

Department of Visual Arts
Western University

**SA 2630A Introduction to Print Media
A Blended Course – Onsite & Online
“Transition, Transgression, Transformation”**

Welcome to an Introduction to Print Media Media. This course offers an Introduction to a range of printmaking mediums, enabling students to develop their printmaking skills in the areas of relief, intaglio and screeprinting, as per Calendar Description. Focusing on the broad themes of Transition, Transgression and Transformation, students will be introduced to a range of print-based methodologies and artists who work with print practices, as well as to a range of contemporary artworks that speak to the thematics of the course.

In view of the challenges to engage in a hybrid onsite and online course, where wellbeing and safety are primary, and to utilize the Print workshop as well as to develop a creative community online, every effort will be made by the Instructor to lead the course in an organized, flexible, and creatively nurturing way. It is hoped that students will respond generously and flexibly, and will make every effort possible to cooperatively work towards the wellbeing and safety of all involved, too.

Below you will find all the necessary information about this course including some important points concerning demonstrations, working in class, and online, and concerning materials. All aspects of the course will be discussed in class, but please read the course outline and refer back to it throughout the semester.

Prof. Patrick Mahon

Please Note: Students are responsible for ensuring they have successfully completed all course prerequisites (SA1601 or SA1605) and that they have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no fee adjustment. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Course Objectives

This course offers an Introduction to Print Media, allowing students to develop their printmaking skills in the areas of relief, intaglio and screeprinting. Students will engage with Print Media in context of larger issues in culture and visual art, and will be expected to relate the study and practice of print-based art with their conceptual and material interests as artists.

Importantly, training and awareness of health and safety issues will be integrated into all studio practices and *strictly enforced*.

Course Information

Instructor:	Professor Patrick Mahon Office: VAC Rm. 121 Tel: 519-661-2111 ext. 85529 Office Hour: Tuesday 10-11 a.m. pmahon@uwo.ca
Technician:	Jessica Woodward jwoodwa5@uwo.ca
Class:	John Labatt Visual Arts Centre Room 106 & Screen Area T/Th 11:30-2:30
Office Hours:	Tuesday 10:00-11:00 or by appointment
Material/Lab Fee to be Collected:	_____

Online: To facilitate SA2630A, students can access our OWL site through

OWL / Sakai Documentation <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

Learning Outcomes

- *Depth and Breadth of Knowledge:* Students will acquire a range of technical skills required to engage in the material practice of printmaking. Students will also become familiar with the historical genesis of and terms associated with the various print material areas being studied as well as contemporary discourses surrounding those materials.
- *Knowledge of Methodologies:* Students will gain an understanding of print methodologies and visual possibilities of each media through practical applications.
- *Communication Skills:* Students will be able to communicate orally regarding their projects through critique and class discussion, including in response to instructor presentations and critiques.

Attendance, Preparedness, Working in Class

- SA2630A is a Studio class, the instruction happens in the studio and online, as per the course syllabus. **Full attendance is mandatory for students enrolled in SA2630A.** Under university regulations, if someone misses more than 15% of their classes (4 classes per semester) without written corroboration for health or bereavement, students can be debarred from participation in final tests, evaluations and/or

critiques. Fair warning will be given through email and departmental letters to students if lack of attendance is persistent.

- Students are expected to come **prepared to participate** in all class activities, lectures, online forums, work periods and critiques. This includes having all the necessary art materials you need for each specific class session. Students are expected to work on their art assignments during work sessions. Students are also expected to sign up for out of class work sessions and to take full advantage of these supervised, independent working opportunities.
- Attendance is taken during each class by the instructor. Leaving the class early will be recorded.
- **Do not come late, whether to onsite classes or via Zoom!** Lateness is disrespectful to the instructor and your fellow students. If you do come late, it will be recorded by the instructor and will adversely affect your commitment mark.

Course Requirements

- Students are responsible for making themselves aware of all assignments, procedures and due dates. It is the student's complete responsibility to keep informed by referring to the syllabus.
- Students are expected to complete all assignments on due dates for critique. Failure to complete assignments or present completed work in scheduled critiques without prior consultation with the instructor could result in a failing grade. If you choose to hand in work late, **2% per day will be deducted from the assignment** (Monday to Friday, weekend considered one day) and no written feedback will be given to late work. **One week after the due date, late work will not be accepted and the student will be given a grade of 0 (zero) for that assignment.** The final assignments are due on the last class in April. Assignments not received on the last class will be given a mark of 0 (zero).
- Students are expected to **clean-up after each onsite work session.**
- **Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counseling Office of their home Faculty and PROVIDE MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.**
- **A student who cannot complete assignments totaling less than 10% for the whole course, due to medical reasons, may speak with the instructor and arrange an extension of no more than two weeks to complete the assignments, WITH MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION.**
- **Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.**

- Students are expected to spend a minimum 2-hours outside of class for every one hour in class towards fulfilling course requirements.
- Students **must** take **detailed notes** during the demonstrations throughout the semester. Printmaking is a very involved process; it cannot be learned intuitively and it is imperative that you take detailed notes to refer to when you are working. As well, you are shown how to properly use the equipment and materials in the demonstration for your own safety as well as to maintain the equipment in the shop. When you have a technical problem, the instructor and the technician will want to refer to your notes as an aspect of assisting you. Not taking notes during a demonstration will negate your ability to ask the technician and instructor for technical assistance. **Reckless use of shop equipment as well as disregarding health and safety procedures are grounds for being removed from the class.**
- Demonstrations can often be 3 to 6 hours long and cover 2 full class periods. Demonstrations of such length can never be repeated. Attendance at demonstrations is mandatory in order for every student to understand the procedures of each print practice.

Normal Building Access (September 1st to April 30th) (Subject to change):

- The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:00pm each night Monday to Friday. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00pm-5:00pm unless otherwise posted; access by side entrances only. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:00pm and 5:00pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.
- For the 2020-2021 academic year the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be available by card access only for students who have in-person classes in the building.

Departmental and University Policies

- **Student Conduct:**

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/code_of_conduct.pdf

- **Plagiarism**, which may be defined as “The act or an instance of copying or stealing another’s words or ideas and attributing them as one’s own,” will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from Black’s Law Dictionary, 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170). This includes

presenting the visual or aural work of another creator as your own. Visual or Aural Plagiarism may involve both hand-based media such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, as well as digital media such as photography, video and sound. It includes work subsequently manipulated or transferred between different media, as well as self-plagiarism – work submitted for assignments previously produced and graded for another course. Similar to textual plagiarism, all student work involving the visual or aural work of others must be appropriately cited/identified whether in print or orally. Failure to do so will lead to similar academic penalties as those identified in Western's Academic Calendar

- **Permission re: Artwork Promotion:**

You grant permission for Western University to reproduce your name, information describing your artwork, representations of your work and any other information you have provided for the purpose of display, promotion and publicity either now or in the future.

By installing your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you grant Western University an irrevocable, perpetual, royalty-free world-wide licence to photograph your artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, flickr, Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Artlab Gallery or Cohen Commons. As the area is open to the public, students, faculty, staff and other visitors will not be prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre.

You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.

By installing your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you grant Western University an irrevocable, perpetual, royalty-free world-wide licence to photograph your artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, flickr, Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Artlab Gallery or Cohen Commons. As the area is open to the public, students, faculty, staff and other visitors will not be prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre.

You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.

Artwork Installation Liability Release:

You understand that the area where your artwork will be hanging or displayed is unsupervised and is in a part of the building that may be open to the public, day and evening, whether or not the building is open. Western University accepts no

responsibility for damage to, or loss of, artwork at any time while on display or while being transported to or from the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. By displaying your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you accept all risk of loss or damage to your artwork. Western University does not provide insurance for the artwork on exhibition. If you wish to insure artwork, it is your responsibility to do so.

Removal:

Western University reserves the right to dispose of artwork not picked up by April 15th of each year.

Academic Consideration:

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by extenuating circumstances, including short-term illness or injury. Reasonable academic consideration is a cooperative process between the University, the student, and academic staff. All participants in the process must act in good faith, and fulfil their respective obligations, if it is to succeed.

Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements, may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

- (i) Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form, provided that the conditions for submission are met;
- (ii) For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration; or
- (iii) For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration, in order to be eligible for academic consideration.

Students seeking academic consideration:

- Are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work;
- Are encouraged to make appropriate decisions, based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (e.g., upset stomach) or upsets (e.g., argument with a friend) are not normally an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence;
- **Must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either the self-reported absence or SMC, or immediately upon their return following a documented absence;

- **Are advised that all necessary documentation, forms, etc. are to be submitted to academic counselling within two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities**

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe as to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less. The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

- Students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April, and one self-reported absence between May and August;
- The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30pm;
- The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period, should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (e.g., write a test, submit a paper) during that time;
- The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30am on the day following the last day of classes each semester, regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;
- Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations
- Self-reporting may not be used for assessments (e.g., midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course;
- Students must be in touch with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed

Academic Sanctions:

In instances of non-payment of prescribed tuition and other fees, the University shall seal the academic record. When an academic record is sealed, the student will not be able to: a) view grades; b) register in future courses; c) receive transcripts or a degree diploma; d) obtain admission or readmission.

The above prohibitions shall be in force until such time as indebtedness to the University, including payment of fee for removal of the seal, has been cleared to

the satisfaction of the University.

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&Keywords=academic%20sanctions&SubHeadingID=169&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_169

Please remember:

- One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Professor T. Johnson (tel. 519-661-3440; vaugc@uwo.ca). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty. Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the academic counselors in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities located in University College , Office of the Dean.
- The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; www.sdc.uwo.ca) offers a wide range of useful services including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.
- The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: www.lib.uwo.ca.
- Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program which offer part-time positions on campus for Western students. Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail, finaid@uwo.ca; or check out their website at http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html

Support Services:

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Student Development Centre -- <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>
2. Student Health -- <http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html>
3. Registrar's Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>
5. Mental Health -- https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/

Health and Wellness:

Western offers a variety of counselling services and several mental health resources for students. If you or a friend are feeling overwhelmed, confused or unsure of your mental health state, please don't ignore it. There are steps you can take to help yourself or help others. Western provides several on-campus health-related

services to help engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre. Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca/>. If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health Support at Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

☐ Gender Neutral Bathrooms:

Middlesex College does not have specifically gender-neutral bathrooms. There are two gender neutral bathrooms in the JLVAC. One is located in the Artlab and is open only during Artlab hours. A second single stall gender neutral bathroom can be found on the third floor of the JLVAC. Here is the full list of inclusive washrooms at UWO: http://www.uwo.ca/equity/doc/inclusive_washrooms.pdf.

Please contact the Media Lab Technician, Jennifer Slauenwhite (jslauen@uwo.ca), for card access to the elevator and stairs if you are in need of the 3rd floor gender neutral/accessible washroom for the academic year.

Evaluation

Every Print Assignment given will have a corresponding grading rubric the instructor will use to assess the assignment. Each assignment will also have a final critique, using a range of critique methodologies and response approaches. Assignments will be handed in for further consideration by the instructor and will be given a numerical grade and written comments, posted to OWL.

Grades for Artwork will reflect the student's ability to clearly *demonstrate*

- Student's success in accordance with general course objectives (as above) and specific assignment objectives.
- Completion and quality of assignments
- Understanding of project concepts and the ability to express that understanding
- Degree of inventiveness and ambition of assignments
- Participation and commitment to process

Visual Arts follows Western University's Grade Descriptors as follows:

A+ /90-100%	Outstanding work; one could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A / 80 – 89%	Superior work that is clearly above average
B / 70 – 79%	Good work, meeting all requirements and eminently satisfactory
C / 60 – 69%	Competent work, meeting requirements
D / 50 – 59%	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F /below 50%	Unsatisfactory work which shows insufficient effort and outcomes

Safety and Maintenance Sheet Printmaking Studio, Room 106

Visual Arts Centre (VAC) Building Guidelines

In order to ensure a safe and healthy work environment for our campus community, your experience in the Visual Arts Centre will be different than in previous years. All decisions surrounding our policies for the Fall 2020 term have been made in line with the current University and Health Unit directives. They may change as the COVID-19 Situation evolves. The safety of our students, faculty, and staff is our top priority; **it is a shared responsibility and we all play a critical role.** In addition to the guidelines outlined by the University on the Health and Safety website, the directives below apply to the Visual Arts Centre to ensure a safe year for all.

University Health and Safety Measures

- The Department of Visual Arts will be adhering to all directives outlined by Western University and the MLHU. These include:
 - requiring a non-medical face covering in all indoor spaces
 - completing the daily return to campus questionnaire
 - practicing physical distancing (6ft)
 - frequent handwashing
 - staying home if feeling unwell
- Up-to-date guidelines can be found at: <https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/health-safety.html>

Building Safety Measures

- **Building Occupancy:** in order to keep building occupancy low and allow for physical distancing, **only students enrolled in in-person classes will be allowed in the VAC for the Fall 2020 term.**
 - The doors will be locked and accessible via card access only for any authorized students.
 - Each student must access the door individually with their Western One card, so that we may have a record of who has been in the building. Letting anyone in behind you is strictly forbidden; it may jeopardize your safety and those working in the building.
 - At this time, all AH & MCS classes are being offered online, unless students are also enrolled in VAS in-person courses, they are not allowed in the VAC at this time.
- **Work from Home:** students are encouraged to work from home when possible, and only to come to the Visual Arts Centre for class or completion of assignments.
- **Food and Drink:** are not permitted in the Visual Arts Centre, please consume your meals at your home or in designated campus eateries.
- **Clean-in, Clean-out:** students will be provided with spray disinfectant, and disinfectant wipes for shared tools and surfaces. Any shared equipment must be sanitized by the user **before and after** each use.

Printmaking Studio Use

- **Restricted for use by students enrolled in SA 2630A/B and SA 3633 only.**
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) guidelines will be outlined during your first day of class.
- Students will be required to wash their hands upon entering the classroom and before leaving.
- Nitrile gloves will be required for use of shared tools such as presses, and must be disposed of after each class.

- Students will be provided with instructions from their professors on when they can access the space, in order to ensure room capacities are not exceeded, physical distancing is maintained, and that safety protocols are followed. Professors Johnston and Mahon will provide additional details to students enrolled in the course regarding scheduling.

Faculty Responsibilities

(in collaboration with the Technician):

- Inform students about safe use of toxic materials, acids, and solvent storage and ensure that students are following safe procedures.
- With technician, demonstrate proper use of presses, etching booths, exposure unit and other major technical equipment.
- Ensure that ventilation is operative and notify physical plant if a failure occurs.
- Inform students of general clean up duties and proper storage procedures for equipment and student work.
- Notify maintenance person concerning broken equipment and unsafe occurrences; assist with appropriate treatment of chemical spills.
- In case of an accident, notify emergency help at 911.

Student Responsibilities

- Adhere to all safety practices in room 106 and the silk screen area; never work alone when supervision is out of close reach.
- Use tools and equipment appropriately and return everything to its rightful place.
- Follow all procedural guidelines as demonstrated by faculty and technician; notify faculty or technician concerning malfunctioning equipment.
- Store all work in drawers when dry; remove work from the room after it has been marked.
- Store or remove all plate materials; store screens in racks and remove other belongings from the screen area.
- Never remove equipment from room 106 or the screen area without written permission.
- Abide by directives from faculty, technician and approved monitors and work bursaries.
- If an accident occurs and emergency assistance is required, call 911.

Please note: According to University regulations guiding “Laboratory Use,” students who fail to respect the responsibilities listed above will not have their final course grade sent to the Registrar.

Technician Responsibilities

- Support the pedagogical and technical goals of the program.
- Ensure that all equipment and supplies are available and well maintained.
- Oversee the delivery of technical demonstrations.
- Organize the exchange of materials and money when appropriate.
- Oversee the proper allotment of drawers and storage space.