

**ART400: Interdisciplinary Visual Arts Senior Project**  
**Course Syllabus**  
**Spring 2008**  
**M, W 11:30-2:20 Room: Art 207**

Instructor: Timea Tihanyi  
Email: [timea@u.washington.edu](mailto:timea@u.washington.edu)  
Office: Art 328J Office hours: by appointment

**Course Description**

Art400 focuses on the development of senior-level, exhibition quality artwork in any format and media. During the course of the quarter, students will be able to set their own assignment goals, identify key ideas and sources, fine-tune their processes and develop their concepts into a finished, exhibition quality project. Assignments are designed to strengthen oral presentation and critiquing skills, formulate a strong and compelling artist's written statement, and understand one's artmaking process within a larger art historical framework. The course also covers curatorial issues, installation, presentation, and documentation of finished work. With these skills, students will be prepared for professional life beyond school, including visualizing ideas, developing proposals, and putting together a strong portfolio and other application materials.

Art400 culminates in a group exhibition. **Students must be available during finals week (June 9-14) to participate in the show and the Monday after (June 16<sup>th</sup>) to take down the work and restore the gallery to its original condition.** See information on gallery for more details on the schedule and times required to be present. **The reception is scheduled for Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 6-9pm.** Invite friends and family!

This is an interdisciplinary visual arts studio course; we will be thinking and talking about, as well as making art in this manner. Please note that assignments will need to be done outside of class time. Expect to spend at least 6-8hours/week on your studio practice.

If you need access to specialized equipment, other than the woodshop or the SOACC, arrange in advance with the respective program/studio. For example, if you want to do some welding as part of your project, you need to have previous experience with the equipment and arrange with the technician/faculty in the sculpture program. Class time will be spent on topical discussions and consultations, critiques, logistical issues, and guest presentations. One-on-one consultations and group brainstorming sessions will prepare you to tackle challenges from the conception of the initial idea to the execution of the finished project. Consultation and demos on unfamiliar materials and techniques are always available upon your request.

**Expectations**

1. Participate in building an environment of learning and experimentation where:
  - a. taking risks and challenging conventions is preferred;
  - b. safe to ask questions and debate issues;
  - c. positive and critical feedback is offered in a supportive spirit;
  - d. all participants are attentive and respectful of each other.
  
2. Class begins and ends at the appointed time unless otherwise scheduled. Arrive on time and prepared to discuss your project's progress.
  
3. Be responsible for your own successful completion of the course. This means to:
  - a. Keep an open attitude. Experiment, challenge yourself and strive for new ideas.
  - b. Attend all sessions and complete all assignments on time. Participation in discussions and critiques is required and an important part of your course experience (and grade.)
  - c. If sudden illness, emergency or random act of nature should prevent you from attending class, contact me ([timea@u.washington.edu](mailto:timea@u.washington.edu)) IN ADVANCE.If you take an absence you are responsible for following up with a classmate, making sure that you are not missing any important information and staying up-to-speed with the rest of the class.
  - d. All projects must be completed and presented on time. Late projects will not be accepted.
  
4. This course prepares you for real-life studio practice. You are expected to take your own work seriously and to be organized and conscientious in planning and managing project work time.
  
5. Most projects are just not practical to do at home. **Rm. 207 is your shared studio space for the duration of the quarter.** You have full access to the room outside of the scheduled class times. Wherever you work, always leave your work area clean. Observe safety, traffic flow, and maintenance

rules when working in public spaces outside of the classroom. Attain permission from Kris Jones in the main office (rm. 102) before installing your project. LEAVE NO TRACE policy applies!

Move out all materials, tools and projects from the classroom by June 4th.

6. Absolutely NO cell phone calls are to be taken or made during class. Turn off and put away all cell phones and digital equipment for the entire duration of class.

7. If you have any questions, concerns regarding the class or need extra help, talk to me ASAP.

#### Evaluation

Your final grade will be determined by the following:

- Effort shown in, artistic merit of completed senior project: 40%
- Participation in class activities, including critiques, class discussions, jobs and responsibilities for the show, etc.: 30%
- Professional manner, individual effort, commitment, progress throughout the quarter: 10%
- Preliminary project development (project plans, tests, project progress log/journal and calendar). Quality of final portfolio, including project documentation, artist statement, and resume. 20%

#### Art Resources

Research:

SOA Library and Slide Library (1st floor)

Visual Arts listings in the free weekly newspapers: The Stranger, Seattle Weekly

Web: gallery and museum websites

Blogs: Slog <http://slog.thestranger.com/>

ArtDish <http://www.artdish.com/>

Podcasts: Henry ArtCast (The Henry Art Gallery)

SAM Podcast (Seattle Art Museum)

MoMa Audio (MoMa, New York)

SFMoMa ArtCast (San Francisco Museum of Modern Art)

Tate Podcast (Tate Gallery, London)

Equipment – checkout laptops and data projectors:

SOA Media Center (basement)

Classroom Support Services: STF Equipment (Kane Hall or reserve online:

<http://www.css.washington.edu/STFEquipment>)

video and digital cameras, tripods:

SOA Computing Center (2nd floor)

Woodshop: SOA Woodshop (1st floor) Note: You'll be checked out on the equipment before you are allowed to use it on your own.

Class web site: <http://faculty.washington.edu/timea/art400.htm>

Combo to room 207: \_\_\_\_\_

#### *Equal Opportunity*

*The School of Art reaffirms its policy of equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran in accordance with UW policy and applicable federal and state statutes and regulations.*

#### *Disability Accommodation*

*If you would like to request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact Disabled Student Services, 448 Schmitz, (206) 543-8924 (V/TTY) or [uwdss@u.washington.edu](mailto:uwdss@u.washington.edu).*

*If you have a letter from Disabled Student Services indicating you have a disability that requires academic accommodation, please present the letter to me on the first day of class so we can discuss the accommodations you might need.*

#### *Participation Policy*

*Absences from class prevent participation and may negatively affect grades.*

*If you miss class due to illness or emergencies immediately notify your instructor and insure that all missed assignments and exams are completed.*

#### *Plagiarism*

*Plagiarism is defined as using in your own work the creations, ideas, words, inventions, or work of someone else without formally acknowledging them through the use of quotation marks, footnotes, bibliography, or other reference.*

*Please check with your instructor if you have questions about what constitutes plagiarism.*

*Instances of plagiarism will be referred to the Vice Provost/Special Asst to the President for Student Relations and may lead to disciplinary action.*