

VP62H3 Foundation Studies in Studio | Fall 2020

You may be wondering, what kind of experience will you have in online UTSC Studio Art classes?

For this course, **Foundation Studies in Studio**, there will be a mix of:

- class meetings on videoconference
- some smaller group activities and experiments on videoconference
- pre-recorded “how to” guides and pre-recorded lectures that you watch on your own
- **lots of one-on-one check-ins with your professor**
- and independent work from your “home studio” (there will be a “how to” guide for setting up your home studio!).

You will be able to complete all course art projects with art supplies and materials that you can find easily in local stores. No ancillary fees will be charged in this course for Fall 2020.

A team of *Foundation* professors have re-designed the online version of this course so that you will still have **opportunities to interact with your classmates**. In the Studio Art program, community and engagement is something we believe in deeply.

For international students abroad: the course timeslot has been adjusted to try to accommodate time differences.

If you want more information, you can review the sample course outline below to get an idea of how the course has been adapted for online learning.

If you have any other questions, don't hesitate to contact **Professor Will Kwan**, Studio Art Program Director: will.kwan@utoronto.ca.

Sample online course outline for Fall 2020.
For informational purposes only; some details are subject to change.

Studio Art | Arts, Culture and Media | University of Toronto Scarborough

VPSA62H3 Foundation Studies in Studio | Fall 2020

Course Outline

Location: Online Synchronous (Blackboard Collaborate and other platforms TBD)

Co-requisite: VPSA63H3 But Why Is It Art?

We would like to acknowledge this sacred land on which the University of Toronto operates. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory.

Foundation Studies in Studio is an art-making course that will introduce you to the importance of content and context in the making of contemporary art that will prepare you for further study in the Studio Art program. You will research, develop and finish artworks, and then present them in class. The course will consist of art projects, research assignments, in-class experiments, class discussions, critiques, and gallery visits. In addition, you will:

- Experiment with different artistic methods and develop hands-on skills
- Learn to think like a contemporary artist
- Develop an independent work ethic
- Develop a critical eye when looking at artworks and a more sophisticated art vocabulary

Important Dates / Due Dates

| | |
|---|---------------|
| <i>Modular Material</i> Research Assignment due | Week 2 |
| Artwork 1: <i>Modular Material</i> due | Week 5 |
| <i>Text in Site</i> Research Assignment due | Week 6 |
| Reading Week | Week 7 |
| Artwork 2: <i>Text in Site</i> due | Week 10 |
| <i>Performance</i> Research Assignment due | Week 11 |
| Artwork 3: <i>Performance</i> due | Week 13 |
| Final Research Sketchbook due | Week 13 |

Project Objectives and Expectations

You will be given a series of artwork assignments that are designed to challenge your imagination and technical problem-solving skills. The objective is for you to find artistic solutions to the assignment challenges. Finding artistic solutions to the assignments may take more time and thought than you are accustomed to putting into university-level coursework. If you get stuck, don't panic. Research the project topics and the materials you are working with. Open your mind. Experiment. Talk to your professor.

Don't forget that you are making artworks in this class. Artworks are by definition things that are well made, visually engaging, detail-oriented, ambitious, courageous, bold, clever, experimental, inventive, complex, strange, unexpected... **Aim high.** Ask yourself, *will my professor be impressed by what I've made?*

Artwork Materials and Required Supplies and Tools

There are no ancillary fees for *Foundation* for Fall 2020.

You will purchase your own materials for each artwork assignment as needed depending on your concept. Talk with your professor about where to find materials. Finding good quality, meaningful, and visually interesting materials is essential to a successful project. Detailed project handouts will give you information about materials, objectives, expectations, installation tips, and restricted materials.

To complete Research Assignments and in-class activities you will require the following supplies and tools:

- Sketchbook, minimum 9" W x 12" H, coil-bound so you can tear pages out easily
https://www.currys.com/catalogpc.htm?Category=STRATHMORE_SKETCH_PAD&NBRReset=22
- 15" ruler with corked back:
https://www.currys.com/catalogpc.htm?Category=CORK_BACK_RULERS&Source=Search
- Utility knife
https://www.currys.com/catalogpc.htm?CATEGORY=OLFA_HEAVY_DUTY_UTILITY_KNIFE
- Drawing pencil
https://www.currys.com/catalogpc.htm?Category=STAEDTLER_LUMOGRAPH_BLACK_PENCIL&Source=Search
- UHU Glue Stick Jumbo 21g
https://www.currys.com/catalogpc.htm?Category=UHU_GLUE_STICK&Source=Search
- Cutting Mat 12" x 18"
https://www.currys.com/catalogpc.htm?Category=CURRYS_GREEN_CUTTING_MATS&NBRReset=37

Please have these materials purchased by the start of the term.

Research Sketchbook and Research Assignments

Research is an essential part of the creative process. Your Research Sketchbook is where you collect information and work through ideas. It is a place where you can explore, experiment, and take chances. All printouts and found materials must be carefully glued or taped into your sketchbook. **For Fall 2020 you will photograph your sketchbook work to submit for grading. There will be a "how to" guide for that!**

Your Research Sketchbook must contain the following by the end of the term:

- Research Assignments: Research Assignments for your projects will be completed in your sketchbook. They are specifically designed to help you with your projects.
- All in-class and drawing activities from throughout the term
- Critique Self-Reflection and Classmate Critique (2 in total)
- Research notes, ideas, and sketches for your projects
- Any found materials that you find interesting or inspiring: printed images, newspaper and magazine clippings, quotations, materials from exhibitions that you visit...
- Online WHMIS test results, taped or stapled into the sketchbook

Workspace

Many artists have home studios where they make art on a daily basis. In *Foundation*, there will be a "how to" guide for setting up a functional and effective home studio.

Note: if provincial and municipal restrictions ease and the UTSC campus allows limited access, you will be provided with information potential workspace on campus. Use of this space is not mandatory.

Fabrication Level 1 Workshop and Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) Training (Online)

- Level 1 training workshop (Week 2): safety training for Fabrication Lab and basic hand tools. **For Fall 2020, this training will be done through a "how to" video with our Fab Lab Technician Josh Cleminson.**
- Online WHMIS training and test. Online WHMIS Training instructions will be provided in Week 2 during Level 1 training. Completing the WHMIS test is required to pass this course.

Studio Art/DMG Visiting Artist Lecture Series (VALS) and Doris McCarthy Gallery Events

There will be a series of live or pre-recorded video visiting Artist lectures and Doris McCarthy Gallery events throughout the term. You are encouraged to attend as many of these events as possible. For this class, you can get 1 bonus mark for attending each event, up to 3 marks total. Information and registration details will be provided in class and posted on Quercus.

Critiques

On project due dates, you will present your artwork for a “critique” where classmates and your professor give you feedback. For Fall 2020, on project due dates you will photograph and upload your artwork documentation and for critique. There will be a “how to” guides for how set up (install) your final artwork in your home studio and how to photograph/record (document) your work for submission. There will be accommodations for those who are unable to attend critique live on videoconference.

Critiques are the equivalent to exams for this course. Critiques provide you with a valuable opportunity to understand how an audience perceives your work and ideas, to recognize the strengths and weaknesses in your work, and to learn how to talk about the technical and conceptual aspects of your work and the work of others.

Written Critique Reflections

Following critiques for Projects 1 and 2, you will write and submit the following:

- A 250-word self-reflection on your project analyzing what you thought was successful and how it could be improved.
- Analyses of two artworks by classmates, one that you felt was successful and one that was not.

Instructions for submitting Critique Reflections will be provided on Quercus.

One-on-one mid-term meeting with Professor _____

Around Week 6, you will have a formal one-on-one mid-term online meeting with Professor _____ to discuss how you are progressing in the course. More details will be circulated as we get closer to that point in the term.

Grading Scheme

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|------------------------------------|-----|
| Artwork 1: <i>Modular Material</i> | 20% |
| Artwork 2: <i>Text in Site</i> | 20% |
| Artwork 3: <i>Performance</i> | 20% |
| Research Sketchbook | 15% |
| Contribution/Development | 25% |

What are your grade based on?

Artworks

A grade will be given for each project after it is critiqued in class. Grades are based on:

- Creative and conceptual response to assignment parameters
- Technical execution, quality of presentation, attention to detail
- Complexity/ambitiousness of project

Research Sketchbook

This grade reflects a combination of the following:

- Quality of all Research, Start-of-class, and In-class Exercises
- Quality of Artwork Descriptions and Critique Reflections
- Thoughtfulness of ideas and observations
- Degree of experimentation
- Attention to detail and overall effort
- Quantity and quality of project research notes and found materials
- Completed WHMIS documentation

Contribution and Development Grade

This grade reflects a combination of the following:

- Attendance, punctuality, and presence in class. Accommodations will be made for those in special pandemic circumstance.
- Thoughtful, ongoing contributions to discussions and critiques
- Participation in and completion of in-class exercises
- Artistic growth and risk-taking over the course of the semester

Grade Scale

The following is a guideline for understanding the grades in studio practice courses:

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|-------------|---|
| 90 – 100% | A + | Exceptional | Exceeds expectations; work is ambitious; demonstrates original thinking |
| 80 – 89% | A | Excellent | Sophisticated ideas and problem-solving; high-quality technical execution |
| 70 – 79% | B | Good | Ideas are coherent and consistent with approach; some attention to detail |
| 60 – 69% | C | Adequate | Meets requirements, but ideas and execution require development. |
| 50 – 59% | D | Marginal | Barely meets requirements. No effort has been made |
| 50 – 59% | F | Inadequate | |

For general grading scale and an explanation of what grades mean, please refer to the UTSC Academic Handbook: <https://utsc.calendar.utoronto.ca/7-understanding-marks-and-grades>

Late work: All work must be completed by its due date. Late work will be marked one grade lower per week (class) late. For example, if you submit an assignment one week past the due date and if it is marked as a B, it will be lowered to a C, simply because it is late. Coursework will not be accepted after the last day of classes. If you miss a class or due date because of illness, you are required to provide a verification of illness from a doctor in compliance with University regulations: <https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/registrar/verification-illness-or-injury>. Accommodations will be made for those in special pandemic circumstances.

Plagiarism and Academic integrity

The academic offense of plagiarism also applies to artworks and artistic ideas. Often cases happen unintentionally. Familiarize yourself with UTSC's guide on "How Not to Plagiarize":

<http://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize/>. Academic integrity is fundamental to learning and scholarship at the University of Toronto. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that the U of T degree that you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement, and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves. U of T treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following the procedures outlined in the code. The consequences for academic misconduct can be severe, including a failure in the course and a notation on your transcript. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course or about appropriate research and citation methods. If you are experiencing personal challenges that are having an impact on your academic work, please speak to me or seek the advice of your college registrar. Familiarize yourself with U of T's code of behaviour on academic matters at <http://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>.

Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

- Copying an artwork (in part or in whole) from the internet (or elsewhere) without proper citations
- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement or copying material word-for-word from a source (including lecture and study group notes) and not placing words within quotation marks.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts and including references to sources that you did not use.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment including having someone rewrite or add material to your work while "editing" or lending your work to a classmate who submits it as his/her own without your permission.

Accommodation

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or AccessAbility Services as soon as possible. AccessAbility Services staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. Contact AccessAbility Services at 416-287-7560 or email ability@utsc.utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Contact and Student "drop-in hours"

Information for contacting me via email is listed at the top of this outline.

For feedback on your projects during online student-drop in hours, your project ideas must be something physical (a sketch, a test print, a prototype, an exported video clip, etc.). I will not discuss verbal descriptions of project ideas.