

The University of Western Ontario Department of Visual Arts

Sculptural Practices: The Simulated And The Real

Course: VAS 3392B

Term: Winter 2017

Time: Tuesday 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Location: VAC 130A

Professor: **Liza Eurich**

Office: VAC 241B (resource library)

Office Hours: Friday 12:00-1:00 p.m. or by appointment

E-mail: leurich@uwo.ca

Shop Technicians: **Andrew Silk** and **Charles Harris**

Prerequisite for Entry: VAS 1020 or VAS 1025.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This special topics course will explore contemporary sculpture as it engages with juxtapositions between the simulated and the real. Accordingly, projects will take students through concepts pertaining to mimicry, authenticity, functionality and the readymade. While beginning within the sphere of representation, work may also extend towards abstraction. Students will experiment with a variety of fabrication methods, including woodworking, moldmaking, casting, and 3D rendering. Rachel Harrison, Peter Fischli & David Weiss, Franz West, Donald Judd and Marcel Duchamp are among the artists we will look to.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students who successfully complete this course will have developed a visual literacy in three dimensional practices, resulting in an ability to communicate complex ideas through this approach. Additionally, students will have expanded their critical thinking skills, and will be able to participate in discussions about, as well as situate their own artworks within, contemporary and historical practices.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Depth and Breadth of Knowledge:

- Students will acquire the range of skills required to engage in the material/conceptual practice they have chosen to study, and will have a thorough understanding of the genesis of those skills historically.

2. Application of Knowledge

- Students will use their capacities with Sculpture, Installation and Performance as a critical tool to develop creative works: this will include the ability to assess the work's viability and explore, expand and hone the work further into a coherent body.

3. Communication Skills

- Students will be able to communicate, both verbally and orally, the strengths and weaknesses of their projects. Additionally, students will be able to apply specialized terminology to discussions in critiques, and be able to articulate the relevant historical and contemporary contexts to each project under discussion.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students will complete **four assignments** for this course, in addition to participating in in-class demonstrations, workshops and critiques.

Only in exceptional circumstances will late assignments be accepted. Under these conditions late assignments may be submitted no later than one week after the due date, with a 5% grade deduction per day. Extensions will be given only upon official notification from the student's faculty advisor due to documented health or bereavement reasons.

During the course students working in a small group will be required to lead the class in discussions on a selected assigned reading. Further guidelines to this assignment will be provided in class.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND PREPARATIONS:

Students are expected to attend all classes punctually and participate in all class discussions and critiques.

Students are required to come to all classes with the necessary materials and safety equipment to work that day.

Students are responsible for **cleaning up** after themselves after each work session.

Students are responsible for removing work from the storage area after it has been critiqued.

Students are expected to treat other students' artworks respectfully and carefully.

Students may not submit a project completed for another course, unless special permission is obtained from both of the instructors involved.

Students are expected to submit original work. Duplicating a project or artwork seen online will not be considered original work.

EVALUATION:

Casting + Multiples	35%
Sheet Metal Shelf	05%
Overly Functional Stool	20%
Modified Readymade	20%
Attendance + Participation	15%
Digital Sketchbook	05%

Evaluation of participation will depend on attendance and commitment to class discussions and activities. Students arriving unreasonably late, or leaving early, will not be considered as having participated in a class.