AVT 105
3D Design and Beyond

Through projects, readings, class critiques, visuals, and field trips, students explore materials, techniques, concepts, and processes essential to understanding the language of 3D Design. In the class, students will:

* Learn to create meaning and function using space, structure, material, surface and context.
* Gain hands-on experience with sculptural techniques and brains-on experience with three-dimensional problem solving skills.
* Develop an understanding of the relevance and relationship of three-dimensional design to all the areas of art study.

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.

Note: Experimentation is encouraged! Making good art takes time, thought, planning and the allowance of some extra time for mistakes. Though we will be working on projects in class, it is expected that you will spend some time outside of class to complete projects.

Critiques: Class critiques are very important and will be held at the beginning of class on the due date of each project. Be prepared to talk about your work during the critique. If your work is not complete for the critique your grade on that assignment will be lowered by one full letter grade for each day it is late. You are still required to participate in the class critique, even if your work is not being critiqued.

Projects and grading:
There will be 4 major projects and a series of technical exercises throughout the semester. In addition, there will be short writings and postings on the class blog. 20% of each major project grade will come from any preliminary sketches and models. Each assignment will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria.

1. Fulfillment of the project objectives
2. Craftsmanship
3. Conceptual and material inventiveness
4. Physical investment: the sweat factor
5. Overall aesthetic and conceptual quality of the work

The overall breakdown of the final grade:
Projects-50%
Tests-30%
Writings/postings-20%

Grading:

A Work is characterized by outstanding achievement and understanding of critical analysis as reflected in solutions to assignments, technical competence and the critique process. Student must display preparedness and efficient dedication to scheduled studio time. Adherence to attendance policy.

B Work is characterized by excellent competence and understanding of critical analysis as reflected in solutions to assignments, technical competence and the critique process. Student must display preparedness and dedication to scheduled studio time. Adherence to attendance policy.

C Work is characterized by basic competence and understanding of critical analysis as reflected in solutions to assignments, technical competence and the critique process. Student must display adequate preparedness and dedication to scheduled studio time. Adherence to attendance policy.

D Work is characterized by minimal effort and success. Lowest passing grade.

Studio Policies

1. Attendance Policy
   Attendance is mandatory.
   3 unexcused absences = final grade reduced by 1 letter (A becomes a B),
   4 unexcused absences = 2 letters
   6 unexcused absences = failure no matter your grade
   8 absences (excused or unexcused) will result in failure EVEN IF YOU HAVE A VALID REASON FOR YOUR ABSENCE.

   Tardiness
   If a student is more than 10 minutes late to class, this will count as a ½ absence (unexcused).
   If a student is more than 25 minutes late to a class, they will not be permitted in the classroom, which will result in a full unexcused absence—unless they have given prior and timely notice and justification to the Instructor.
   If a student leaves class 10 minutes or more early, this will result in a ½ absence (excused or unexcused).

   Safety: be aware that there are potential hazards regarding the work in this course. While I conduct thorough demonstrations, it is ultimately up to each student to be prudent and diligent

Grading scale:
A    93 – 100 pts.
A-   90- 92 pts.
B+   87- 89 pts.
B    83 – 86 pts.
B-   80- 82 pts.
C+   77- 79 pts.
C    73 – 76 pts.
C-   70- 72 pts.
D+   67- 69 pts.
D    63 – 66 pts.
D-   60- 62 pts.
F    0- 59 pts.
Materials:
You will be required to get a few basic items at the beginning of class as well as some items needed for any specific project you are working on. Places you can buy ART MATERIALS: Johnson Center Bookstore (on campus)/ Plaza, 3045 Nutley St, Fairfax: 703 280-4500/ Utrecht, 1250 I (eye) St, NW DC, 202-230-9097 www.dickblick.com

Text: No book is required. Readings will be handed out on a per-project basis.

You should have these supplies available for every class.

Hot Glue Gun that uses 1/2” round glue sticks. Get a “high temperature” gun.
One bag of at least 20 glue sticks.
Razor/utility knife. This should be a large (6” x 1”), standard breakaway utility knife.
Package of replacement blades for your knife.
X-Acto Knife and assortment of blades.
Drawing tools: #2 pencil and eraser
Sketch book or notebook: 8 1/2 x 11 (for this class only)
(1) roll masking tape (3/4” width or wider)
(1) Sharpie or felt tip marker
Goggles
Can of rubber cement
Compass
*Plastic bucket and bowl
*Rubber dish washing gloves
*Vaseline

* You will need these when we use plaster

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.
The gathering of materials will be done outside of scheduled studio time. There is no substitute for time spent in the studio with peers and the instructor.
Do not remove any tools or other materials belonging to the studio.
General cleanups require all students to participate. Failure to do so will negatively affect the final grade.
Wear casual clothing and closed-toed shoes. Bring an old long sleeved shirt for protection.

Do not spray paint in the studio.

What to expect this semester:
Expect to spend a minimum of 6 hours of work outside of class per class
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

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 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.

Artsbus - Dates for Fall 2018
September 22
Visual Voices Lecture Series Fall 2018
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/

August 30, 2018
September 13, 2018
September 27, 2018
October 18, 2018

Important Deadlines:

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Consortium Registration Deadline</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>First day of classes</strong>: last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date</td>
<td>August 27</td>
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<td>Labor Day, university closed</td>
<td>September 3</td>
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<td><strong>Last day to add classes</strong>—all individualized section forms due</td>
<td>September 4</td>
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<td>Final Drop Deadline (no tuition penalty)</td>
<td>September 9</td>
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<td><strong>Web Withdrawal Period (100% liability)</strong></td>
<td>September 10- September 30</td>
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<td>Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via Patriot Web</td>
<td>September 24 – September 30</td>
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<td><strong>Selective Withdrawal Period</strong> (undergraduate students only) (100% tuition liability)</td>
<td>October 1 – October 28</td>
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<td>Fall Break (Monday classes/labs meet Tuesday. Tuesday classes do not meet this week)</td>
<td>October 8</td>
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<td>Incomplete work from spring/summer 2018 due to instructor</td>
<td>October 26</td>
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<td>Incomplete grade changes from spring/summer 2018 due to Registrar</td>
<td>November 2</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving recess</td>
<td>November 21 – 25</td>
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Dissertation/Thesis Deadline | December 7
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Last day of classes | December 8

**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 10 – 11

**Exam Period**
| Wed December 12 – Wed December 19

**Winter Graduation Ceremony**
| Thu December 20

**Degree Conferral Date**
| Sat December 22

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.