

SCULPTURE III IV V

Course: Sculpture III IV V - AVT 462, 463, 464 001

Time: Monday/Wednesday from 1:30 PM -4:10 PM

Location: Art and Design Building, Room L005

Fall Semester

Instructor: Rachel Debuque



Email: rdebuque@gmu.edu

Office: Third Floor, 2029

Hours: Monday/Wednesday 5 PM to 7 PM or Appointment

Phone: 703.993.856

*Note: This syllabus is subject to change upon Instructor's discretion

"Failure is only the opportunity to begin again, only this time more wisely." - Henry Ford

I remember loving sound before I ever took a music lesson. And so we make our lives by what we love.
John Cage

"Bad taste is real taste, of course, and good taste is the residue of someone else's privilege."
Dave Hickey

Course Description:

Advanced studio course for ***rigorous** production of sculpture. Weekly topical seminar, vigorous critiques, museum and gallery visits, professional documentation, and research resulting in a body of work to be exhibited.

You will be challenged to explore the role of art in our rapidly evolving society. You will be encouraged to ask yourself the hard questions. What is my personal definition of success? How can I strive to reach my fullest potential? What does being an artist mean to me?

Arts goal: *Mason courses in the film making, visual and performing arts stress generative, inquiry based learning through direct aesthetic and creative experience in the studio environment.* Courses aim to achieve a majority of the following learning outcomes: students will be able to identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary appropriate to that form; demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic technique and the expression of a work's underlying concept; analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form and cultural context; analyze and interpret material or performance culture in its social, historical, and personal contexts; and engage in the artistic process, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

University and School of Art Policies: In accordance with George Mason University policy, turn off all beepers, cellular telephones and other wireless communication devices at the start of class. The instructor of the class will keep his/her cell phone active to assure receipt of any Mason Alerts in a timely fashion; or in the event that the instructor does not have a cell phone, he/she will designate one student to keep a cell phone active to receive such alerts.

Commitment to Diversity: This class will be conducted as an intentionally inclusive community that celebrates diversity and welcomes the participation in the life of the university of faculty, staff and students who reflect the diversity of our plural society. All may feel free to speak and to be heard without fear that the content of the opinions they express will bias the evaluation of their academic performance or hinder their opportunities for participation in class activities. In turn, all are expected to be respectful of each other without regard to race, class, linguistic background, religion, political beliefs, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, veteran's status, or physical ability.

Statement on Ethics in Teaching and Practicing Art and Design: As professionals responsible for the education of undergraduate and graduate art and design students, the faculty of the School of Art adheres to the ethical standards and practices incorporated in the professional Code of Ethics of our national accreditation organization, The National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Open Studio Hours: SOA teaching studios are open to students for extended periods of time mornings, evenings and weekends whenever classes are not in progress. Policies, procedures and schedules for studio use are established by the SOA studio faculty and are posted in the studios.

You will be given 24 Hour access to the Sculpture facilities. This privilege comes with responsibility. You are expected to maintain the shops civility rules (see civility rules below). If you see someone using a tool improperly, kindly show them the correct way or alert a professor. You are now a leader and important part of this shared community!

Art Bus Dates: Take advantage of our monthly Bus trips to New York!

Visual Voices Lecture Series Fall 2016: Visual Voices is a year-long series of lectures by artists, art historians and others about contemporary art and art practice. Visual Voices lectures are held on Thursday evenings from 7:20- 9:00 p.m. in Harris Theater.

September 1: Richard Raiselis “Time for Reflection”
 September 8: Judith Harris “Renaming Things: The Power of Metaphorical Thinking in Poetry and the Visual Arts”
 September 22: Jonathan Linton “The Human Touch in the Digital Age: Portraits, Figures, and Thoughts”
 October 6: Siebren Versteeg “Siebren Versteeg”
 October 20: Studio 424 – Chicago “We Give a Shit – and We Do It for a Living”

Official Communications via GMU E-Mail: Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

Students with Disabilities and Learning Differences: If you have a diagnosed disability or learning difference and you need academic accommodations, please inform me at the beginning of the semester and contact the Disabilities Resource Center (SUB I room 234, 703-993-2474). You must provide me with a faculty contact sheet from that office outlining the accommodations needed for your disability or learning difference. All academic accommodations must be arranged in advance through the DRC.

Important Deadlines

Once the add and drop deadlines have passed, instructors do not have the authority to approve requests from students to add or drop/withdraw late. Requests for late adds (up until the last day of classes) must be made by the student in the SOA office (or the office of the department offering the course), and generally are only approved in the case of a documented university error (such as a problem with financial aid being processed) , LATE ADD fee will apply. Requests for non-selective withdrawals and retroactive adds (adds after the last day of classes) must be approved by the academic dean of the college in which the student’s major is located. For AVT majors, that is the CVPA Office of Academic Affairs, Performing Arts Building A407

Consortium Registration Deadline	TBD
First day of classes ; last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date	August 29
Labor Day, university closed	September 5
Last day to add classes —all individualized section forms due Last day to drop with no tuition penalty	September 6
Last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty	September 20
Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)	September 30
Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via Patriot Web	September 26 – October 21
Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)	October 3 – October 28
Columbus Day recess (Monday classes/labs meet Tuesday. Tuesday classes do not meet this week)	October 10
Incomplete work from spring/summer 2016 due to instructor	October 28
Incomplete grade changes from spring/summer 2016 due to Registrar	November 4
Thanksgiving recess	November 23 – 27
Last day of classes	December 10
Reading Days Reading days provide students with additional study time for final examinations. Faculty may schedule optional study sessions, but regular classes or exams may not be held.	December 12
Exam Period	Tues December 13 – Tues December 20
Degree Conferral Date The Winter Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wed December 21.	December 21

Attendance Policies: Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but also to the class as a whole. Because class participation may be a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of non participation. Students who miss an exam with an acceptable excuse may be penalized according to the individual instructor's grading policy, as stated in the course syllabus.

AVT 462/463/464 Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. If there are circumstances where you will have to a class, it is the students' responsibility to make up work outside of class. Remember that attendance is essential to the understanding of the Studio Fundamentals and missed classes will greatly compromise your development as an artist. On other words: ATTEND EVERY CLASS. There are no unexcused absences. Three missed classes results in automatic drop of one letter grade. Every subsequent absences lowers another letter grade. Six missed classes results is an automatic failure.

Honor Code: Students in this class are bound by the Honor Code, as stated in the George Mason University Catalog. The honor code requires that the work you do as an individual be the product of your own individual synthesis or integration of ideas. (This does not prohibit collaborative work when it is approved by your instructor.) As a faculty member, I have an obligation to refer the names of students who may have violated the Honor Code to the Student Honor Council, which treats such cases very seriously. No grade is important enough to justify cheating, for which there are serious consequences that will follow you for the rest of your life. If you feel unusual pressure about your grade in this or any other course, please talk to me or to a member of the GMU Counseling Center staff.

Using someone else's words or ideas without giving them credit is plagiarism, a very serious Honor Code offense. It is very important to understand how to prevent committing plagiarism when using material from a source. If you wish to quote verbatim, you must use the exact words and punctuation just as the passage appears in the original and must use quotation marks and page numbers in your citation. If you want to paraphrase or summarize ideas from a source, you must put the ideas into your own words, and you must cite the source, using the APA or MLA format. (For assistance with documentation, I recommend Diana Hacker, *A Writer's Reference*.) The exception to this rule is information termed general knowledge—information that is widely known and stated in a number of sources. Determining what is general knowledge can be complicated, so the wise course is, "When in doubt, cite."

Be especially careful when using the Internet for research. Not all Internet sources are equally reliable; some are just plain wrong. Also, since you can download text, it becomes very easy to inadvertently plagiarize. If you use an Internet source, you must cite the exact URL in your paper and include with it the last date that you successfully accessed the site.

Writing Center: Students who are in need of intensive help with grammar, structure or mechanics in their writing should make use of the services of Writing Center, located in Robinson A116 (703-993-1200). The services of the Writing Center are available by appointment, online and, occasionally, on a walk-in basis.

The Collaborative Learning Hub Located in Johnson Center 311 (703-993-3141), the lab offers in-person one-on-one support for the Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, Blackboard, and a variety of other software. Dual monitor PCs make the lab ideal for collaborating on group projects, Macs are also available; as well as a digital recording space, collaborative tables, and

Studio Maintenance: Civility Rules:

- If you don't know, ask.
- Wear proper safety gear.
- No food or drink on machinery.
- No cell phones, headphones in wood or metal studio.
- PLEASE! Report broken machinery to faculty or technician immediately.
- Never use a tool before receiving proper instruction.
- Clean and return studio tools to proper storage area after each use.
- Put your work in storage areas and clearly label at end of every class.
- ID required for all non-class time tool use.
- Clean up after yourself.
- Treat people with respect.

What to expect this semester:

- Expect to spend a *minimum* of 6 hours of work outside of class
- Plan to read EVERY week
- Expect to get dirty: Wear old clothing and closed toed shoes to class
- Expect to vocalize: Critique requires you to speak about your work
- Expect to sketch your ideas

Our Semester at a Glance:

*In celebration of failure: The start of every class we will address and celebrate our failures

*This course will not be prescriptive in approaches to creating art. Each theme will allow room for you to choose the way your subject is to be viewed whether it is installation, object, performance, video, social practice, immaterial, etc

Project 1: Community Development through Design (40 Points) All Levels

Readings:

Art and Class by Ben Davis

Pedagogy of the Oppressed

https://selforganizedseminar.files.wordpress.com/2011/08/freire_pedagogy_oppressed1.pdf

<https://brianholmes.wordpress.com/2012/02/17/eventwork/>

<http://isreview.org/issue/90/critique-social-practice-art>

In partnership with Fairfax Community Development leaders we will create a "tool box" for local elementary school children

In brainstorming production possibilities, we will visit The Mix in innovation Hall

Project 2: (40 Points) Support Sculpture (Sculpture II&III)

You will create a sculpture with taking into consideration balance and support. We will visit the National Arboretum to observe the gardens and bonsai pavilion.

***Sculpture IV-V:** You are free to use the trip as research for second project or not at all.

Project 3: Our Exhibition

Considering the state of white wall galleries, we will consider what way we would like to exhibit the work we are creating. We will collectively decide, when, where, and why we are having an exhibition.

Additionally, we will break into groups that will organize the show.

1. Place: Where is it? When? How?
2. Press: Compile Press release, Showcard, FB Page
3. Party: Food and Drink

<http://www.clatl.com/culture/article/13072263/who-cares-about-galleries>

<http://www.vulture.com/2013/03/saltz-on-the-death-of-art-gallery-shows.html>

PechaKucha Day:

PechaKucha is a rapid fire and concise presentation style. Our PechaKucha will be 7 minutes of what “moves” you now. What are you interested in? What are you looking at? What are you reading? The presentation could be images, a performance, or whatever.... you could use your 7 minutes to do karaoke. If you are showing images, make it fast paced...the idea is to break away from the boring, click and talk presentations. Our PechaKucha will be used to gauge our next steps for the exhibition. We will discuss overlaps, contradictions, and the collective spirit of the presentations. The most important thing to do is to....HAVE FUN!

Project 4: Wildcard(40 Points)

This work is the opportunity to do something that you have been thinking about all semester. Or maybe you have many floating pieces of ideas...this is the time to try and pull them together for a final work. This can be whatever you would like....Video, live performance, collaboration, installation, etc

*Final will also require you to hand in a portfolio of what you created this semester

Minimum of 3 views

Professional Photography

High Resolution jpegs

Images named: lastname01.jpg

Images in Folder titled your name

