

ART 159 – Spring, 2006

Three-Dimensional Design

Instructor: Renzo Faggioli

Office Hours:

Before or after class.

Ceramics lab phone: 610/861-1677 Art Office Phone: 610/861-1680 (mornings only, Summer)

I. Course Description:

This course is an introduction to understanding forms, the basic principles of mass and void, and the concept of designing in the 3rd dimension. Throughout the semester, the student will be experience working in various techniques both first-hand and through the study of traditional and contemporary sculpture.

II. Goals:

There will be 7 projects to be completed throughout the semester, including:

- 1) Making plaster molds from a self-created bas relief clay tile.
Exploring the tile as a three-dimensional form (class project)
- 2) Making a bas relief tile from a past culture (to be approved by the instructor)
The first three projects will be evaluated for the mid-term grade.
- 3) Multimedia narrative project (wood, glass, found objects, etc.) Students will create a box, and the objects in the box will be used to visually tell a story.
- 4) Soft-stone sculpture exploring positive and negative space.
- 5) Sculpting a self-portrait bust in clay.
- 6) Creating forms with armature wire and plaster.
- 7) Figure studies (2) from live models in clay.

Media to be used: Clay, plaster, metal, wire, styrofoam, wood, and stone.

III. Requirements and grading:

Students are expected to fulfill class time requirements as arranged with the instructor. Attendance in class is mandatory. Missing more than 3 classes without written valid excuse from the dean or student services will result in a reduced grade. Students over half an hour late without a valid excuse will be considered absent. If more than 4 classes are missed without written valid excuse from the Dean, student will receive a failing grade.

Critiques of the works produced will take place throughout the semester. Student involvement in classroom activity and critiques will be reflected in the participation element of the final grade..

Students will have to write a brief reaction paper on a gallery exhibition related to three-dimensional design. In Spring 2006, this would include the “Five Continents” exhibit at Payne Gallery from February 2 to March 5. They will also write a reaction paper after the “Grounds for Sculpture” field trip later in the semester (see V. below)

Grading

Grading for a course in studio art is determined by objective and subjective assessment. Competency and understanding of the methods and materials of three-dimensional design can be directly observed. Creativity is more subjective. Students are encouraged to develop their own individual vision in addition to the required basic skills. The instructor reserves the right to apply qualitative judgment in determining a grade based on creativity (concept) and craftsmanship (form). The commitment to this pursuit in the form of effort, time and progress must be a factor in determining grades. **Projects receive a grade that is based on technical accomplishment and concept. The final grade for each assignment will be based on an average of the two. Skill developing exercises will receive a Pass/Fail rather than a numerical grade.** The following lists the course requirements and the weight of each on the final grade:

A grade of A is earned by accomplishing the following:

- Consistent, on Time Attendance
- All Work Submitted on Time and according to assignment specifications
- Class Participation, particularly in critiques
- Technical Expertise – knowing how to use three-dimensional media covered in class
- Productive Use of Class Time
- Work Outside of Class
- Clean, Well Crafted, Professional Presentation – the most important component of the grade is the final presentation.

Field trip paper and gallery paper	10 %
Mid-Term Review/Presentation (includes first three projects)	25 %
Participation	25%
Final Presentation (includes final four projects)	40 %

A-	Exceptional
B -	Above Average
C -	Satisfactory – all assignments and presentations meet basic requirements
D -	Below Average
F -	Failure

IV. Academic Honesty Policy:

Please see the write-up in the Student Handbook. Appropriation of another student's creative work will not be tolerated.

V. Field Trip:

A trip to Grounds for Sculpture in New Jersey will be announced as the semester progresses. A paper will be based on this trip. It may be possible for people unable to attend the trip to attend another art department trip. (More information will follow.) A brief reaction paper will be required following the trip.