

ART 159 – Spring, 2008

Three-Dimensional Design

Instructor: Renzo Faggioli

Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 - 11:00, Room 6

Office Hours: After class by appointment.

Ceramics lab phone: 610/861-1677 Art Office Phone: 610/861-1680

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.

II. Goals:

- X The student will gain an appreciation of the creative process in the fine arts. (This course meets the M6, Aesthetic Awareness, LinC requirement.)
- X The student will experience working in various sculptural techniques first-hand.
- X The student will study traditional and contemporary sculpture through class presentations, gallery visits, and a field trip.

III. Materials and Texts:

Text: Launching the Imagination: A Guide to Three-Dimensional Design by Mary Stewart

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

(Students may be billed a small amount to be announced to cover cost of stone.)

IV. Course Requirements:

There will be 7 projects to be completed throughout the semester, as noted on course calendar. For each project, students will participate from beginning through final completion, including, coloring, glazing, firing, assembling, etc. Students must display understanding of each 3-dimensional process. Slide shows of work of sculptors from history, and contemporary, will be included. Students must also participate in a field trip to Grounds for Sculpture and write a paper about the experience.

V. Attendance:

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 fifteen minutes 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. Students are expected to fulfill class time requirements as arranged with the instructor.

VI. Grading:

Critiques of the works produced will take place throughout the semester. A group critique is also scheduled just prior to mid-term and at the end of the semester. Student involvement in classroom activity and critiques will be reflected in the participation element of the final grade.

If you have any questions at any time regarding requirements and grading, or if you have any other concerns, please discuss them with the instructor. Do not wait until the end of the semester; please consult with him immediately. You are welcome to make an appointment for before or after class or at another mutually agreeable time.

Students will have to write a brief reaction paper on a gallery exhibition related to three-dimensional design. They will also write a reaction paper after the “Grounds for Sculpture” field trip later in the semester (see below)

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:

- θ Consistent, on Time Attendance
- θ All Work Submitted on Time and according to assignment specifications
- θ Class Participation, particularly in critiques
- θ Technical Expertise – knowing how to use three-dimensional media covered in class
- θ Productive Use of Class Time
- θ Work Outside of Class
- θ 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

VII. Course Calendar and Projects:

- 1) Making plaster molds from a self-created bas relief clay tile.
Exploring the tile as a three-dimensional form (class project)
January 15, 17, 22, 24 *Due January 29*
- 2) Making a bas relief tile from a past culture (to be approved by the instructor)
January 29, 31 *Due February 5*
- 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.
February 5, 7, 12 *Due February 14*
- 4) Sculpting a self-portrait bust in clay.
February 14, 19, 21, 26 *Due for critique February 28*
* *Mid-Term Critique* *February 28*
- 5) Creating forms with armature wire and plaster.
March 11, 13, 18, 20 *Due at end of class March 20*
- 6) Soft-stone sculpture exploring positive and negative space.
March 25, 27, April 1, 3 *Due at end of class April 3*
* *Field trip week of April 7 with slide show prior to trip (Date tentative)*
- 7) Figure studies (2) from live models in clay.
April 15, 17, 22 *Due April 24*
* *Group Critique* *April 24*

VII. Disability Statement: Students with Learning Disabilities: If you believe you need accommodations in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Learning Services Office as soon as possible to enhance the likelihood that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

VIII: Academic Honesty Policy:

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

IX. Field Trip:

A trip to Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, New Jersey (near Trenton) 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.