

**ADVANCED SCULPTURE**  
**ART 4710C, Section 4280, (6 credits)**  
**SPRING 2017**

**SEAN MILLER, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**

T/TR Per. 11-E2 (Actual time course meets: 6:15-9:10PM)

Fri. Period 2 - 7 (8:30 AM - 2:45 PM)

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

FAC B001/B008

Office Hours: Tuesday 4:15PM FAC B3

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UF Sculpture Blog: <http://ufsculptureprogram.blogspot.com>

Advanced Sculpture Blog: <http://ufsculpture2017.blogspot.com>

Outside of class we will communicate with you via e-mail and canvas. If you are contacting us e-mail is the best method. We check e-mail at least once a day and we will try to return e-mail within at the latest two days. Use email not canvas to send us messages.

*"Contemporary Sculptors try to make sense of the world around them by identifying paths to follow, or threads to pull, amid the glut of information, the profusion of visual images and the excess of physical objects. They recognize patterns in the chaos. They identify fragments as being part of a larger whole. They realize that entropy is an inevitable part of a natural cycle that indicates growth and life as much as it signals decay. In their negotiations with so much cultural, historical, and empirical information, the artist takes on such roles as archivist, historian, designer, engineer, scientist and translator, and while they find affinities, draw comparisons, point out differences and reconstruct events – in other words distill the whirlwind into something to be contemplated..."* - Anne Ellegood

*"I am enthusiastic over humanity's extraordinary and sometimes very timely ingenuity. If you are in a shipwreck and all the boats are gone, a piano top buoyant enough to keep you afloat that comes along makes a fortuitous life preserver. But this is not to say that the best way to design a life preserver is in the form of a piano top. I think that we are clinging to a great many piano tops in accepting yesterday's fortuitous contrivings as constituting the only means for solving a given problem."* -Buckminster Fuller

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Advanced Sculpture explores advanced ideas and methodologies in sculpture and directs each student to develop individualized processes and techniques in relation to their practice and conceptual interests. Advanced Sculpture offers a course of study for students to develop a sophisticated body of work, an individualized area of research, and a directed, productive approach to studio practice. The course will challenge students to set personal goals in terms of research and art production. In addition, students will develop greater strength and abilities in articulating and investigating the significance of their own work and the work of other artists. Finally the course will introduce and discuss professional practices in contemporary art in order to prepare students for careers in the arts, exhibitions and/or graduate study, professional practices, self-promotion, and various creative opportunities.

## READINGS AND TEXTS

Our primary text this semester will be: Seven Days in the Art World by Sarah Thorton. Additional readings will be added in relation to individualized areas of study and each student will be required to contribute two readings on a topic related to their research for reading and discussion.

## EXPECTATIONS

**1. WRITING:** Four initial writing documents are due **Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**. Please send formatted as Word .docx so I can make comments (if needed) :

**A. Statement of Intent/ Senior Project Goals:** Write two pages outlining your goals for the spring semester and outline your thoughts and plans related to research and production of your next body of work (**due Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**). Relate how your goals and plans will result in a successful final show and final body of work.

**B. Senior Project Statement:** In a paragraph describe your senior project. Your description should include a. tentative (working) title b. description of overall content/themes c. description of materials and processes d. tentative visual description i.e. what will be people see and/or how will people experience your senior exhibition.

**C. Artist Statement:** Include your current artist statement “as is.” Whatever you have now is fine, if you have never written an artist statement for previous courses please write your first 3 paragraph artist statement and let me know so I can assist you.

**D. Answers to 20 Questions:** I have 20 questions for you. Please provide thoughtful answers so I can understand your current interests, research, and artistic output. You may want to start with this portion of the writing (of the 4 assignments) because your answers may feed into the other 3.

In your discussion for you statement of intent please also address the following:

- Unifying formal and conceptual elements in previous works.
- What you want to accomplish with your work/research.
- Long term ideas about the direction of your work (and livelihood).
- Description of your artistic sensibility and personal aesthetic.
- Artists, theorists, and writers that are significant to your practice
- Reading goals for this semester. Be specific.
- Discuss influential social, political, and mass culture events (to your work).
- Discuss your identity, biography, and personal narrative in relation to your work.
- Processes, methods, and materials that interest you and why.

### 1. Research

Our first major class reading is Seven Days in the Art World and additional class readings and video research will also be assigned. All class readings will be discussed in class as a group. In addition, we will use our blog to quickly share articles, links, projects, and photos that relate to our current research.

In addition, students will create their own reading list and set their own reading goals. When artists research a period in history, a group of artists, or a specific writer or theorist it is an important a decision. Possibly a more important decision than the tools or materials they utilize to create their work. Research decisions say a lot about the artist’s creativity, commitment, curiosity, and personal style.

**On the basis of your own research, what interests you, and what you feel will be good for the group you will be responsible for submitting two readings related to**

**sculpture, offering study questions, and leading a discussion related to the topic.**

**On Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, we will discuss chapter 1 from Seven Days in the Art World.**

### **3. Methodology**

Students will document their ideation, reflections, and personal research for Advanced Sculpture in a three ring binder notebook. This should be a work of art in and of itself. It should function as a generative force, an archive, and a dynamic reflection of your aesthetic sensibility, personal style, worldview, and a clear record of the evolution of ideas. It is encouraged to have a drawing book as a companion to this notebook. Presentations must be made in powerpoint. All projects should be finished and installed on critique day.

### **4. Practice**

Based on personal research and goals each student will generate 5 sculptures this semester. The sculptures will be due every three weeks. There will be examples and discussion presented in class. **Your first sculpture is due on Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.**

**\* Plans for sculpture marathon date and calendar are underway.**

### **5. Professional Practices**

Throughout the semester we will explore your vision for your art practice after UF. The course will cover various professional opportunities in terms of grants, residencies, and exhibitions. We will discuss professional materials such as press releases, art statements, and different types of exhibition spaces, strategies, and venues. In addition, we will discuss networking, and promoting your work.

As part of the professional practice part of the course students will accomplish the following:

- Apply to an exhibition outside of Gainesville.
- Research and present opportunities, grants, and residencies and share results.
- Apply to some additional opportunity (besides an exhibition).
- Submit an updated resume, statement, press release, and Website
- Offer a presentation of your work that covers not only the breadth and depth of your work but also reflects your style, approach, and sensibility
- Secure a location for your senior exhibition.
- Photographically document all your work in the course and advertise and document your senior exhibition. Submit documentation to professor.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance at all classes, critiques, and field trips is mandatory. You must work during scheduled studio times or it is considered an absence. Please be here for class time. Three lates equal an absence. Late arrival or early departure will count as an absence. More than three absences a semester will result in a grade reduction by one letter grade in participation per accumulation of three absences. Over 3 absences will drop your grade average by one half-letter grade. This grade drop will continue for every additional absence.

**\*\* Friday attendance is studio time (8:30AM – 2:45PM) and although the studio time is self-directed you are required to be in your studio or the shop working unless other arrangements have been prearranged with me (Sean). Attendance will be taken.**

## **EVALUATION**

The work from Advanced Sculpture Spring 2017 will be evaluated on the basis of:

- The completion of 3-5 sculpture projects (TBD).
- Completion of readings, writings, and discussions.
- Completion of a revised portfolio, resume, and artist statement. Two slide presentations about your work (one at the beginning and one at the end of the semester).
- Attendance in studio and at all assigned field trips and lectures and at all critiques (even if your particular assignment is not complete).
- Research – the conceptual tools you employ to inform your practice.
- Participation in class discussions and on the 2017 Sculpture Blog.
- Technical competence, craft, and inventive use of materials.
- A motivated effort toward excellence.

**\*For this course students are required to attend lectures listed below:**

- **Arthur Ou**, Thursday, January 12, 2017 6:00pm to 8:00pm, Music Building B, Room 101 (MUB 101).
- **J. Morgan Puett**, Thursday, January 19, 2017 6:00pm to 8:00pm, Music Building B, Room 101 (MUB 101).
- **Guerrilla Girls**, Thursday, February 09, 2017 6:00pm to 8:00pm, location TBD
- **Paul Ramirez Jonas**, Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:00pm to 8:00pm, Fine Arts Building B 103.
- **Gean Moreno**, Thursday, April 13th, 2017, 6:00pm to 8:00pm, Fine Arts Building B 103.

**For additional information** on these artists and additional SA+AH events:

<http://arts.ufl.edu/in-the-loop/events/?c=16959>

## **GRADING**

Grading will be based on:

**60%** Projects (Project grades may be lowered if they are not removed from B-1, Sculpture Courtyard, or Shop after Sean or Brad request their removal).

**20%** Participation and being there on time and ready to work, reading, discuss, and take part in class activities. Participation and reading responses on the class blog.

**10%** Senior project writing, preparation, planning, organization, choice of works included, exhibition design, promotion, and overall excellence.

**10%** Presentations, blog entries, studio visits, and selection readings of readings.

### **Grading Scale:**

**A** 94-100 **4.0**/ **A-** 90-93 **3.67**/ **B+** 87-89 **3.33**/ **B** 83-86 **3.0**/ **B-** 80-82 **2.67**/ **C+** 77-79 **2.33**/  
**C** 73-76 **2.0**/ **C-** 70-72 **1.67**/**D+** 67-69 **1.33**/ **D** 63-66 **1.0**/ **D-** 60-62 **.67**/ **E** 0-59

Grading information: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>  
Additional information on UF grading policies can be found at:  
<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/hubstudents.html>

Students must earn a grade higher than C- to earn credit toward their major.

- A           Extremely well-presented, thoughtfully executed, superior work, all criteria of assignment have been surpassed in a distinguished manner. In addition, student is engaged in exceptional studio and research practice, which includes active independent research, looking up artists recommended by faculty and peers, asking relevant questions about other artists' works or ideas, and being thoroughly engaged in reading assignments and individual studio work. Resulting work completed during the semester demonstrates a high level of understanding of the assignments presented, and the complex questions raised in seminar topics and discussions as well as by one's own studio work. Student demonstrates a high level of critical thinking, craftsmanship, conceptual experimentation, and a desire to learn and grow as an artist is evidenced through exemplary attendance, hard work, curiosity, openness to criticism and willingness to make improvements and share learning and insights with peers.
- B   3.0    Very good work overall. Most criteria of assignments were surpassed with some improvements to be made. Studio and research practice was commendable and there is an obvious effort made to adhere to and address the criteria and purposes of assignments and to relate responses/insights to course topics. Good attendance (maximum of 3 absences), participation in critique, and general conscientious work submitted is characteristic and student generally operates as a thoughtful, engaged citizen of the community. Most of the criteria of A apply, but to a lesser degree.
- C   2.0    Adequate, average, work meeting most of the assignment criteria with areas needing significant improvement. Work demonstrates a fairly good attempt at responding to the problems or topics presented, but the work lacks the engagement, effort and comprehensive understanding characteristic of a B. Poor studio and research practice are exhibited overall.
- D   1.0    Barely meets the criteria of assignments, extremely poor or unfinished work, highlighting unacceptable studio and research practice. Barely contributing to the seminar environment.
- E   0.0    Failure to meet all criteria of assignment accompanied by unacceptable studio/research practice.  
Not contributing to the seminar environment.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO VISIT <http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/healthandsafety> FOR RULES REGARDING SA+AH HEALTH & SAFETY POLICIES AND THE HANDBOOK. PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE WAIVER FORM FROM THE SITE.

Each student must complete a waiver form to be turned in to your professor who will turn them in to the Director of Operations by the second week of class.

## **SCULPTURE AREA RULES**

All users of the studio classrooms are expected to follow studio area rules at all times. If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

- Follow all SA+AH Health and Safety handbook guidelines (the handbook should be reviewed by your instructor and can be found at: [www.arts.ufl.edu/art/healthandsafety](http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/healthandsafety))
- Follow the SA+AH Satellite Waste Management Chart in the classroom and other health & safety guidelines posted for your media.
- In case of emergency, call campus police at 392-1111
- File an incident report (forms may be found in the SAAH H&S handbook, the SAAH faculty handbook and in the main office.)
- Turn completed forms into the SAAH Director of Operations within 48 hours of the event.
- Get permission from shop supervisor before beginning work
- Sign in to use the wood shop
- Eye protection must be worn when using any power tools
- Long hair must be tied back
- Hearing protection is available
- Familiarize yourself with the closest eyewash unit
- Shirt tails must be tucked in and loose sleeves rolled up
- Shoes must cover toes
- No loose jewelry allowed in the shop areas
- Clean up your mess
- Students are prohibited from taking home any SA+AH property
- All painting and sanding must be done in the courtyard when weather permits.
- Newspaper or plastic must be used to protect table and floor surfaces from paint, glue and plaster
- Students are prohibited from storing materials or projects in the wood or metal shops
- Do not use stationary equipment to cut painted, recycled or pressure treated lumber
- Dust off tools, tables and sweep the floor when finished using wood tools
- Scrap material must be disposed of immediately
- Tools and shop equipment must be put away in its proper place
- The table saw, jointer and planer are to be used only under the supervision of Brad Smith and any unauthorized usage will result in expulsion from the shops.
- No food or drink in the shops
- Only students enrolled in current SA+AH courses who have attended the orientations may use the shops. No visitors while
- you work.
- Store all flammables in the flammable cabinet. Keep flammable cabinet closed at all times.
- First aid kits are found in each studio. Notify your instructor if supplies are low.
- Locate the nearest eyewash unit and familiarize yourself with its functions.
- Report any safety issues IMMEDIATELY to your instructor.
- All courses must engage in an end of the semester clean up.
- Follow the SA+AH CONTAINER POLICY (see policy below)

- There are 2 types of labels used in the SA+AH-- yellow and white. Both labels are found at the red MSDS box and are supplied by the SA+AH. Each is used for a different purpose.

## **UNIVERSITY AND SAAH RESOURCES AND POLICIES**

**General University Policies and Services** - <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/>

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Disability Office — <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

### **University Counseling Services**

352-392-1575 <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/> The UF Counseling Center offers counseling and therapy to help students confront personal, academic, and career concerns.

### **Student Healthcare Center** <http://shcc.ufl.edu/>

For medical emergencies call 911.

352-392-1161 for urgent after-hours care.

352-392-1171 for after-hours mental health assistance.

### **Safety and Security**

In an emergency call 911.

University Police Department — <http://police.ufl.edu/> 352-392-1111.

## **GUIDELINES FOR USE OF CAMPUS FACILITIES AND GROUNDS**

Please make every effort to maintain the facilities and grounds of the School of Art and Art History, the College of Fine Arts and The University of Florida. Specifically we ask that you follow these guidelines:

1. Do not mark, paint on or deface any interior or exterior of the school or college facilities. Take care to always use protective tarps, drop cloths or masking material when working with paint media or similar materials to protect the floors in public spaces such as hallways and classrooms. That applies also to the sidewalks walls, and grounds.
2. If a special project requires temporary modification to a wall surface or to the grounds you must obtain specific permission from your instructor prior to undertaking the project. The site must be returned to its original condition immediately following the project unless prior written permission has been obtained from the School of Art and Art History.
3. No Art project may interfere with or impede access to, classrooms, hallways or other public spaces.
4. All site-specific art projects must be installed and engineered with the safety of the general public in mind.
5. Grades will not be issued for the project, or the class, until the project has been completely removed, and the site has been restored to its original condition. Failure to comply with these rules will result in disciplinary action, withholding of grades, the possible lowering of a grade, or failure of the course.

White:

All new and or used product in containers (hazardous or what might be perceived as hazardous -i.e. watered down gesso, graphite solutions, satellite containers of solvents, powders, spray paints, fixatives, oils, solvents, etc...) must be labeled within the SA+AH to identify their contents. Labels can be found at the MSDS box in each studio and work area. All containers must be marked with your name, contents and date opened. All secondary/satellite containers for hazardous materials must be marked with content, your name and the date opened. All unmarked containers will be disposed of with no notice.

Yellow:

**WHEN HAZARDOUS ITEMS ARE DESIGNATED AS WASTE.**

All containers must have a yellow label identifying the contents that are designated as trash for weekly EHS pick up. - Flammable solid containers (red flip top) must have a yellow hazardous waste label on the outside (top).

- 5 gallon jugs must have a yellow hazardous waste label on the outside.

- Fibrous containers must have a yellow hazardous waste label on the outside (top).

- Each item in the blue bin must have a yellow hazardous waste label.

Note: Hazardous Waste labels should include all constituents in the waste mixture as well as an approximate percentage of the total for that item and must add up to 100%. Labels should also include the Bldg and room number of the shop generating the waste along with the Waste Manager for your area, this is located on the SWMA sign posted at the sink or at the Waste Management Area.

### **DRUG-FREE SCHOOL & WORKPLACE AND CLEAN INDOOR AIR ACT**

The Sculpture Program is committed to upholding the policies set forth by the University of Florida in regards to drug and alcohol use and smoking in educational facilities.

Possession and use of drugs or alcoholic beverages is not allowed in the classroom or outdoor areas. In addition, The Florida Clean Indoor Air Act of 1992 prohibits smoking in educational facilities. Violation of university policies and applicable laws is grounds for disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and does not preclude the possibility of criminal charges.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY**

The course will follow the University's honesty policy found on-line at:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/stg/>.

Work should be your own and must be created specifically for this class. In other words "no double dipping" by submitting projects to more than one studio course.