Course: AVT 104 Section 002 CRN 10862 & AVT 104 Section 006 CRN 12086
Time: Tuesday/Thursday (section 006 10:30am-1:10pm & section 002 1:30pm-4:10pm)
Location: Art and Design Building, Room L002
Spring Semester: January 22nd - May 15th
Instructor: Bekí Basch
Email: rbasch@gmu.edu

Course description: This course will build foundational skills and awareness of 2-dimensional elements and principles in our work and in the world we live in. We will use all manner of source material to inform our process.

Course Objectives: To learn and employ the basics of 2D design, its vocabulary, history and relevance.

Expectations: I expect you to be prepared for each class and to work with thoughtfulness and care. Since I am missing this first week, I will also add two very important rules that are near and dear to my heart:
1. Everyone stays until the very end of every class and cleans up together.
2. No headphones. Period.

Supplies: The following is a complete list of supplies you will need throughout the semester. There may be a few things added down the line, but nothing too expensive. Think about quality when you procure these items, but be resourceful when you can.

- 1 sketchbook: basically a decent blank notebook with no lines and a high page count
- 1 sketchpad 18” x 24” of drawing paper: I recommend Strathmore brand
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 x-acto knife and extra blades: do not get a utility knife. An x-acto is a fine tip and a utility knife is not
- 2 rolls of painter’s tape or ‘frog’ tape
- 1 pack of multi-colored construction paper: you can split a big craft pack with someone, as you won’t need that much
- 2 graphite pencils: one in the H range and one in the B range (ask someone at a art/craft store if you need help)
- Set of colored pencils or markers: get good ones and get a range of colors (no crayola)
- 1 jar of rubber cement
- A variety of small to medium paint brushes: Look at the different quality and variety of material and tip shape. You’ll want something for coverage, something for precision and something for detail.
- 1 Bristol pad 11” x 14”: I also recommend Strathmore for this
- Acrylic paint: You’ll need at the very least, red, blue, yellow, black and white, but feel free to get a small variety. You will use black and white the most.
- A tray for mixing paint: This can be a styrofoam or plastic recycled tray, whatever works. No need to buy something you can easily find. Cardboard will not work as it soaks up the paint.
- Empty container (like a yogurt container): for water use when painting
- 1 Palette knife
- 1 Yard of white or off-white muslin: you can wait to buy this
- Fabric markers or fabric paint: you can wait to buy this
- 1 Metal cork-backed straight edge ruler

Grading: You will know ahead of time how many points each assignment is worth and what my expectations are. In addition to assignments, you will receive an overall end-of-semester grade for participation, worth 15% of the total class grade. Participation is about being a positive contributing member of the class, enough said.

Letter grading is especially hard to apply to visual art, but here is the framework I use:

A: over the top, far exceeding the requirements, with sustained effort & imagination
B: above average, and slightly exceeding the requirements
C: average effort while meeting the requirements
D: below average effort, reflected in the work, i.e. “mailing it in”, and missed classes
F: did not meet the requirements, missed classes, and work is clearly unsatisfactory
This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts: 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. Art history courses address the intrinsic relationship of personal and cultural creativity, and the manifestation of aesthetics, visual culture and visual narrative within historical contexts.

Arts goal: 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.

Artsbus - Dates for Spring 2019
February 23, 2019
March 30, 2019
April 13, 2019

ArtsBus Credit:
* Each student must have up to 5 AVT 300/Artsbus credits before graduation. For credit to appear on your transcript you must enroll in AVT 300. This also applies to anyone who intends to travel to New York independently, or do the DC Alternate Assignment.
* If you plan/need to go on multiple Artsbus trips during a semester and need them towards your total requirement, you must enroll in multiple sections of AVT 300. Please go to the Artsbus website: http://artsbus.gmu.edu "Student Information" for additional, very important information regarding Artsbus policy.
* Non-AVT majors taking art classes do not need Artsbus credit BUT may need to go on the Artsbus for a class assignment. You can either sign up for AVT 300 or buy a ticket for the bus trip at the Center of the Arts. Alternate trips must be approved by the instructor of the course that is requiring an Artsbus trip.

Visual Voices Lecture Series Spring 2019:
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: http://soa.gmu.edu/visualvoices/

January 24, 2019
February 21, 2019
February 28, 2019
## Important Deadlines:

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King Day (no classes)</td>
<td>Mon Jan 21</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>First day of classes</strong>: last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed</td>
<td>Tue Jan 22</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Last day to add classes</strong>—all individualized section forms due</td>
<td>Tue Jan 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day to Drop <em>(with 100% tuition refund)</em></td>
<td>Feb 5</td>
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<td>Drop period begins with a TBD refund percentage</td>
<td>Feb 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Drop Deadline <em>(TBD tuition refund percentage)</em></td>
<td>Feb 12</td>
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<td><strong>Student Self-Withdrawal</strong></td>
<td>February 13 – February 25</td>
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<td>Immunization Record Deadline</td>
<td>Thu Mar 1</td>
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<td>Midterm progress reporting period <em>(100-200 level classes)</em>—grades available via Patriot Web</td>
<td>Mon Feb 18 – Fri Mar 22</td>
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<td><strong>Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only) (100% tuition liability)</strong></td>
<td>February 26 – March 25</td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Mon Mar 11 - Sun Mar 17</td>
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<td><strong>Incomplete work from Fall 2018 due to Instructor</strong></td>
<td>Fri March 29</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Incomplete grade changes from Fall 2018 due to Registrar</strong></td>
<td>Tue April 2</td>
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<td>Dissertation/Thesis Deadline</td>
<td>Fri May 3</td>
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<td><strong>Last day of classes</strong></td>
<td>Mon May 6</td>
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<td><strong>Reading Days</strong></td>
<td>Tue May 7</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Exam Period</strong> <em>(beginning at 7:30 a.m.)</em></td>
<td>Wed May 8 – Wed May 15</td>
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<td><strong>Commencement</strong></td>
<td>Fri May 17</td>
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<td><strong>Degree Conferral Date</strong></td>
<td>Sat May 18</td>
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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.

**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.

**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.

**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 nonparticipation. 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.

**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 a SMART Board. Free workshops are also available (Adobe and Microsoft) through Training and Certification; visit ittraining.gmu.edu to see the schedule of workshops and to sign up.