

Excellent Work (A) (90 - 100%)
Regarding Class Work: student demonstrates outstanding skill, discernment and understanding of visual principles in accomplishing his or her work. The quality of work is excellent, and it is integrated with exceptional creativity.
Regarding Participation: student demonstrates through discussion, critique, and studio interaction outstanding ability to discuss and assess work, communicating how visual elements and strategies are used. The student demonstrates extensive use and understanding of concepts and terminology used in the discipline.
Regarding Homework: In the case of studio assigned homework (activity) the student completes the assignment in all aspects and creatively exploits possibilities within open-ended assignments. The work demonstrates skill, good judgment, and application of principles. For written assignments, oral presentations, and research, the work/presentation/document, presents sound research and is well written and well presented.

Better Than Average Work (B) (80 - 89%)
Regarding Class Work: student demonstrates moderate skill, discernment and understanding of visual principles in accomplishing his or her work. The quality of work is good, and it is integrated with some creativity.
Regarding Participation: student demonstrates through discussion, critique, and studio interaction a solid ability to discuss and assess work; communicating how visual elements and strategies are used. The student demonstrates competent use and understanding of concepts and terminology used in the discipline.
Regarding Homework: In the case of studio assigned homework (activity) the student completes the assignment and fulfills more than minimal requirements. The work demonstrates some skill, judgment, and in parts, application of principles. In the case of written assignments, oral presentations, and research, the work/presentation/document, presents research and is reasonably well written and suitably presented.

Average Work (C) (70 - 79%)
Regarding Class Work: Student demonstrates average skill, discernment and understanding of visual principles in accomplishing his or her work. The quality of work is modest, and it is moderately integrated.
Regarding Participation: student demonstrates through discussion, critique, and studio interaction an average ability to discuss and assess work, communicating how visual elements and strategies are used. Though the discussion and assessment of work is substantially complete, the communication of some visual elements and strategies is incomplete or missing. The student demonstrates a superficial rather than thorough understanding of concepts and terminology used in the discipline.
Regarding Homework: In the case of studio assigned homework (activity) the student completes most of the assignment and fulfills the minimum requirements. The work demonstrates modest skill, some judgment, and in parts, application of principles. In the case of written assignments, oral presentations, and research, the student makes a modest effort as evidenced by a satisfactory presentation/document. Research may be incomplete, or lacking in organization.

Below Average (D) (60 – 69%)
Regarding Class Work: Student demonstrates lack of skill, discernment and understanding of visual principles in accomplishing his or her work. The quality of work submitted is less than acceptable, and it is poorly integrated.
Regarding Participation: student demonstrates through discussion, critique, and studio interaction a limited ability to discuss and assess work, while communicating at a minimal or perfunctory level how the visual elements and strategies are used. Poor effort is made to relate an understanding of the art concepts and terminology used in the discipline.

Regarding Homework: In the case of studio assigned homework (activity) the student does not complete the assignment and fulfills only minimal requirements or submits work late. The work demonstrates lack of skill, weak judgment, and little application of principles. In the case of written assignments, oral presentations, and research, the work /presentation/ document, presents faulty or negligible research and is not well written and/or presented.

Failing (F) (40 – 59%)

Regarding Class Work: Student fails to demonstrate skill or understanding of the issues involved. Quality of work submitted is insufficient, and poorly integrated.

Regarding Participation: In discussion, critique, and studio interaction, the student states an opinion vaguely or does not assess the work and shows little to no evidence of an understanding of how visual elements and strategies are used. No effort is made to relate an understanding of concepts and terminology used in the discipline.

Regarding Homework: In the case of studio assigned home work (activity) the student does not complete the assignment and does not fulfill requirements. In the case of written assignments, oral presentations, and research, the work /presentation/ document, presents faulty or negligible research and is not well written and/or presented.

Incomplete (I)

Incomplete: Student does not complete work and discusses this with the instructor. The department has a petition that must be signed by both the student and the instructor if an “I” grade is to be awarded. A grade of incomplete will be granted in instances such as medical emergencies where there is evidence the student understands the material and remaining assignments but has been prevented by outside forces from completing the work. The period allowed for completion is described in the petition for the incomplete and must be determined by the faculty member granting the grade (the University maximum is one year). In effect, the petition is a contract between student and faculty.

Withdrawal Unauthorized (WU)

The WU grade is assigned by the instructor if student withdraws from the class without notification, or fails to attend after University assigned deadlines. It is treated like an F in GPA calculations but, under some circumstances, can be removed by petition.

Authorized Withdrawal (W)

The “W” grade is assigned by the University if a student formally withdraws from a course after the University’s census date, but within the deadlines (a “W” cannot be assigned by instructor).