

# University of Florida (SAAH)

## Course Syllabus

**ART 2702C - 21005/21006 Gravity and Buoyancy**

**Instructor: Chad Serhal (GTA)**

**Semester/Year: Spring 2020**

**Credit Hours: 3**

**Email Address: [chadserhal@ufl.edu](mailto:chadserhal@ufl.edu)**

**Course Hours: M/W Periods 5 - 7 11:45am to 2:45pm**

**Location: Online via Canvas and Zoom, FAC B1**

**Office Hours: Thursday at 2pm to 3pm via Zoom**

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

### **UF Sculpture Program**

<https://arts.ufl.edu/academics/art-and-art-history/programs/studio-art/sculpture/overview/>

@uf.sculpture on **Instagram**

### **Course Description**

This course focuses on three-dimensional art with emphasis on an in depth investigation of the fundamental sculptural concepts of Gravity and Buoyancy. Students will gain an understanding of three-dimensional concepts by learning basic sculptural skills and techniques, and will apply these skills within a traditional sculptural context while also relating them to contemporary sculptural issues. As we investigate these two forces of nature through the art we create, we will also be exploring how our sculptural objects communicate the complexities of gravity and buoyancy, dealing with weight, mass, density and how they relate to the presence and conceptual integrity of the objects we create. The projects for this course will relate to tension, suspension, expansion, energy, kinetics, balance, and the opposite of these terms. Along with creating new work, we will be talking about what has already been done, how ideas are generated, and valuable tools to carry with you when creating art in the future.

### **Course Objectives**

Students will have a better understanding of manipulating perception, of incorporating physics with art, and using a sculptural discipline in conveying an artistic expression.

Students will:

- Be introduced to fundamental principles of sculpture especially as related to ideas of gravity and buoyancy.

- Learn to conceptualize sculptural works while considering form, material, and construction.
- Develop familiarity with historical and contemporary concepts of three-dimensional art.
- Better Identify spatial concepts, formal issues, and sculptural strategies.
- Investigate various modes of construction as a vehicle for sculptural development.
- Develop and demonstrate visual language and formal construction skills from ideation to proposal to finished object.
- Create works sensitive to forces and activities of the environment around them.
- Develop critical thinking and studio research skills.
- Begin documentation habits and collect information about successful professional artists.
- Assess and critique the strengths and weaknesses of individual works.
- Develop visual ideas and generate personal themes for artmaking.
- Develop skills in writing about art in form, space, motion, and concept

The use of these sculptural concepts are a way for you as a visual communicator to catch the viewer's attention, alter their reality, push their imagination, enchant them, overwhelm them, UNDERWHELM them, transfix them, create a new headspace, support them, and connect to them. The CONCEPT of your piece might be a whole other subject about something other than gravity, buoyancy, tension suspension, potential energy, kinetic energy, and balance, but you use these sculptural concepts to convey that personal narrative you want to communicate. This class can't stop you from saying anything. It's only giving you new spatial, physical, phenomenal, and historical methods, diversifying materials, levels, and size, and giving you an opportunity to try these sculptural techniques to tell the story you want to tell with the style you want to show, to the people you want to connect with.

### **Course Expectations**

Attendance and active participation is mandatory to all studio, discussion, and critique classes. Each is important in the learning process. Individual research will be done and lectures on the research will also be expected.

## **Materials**

The class fees have been cut down to 10% of the normal cost due to limited access to resources like the woodshop, FAC B1 classroom, or the crit space. You will still have access, but limited. However, there will be tools and materials you will need to purchase on your own in order to accomplish the art you want to create. Tools such as box cutter, exactos, scissors, glue, nails, a drill, hammer, ruler, and paint and materials such as cardboard, foam, plaster, wire, plastic for inflatables, cloth, clay, wood, and paper will be used. Each project is different so gather the materials you can if they are available to you.

Students wanting to avoid dependence on woodshop access are encouraged to buy this tool kit. It will be your friend for life.

[https://www.amazon.com/Edward-Tools-Harden-Piece-Heavy/dp/B07WSFBPNB/ref=sr\\_1\\_79?dchild=1&hvadid=78340329932526&hvbmt=be&hvdev=c&hvqmt=e&keywords=household+tool+kit&qid=1595532181&sr=8-79](https://www.amazon.com/Edward-Tools-Harden-Piece-Heavy/dp/B07WSFBPNB/ref=sr_1_79?dchild=1&hvadid=78340329932526&hvbmt=be&hvdev=c&hvqmt=e&keywords=household+tool+kit&qid=1595532181&sr=8-79)

A cordless drill with drill bits will also be extremely helpful in this class and in your future.

## **Projects**

There will be 4 major projects assigned during the semester. For each project, a demo and lesson will take place, research will be done, a student presentation will be made, there will be work days, and there will be a critique. The projects should be well documented with an accompanied artist statement about the piece.

## **Sketch Book**

Sketching will be emphasised and done for each project. Have either a new sketchbook or one with a large section dedicated to this class. There is no required textbook for this course.

## **Specific Research Presentation**

A specific film will be assigned to each student, curated to their specific interests, in which they are to watch, rewatch and give a presentation on at scheduled time within the semester. The presentation will include a short synopsis of the film, and should focus on the moments in which gravity and buoyancy are used as devices for conceptual storytelling.

## **Visiting Artist Talks**

Warren Neidich

6:15PM, Tuesday, September 8th

Paul Mpagi Sepuya

6:15PM, Tuesday, September 15th

Adela Goldbard

6:15PM, Tuesday September 22nd

Warren Neidich

6:15PM, Tuesday, September 8th

Paul Mpagi Sepuya

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Adela Goldbard

6:15PM, Tuesday, September 22nd

Sharon Hayes

6:15PM, Tuesday October 13th

Wael Morcos

6:15PM, Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

Timothy Morton

6:15PM, Tuesday, November 17th

The talks will be virtual and online this semester. The public is forbidden to tape or post the talks online. UF will tape lectures with the permission of individual speakers and some of the talks will be available in the future.

### **Participation**

Each class has 5 potential points. In order to achieve those points students must be signed in on time with video engaged, and participate with regularity to the completion of the class period.

### **Projects**

Each project 200 point each = 800 points

Evaluation broken up into points:

Sketches 20

Research and Proposal 40

Documentation of work 10

Artist Statement 10

Assessment of the critique of your work 10

Craftsmanship/aesthetic quality 50

Conceptual value 40

Personal investment 20

### **Participation**

28 classes x 5 points each class = 140 points

## **Additional Assignment**

Specific Research Presentation = 60 points

Total - 1000 points

1000 - 931 points = A

930 - 900 points = A-

899 - 870 = B+

869 - 831 = B

830 - 800 = B-

799 - 770 = C+

769 - 731 = C

730 - 700 = C-

699 - 670 = D+

669 - 631 = D

630 - 600 = D-

599 - 000 = F

## **Attendance**

Attendance is required at all classes and critiques. Please come to class on time because all announcements, lectures, demonstrations and presentations will take place at the beginning of class. Each Student is allowed 3 unexcused absences. After 3 absences, 5 percent of your overall grade is deducted per absence. Coming late to class or leaving early from class will be noted. 3 of these will be considered an absence. Arriving 20 minutes late or leaving 20 minutes early will be considered an absence. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to consult with a classmate to cover material and instructions missed in class that day. On the days of critique absences will deduct 30 percent of your project grade. You are expected to work on projects during class time. Making sculpture is time consuming and although time will be given in class for experimentation, most of the work will be done outside of class time. Working at home is not an excuse for not working in class, and vice versa.

The sculpture area will be off limits for the first 3 weeks of class. After that period use of the facilities can be arranged.

## **Schedule:**

(until unknown forces interject such as COVID concerns or natural disasters)

8/31 Intro Day

9/2 Gravity demo/intro/convo

9/9 Collage Critique + Buoyancy demo/intro/convo

9/14 Research Day

9/16 Proposal Day  
9/21 Work Day  
9/23 Work Day  
9/28 Critique (**Buoyancy**)  
9/30 Tension/Suspension demo/intro/convo  
10/5 Research Day  
10/7 Proposal Day  
10/12 Work Day  
10/14 Work Day  
10/19 Critique (**Tension/Suspension**)  
10/21 Kinetic Sculptures  
10/26 Research Day  
10/28 Research Day  
11/2 Proposal Day  
11/4 Work Day  
11/9 Work Day  
11/16 Critique (**Kinetic**)  
11/18 Gravity/Buoyancy  
11/23 Proposal Day  
11/30 Work Day  
12/2 Work Day  
12/7 Final project work day  
12/9 Final Critique (**Gravity/Buoyancy**)

## **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 and these forms must be turned in to your professor who will turn them in to the Director of Operations by the second week of class.

## **SCULPTURE POLICIES FOR FALL 2020**

In the sculpture area, instructors Chad Serhal, Emmanuel Opoku, and Sean Miller's classes **will do stay-at-home work for the first 3 weeks of school**. Teaching Lab Specialist Brad Smith will begin orientations after this 3-week period.

When one arrives to work in shop (or B1 and B2) they will be asked to

1. Immediately wash hands.

2. Wear a mask
3. Bring their own eye protection goggles to wear.

Eye protection will not be provided by the shop to prevent public spread of Covid via shared shop-provided eye protection. Personal gloves are also recommended. Students may be asked to wear shop-provided gloves if using a lot of tools and equipment.

## **Wood Shop**

### **1. Shop Sign-up: Do to Covid-19 we are greatly reducing the availability of the**

#### **wood shop and B1 studios outside of class time**

- Outside of class time all 3000 and 2000 level sculpture students' access to Woodshop, B1, and B2 will be regulated by instructors Emmanuel Opoku, Sean Miller, Chad Serhal, and Teaching Lab Specialist Brad Smith.
- Advance notice will be required after sign-in times are requested.
- As mentioned, shop reservations by non-area-based students/faculty must be made via email and entered by yet to be assigned sculpture graduate assistant and staff to Canvas.

#### **Access prioritization:**

- During office shop hours Brad or a Sculpture Grad is one of 4 occupants for shop.
- Jesse/Sean coordinate their schedules as one slot during certain days. Leaving room for 2-3 sign-ups.
- Black out date for sculpture area is Friday. On Friday shop is reserved for Sculpture Grads/Seniors and Sculpture Faculty.
- 3000 level painting/drawing students who need to make stretcher bars will be asked to do so on Tuesdays, Thursdays or weekend hours. Tuesday and Thursday have classes scheduled from 8:30–11:30 and 3:00-6:00 leaving 1:00-3:00 and 6:00. Thursday night is grad seminar. During sculpture course hours the shop will be reserved for instructors and course students.

### **2. Use Policy:**

○ When one arrives to work in the shop (or B1 and B2) they will be asked to wear a mask and bring their own eye protection goggles to wear. Eye protection will not be provided by shop to prevent public spread of Covid via shop-provided eye protection. Personal gloves are also recommended.

○ Everyone will be asked to wash and sanitize hands and are to BYO eye protection upon entering to work in shop.

○ Since shop use varies from person-to-person. Some people use a hammer and wood glue for 2 hours and leave and some people touch 30 tools and 5 pieces of equipment in a short period

of time. Certain people will be invited to consider using nitrile gloves to cut down on contact with handles and equipment.

o Shop door will remain open from 8AM-10PM Monday through Thursday. There will produce clear prominent signage on the door that instructs walk-ins to wait at the door to be attended. Walk-ins or drop-by's without appointments should not physically enter the shop but wait for Brad or the monitor on duty to come speak with them. If too many walk-ins become a problem the door will be locked except for those that require a reservation. Walk up policy is on the shop covid draft. Signage will be posted on door about walk-up and waiting.

o Workers in shop are expected to work. To prevent spread of Covid we are asking everyone to dispense with unnecessary talking. For instructional communications or advice communication is warranted. Candid or prolonged dialogues will be asked to move to the sculpture courtyard.

o Any tool check-outs and conversations occur in sculpture courtyard or in front of shop. Tool check out should require minimal conversation and can happen near shop entrance. Prolonged check out of brief demos should occur outside of shop.

o Brad will hold weekly office hours by appointment only for Zoom advice/instruction. His Zoom hours will be emailed to all classes to review.

### **3. New Safe-Measures Layout :**

• New markings on wood shop floor will be implemented to indicate distancing. These vinyl marks have already been planned by Brad with use of blue tape. We will demark and expect people to work within the shop at a 12-foot radius. To keep the shop functional, shop workers will maintain a minimum six-foot distance while using equipment with workstations at 12 feet.

- Cleaning stations will be set up in Woodshop and B1. These will include wipes for tools, hand sanitizer, instructional signage, a metal cart, and plastic tubs. Cleaning station supplies are being ordered by the office.
- Lab fees for classes are now only 10% of normal. This is to accommodate distanced learning students. As a result, students will be expected to purchase some of their own tools, supplies, and materials and this will be considered within the syllabus.
- Look for new temporary plywood plinth/chairs and umbrellas for waiting/working outside shop for both courtyard and front entrance and also some for larger courtyard for meeting outside with sculpture students.

#### **B1. Policies:**

- At non-class times B1 is available to be reserved for 2 people. After 5PM B1 is locked but still available for checkout as monitored by Brad, Chad, Emmanuel, and Sean.
- When one arrives to B1 and B2 they will be asked to wash hands with soap, wear a mask, and bring their own eye protection goggles to wear (when working on projects requiring eye protection).



- Cleaning station by sink. Follow same policy as shop.
- As mentioned B1d door locks after 5PM.
- B1 and B2 room reservation and codes for 2000 and 3000 level students will be organized by Brad, Sean, Chad, and Emmanuel on a rotation.
- When possible, we strongly encourage outdoor in-progress in person critiques in sculpture courtyard with provided plinth stools and plywood backdrop for documentation of work.
- When weather permits B1 door to courtyard should be opened to provide fresh air.

**B2. Policies:**

- At non-class times B2 is available to be reserved for 1 person. After 5PM B2 is locked but still available for checkout as monitored by Brad, Chad, Emmanuel, and Sean.
- When one arrives to B2 they will be asked to wash hands with soap, wear a mask, and bring their own eye protection goggles to wear (when working on projects requiring eye protection).
- Cleaning station by sink. Follow same policy as shop.
- Sign-up will occur through rotation with guidance from Brad, Chad, Emmanuel, and Sean.
- When possible we strongly encourage outdoor in-progress in person critiques in sculpture courtyard with provided plinth stools and plywood backdrop for documentation of work.

**ADDITIONAL 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.

#### 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

### **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.

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

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

Please, if you have any limitations or documented learning disabilities, let us know immediately. Schedule time with one of us during the first two weeks of class and we can discuss appropriate accommodations. This includes language limitations, physical illness, limitations or disabilities, including invisible disabilities such as chronic disease, learning disabilities, head injuries or diagnosed attention deficit disorders—we want to help make WARP a positive experience for you from the beginning. Students requesting accommodations will first register with the Dean of Students Office, Disability Resource Center (352) 392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) The student will receive documentation to present to the professor. Student and professor will agree on appropriate accommodations and paperwork will be signed and returned to Dean of Students Office.

### 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.

## **DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR**

Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated in WARP. **Please turn off cell phones during class, and do not email, text, write letters, work on homework for other courses**, smoke or eat during studio or class critiques. “Being there” means giving ALL your attention to activities in class without disruption. **Laptop computers will be allowed in studio (for studio related**

**work only) but not in lecture.** If they are used inappropriately in studio, we reserve the right to individually ban their use in studio.

As an educational institution, which encourages the intellectual and personal growth of its students, the university recognizes that the transmission of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, and the development of individuals, require the free exchange of ideas, self-expression and the challenging of beliefs and customs. Students are expected to exhibit high standards of behavior, respect, civility, integrity and concern for others. Be advised that a student may be dismissed from class if he/she engages in disruptive behavior. Detailed information about disruptive behavior can be found in the University of Florida Student Code of Conduct:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

## **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.

COVID-19 FALL 2020

The following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

1. You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
2. This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals)

requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.

3. Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
4. Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
5. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms](#).
  1. Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies](#).
6. For online course with recorded materials a statement informing students of privacy related issues such as:

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.