

GRADUATE SEMINAR: ROTATING TOPICS (SCULPTURE)

COURSE THEME/TITLE: *PROCEED WITH CARE*

Fall 2025 ART6933C, Section Scul, 3 Credits

CLASS LOCATION: Fine Arts Building C Room B1

CLASS TIME: Period 11 - E2 (6:15 PM - 9:10 PM)

INSTRUCTOR: Sean Miller, Associate Professor

OFFICE LOCATION: Fine Arts Building C Room B2B

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, 5-6PM (By Appointment 2 Days Advanced Notification)

EMAIL / OTHER EMERGENCY CONTACT: swarp@ufl.edu cell:352.215.8580

Course Final Date: 12/08/2025 @ 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

UF SCULPTURE LINKS: <https://arts.ufl.edu/academics/art-and-art-history/programs/studio-art/sculpture/overview/>
<https://www.instagram.com/uf.sculpture/>
<http://ufsculptureprogram.blogspot.com>
@uf.sculpture on Instagram

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Graduate Sculpture Seminar Fall 2025 is titled, *Proceed with Care*. This course will examine the possibilities that exist surrounding the concept of care, especially in relation to art, design, architecture, everyday life, curation, craft, and professional practice. The contemporary human condition is impacted by instantaneous mediated information systems, technologies, and experiences that sometimes create a sense of emotional detachment and information overload. Our interconnection through various technologies in a fast-paced world impacts the way(s) we empathize, communicate, take action, and share our thoughts and emotions. Donna Harroway writes, "... we are all chimeras, theorized and fabricated hybrids of machine and organism; In short, we are cyborgs." Other contemporary artists, curators, institutions, and theorists strive to intuit, depict, characterize, and describe our contemporary condition. Artists are routinely CARE-ful as they seek to foster curiosity and sensitivity toward the world(s) in which they live.

This seminar will raise important questions about strategies for care and evidence of care in and out of the art world. What are the diverse relationships between care and practices such as collecting, collections, wellness (personal and ecological), creativity, collaborative art, participatory art, networking, urban spaces, socially engaged art, acts of maintenance and conservation, and our own personal potential as artists that care.

The seminar is structured so participants will take part in readings, presentations, view screenings, guest speakers, exercises, artmaking, field trips, curatorial pursuits, and group discussions.

CONTENT WARNING

In this course, we will cover content and materials that some may find difficult. In a graduate seminar course, the seminar participants need to engage with ideas that expand their thinking. In the humanities, ideas that we feel to be controversial or challenging in the moment may eventually provide key insights into our own abilities to create, think, and contribute expansively to the discourse within our field. Please reach out to me if you are struggling with the course materials. In class, if you need to step away for a period of time, as we are covering particular content, you may do so without penalty, but I ask that you remember that you are responsible for any information covered in your absence.

SEMINAR OBJECTIVES

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- Engage, with a degree of understanding, the theoretical discourse in seminar.
- Relate and apply the discourse and course content to one's art.
- Increase knowledge of contemporary art and art history.
- Clearly discuss your understanding of and responses to course content.
- The ability to relate course content to the work of other seminar participants.
- An increased level of competency in professional practice.

SEMINAR EXPECTATIONS

- Completion of reading and writing assignments.
- Attendance at all assigned classes, lectures, and discussions.
- Readings must be completed as scheduled for discussion.
- Active participation in class discussions including prepared comments for each reading, presentation or screening at each seminar meeting.

EVALUATION

Your efforts in Graduate Sculpture Seminar will be evaluated on with the following criteria: Participation with all seminar meetings with prepared commentary on all assigned readings, screenings, or artist talks. Any session missed or any session for which the student has not prepared commentary for the seminar discussion results in a deduction of 2% (two percentage points) from the semester grade and a missed grade

for your weekly presentation. Participation and preparation are assessed and evaluated by the faculty member.

GRADINGS AND POLICIES

Grades will be based on weekly participation, the completion of the readings, presentations, discussion prompts, responses to presentations, and a studio critique. Students must be present, in-class, for all graded events to receive points. No makeup work or dates will be offered unless supported by documentation approved by the Dean of Students office. No points will be awarded for any missed work or events without such documentation.

Seminar Grading Outline

Individual Critique	10 points
Two Film Presentations:	20 Points
Two question and response for presentations:	10 Points
Group Critique:	10 Points
Film Screenings, Critique, and Participation (5 points per class)	40 Points
Final Project:	10 Points

A gradebook is available on the course canvas page. All grading will follow the UF grading guidelines available here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

ATTENDANCE

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies.

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

UNIVERSITY POLICY FOR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

The Board of Regents and state law govern university policy regarding observance of religious holidays: Students, upon prior notification of their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith. Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances. Furthermore, a student who is to be excused from class for a religious holy day is not required to provide a second party certification of the reasons for the absence.

UNIVERSITY ILLNESS POLICY

Students who are absent from classes or examinations because of illness should contact their professors. If you're unable to attend class due to illness, please email the teacher prior to class meeting time. Please state your name, class, as well as the reason you will not be attending class that day.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

ON-LINE STUDENT EVALUATIONS: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the final two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

TEXTS

There is no required textbook. Readings will be assigned with each assignment.

TIMELINE

Week 1: 8/26

1. Review Syllabus
2. Introduction to *Proceed with Care* Seminar
3. In- Class Screening: *Koyaanisqatsi*. Directed and produced by Godfrey Reggio, music by Philip Glass and cinematography by Ron Fricke, Institute for Regional Education and Zoetrope Studios, 1982.
4. In-Class Reading: Mierle Laderman Ukeles
5 points

Week 2: 9/2

1. Review Syllabus
2. Sample Presentation on *Koyaanisqatsi* by Sean
3. In-Class Film Screening 1: *Daughters of the Dust*, Written and Directed by Julie Dash, Produced by Julie Dash and Lindsay Law, Kino International, 1991.
4. Readings: bell hooks, Lucy Lippard

5 points
Week 3: 9/9
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Group 1 presentation regarding <i>Daughters of Dust</i> screening/readings (10pts.) 2. Group 2 respondents: questions/topics for group 1 (5 pts.) 3. A discussion about art and health.
Week 4: 9/16
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In-Class Film Screening 2: <i>Safe</i>, Written and Directed by Todd Haynes, Sony Pictures Classics, 1995. 2. Readings: Franco Berardi <p>5 points</p>
Week 5: 9/23
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Group 2 presentation regarding <i>Safe</i> screening/readings (10pts.) 2. Group 1 respondents: questions/topics for group 2 (5pts.) 3. 8:30PM: A discussion about art and health with Prof. Craig Smith.
Week 6: 9/30
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In-Class Film Screening 2: <i>The Menu</i>, Directed by Mark Mylod, Written by Seth Reiss and Will Tracy, Hyperobject Industries and Gary Sanchez Productions, 2022. 2. Readings: Jacques Derrida and Dave Hickey 3. Introduction to Seminar Final Project <p>5pts.</p>
Week 7: 10/7
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visiting Artist: Every Ocen Hughs, 6:15 – 7:30 PM 2. Group 1 presentation regarding <i>The Menu</i> screening/readings (10pts.) 3. Group 2 respondents: questions/topics for group 1 (5pts.)
Week 8: 10/14
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In-Class Film Screening 4: <i>The Square</i>, Written and Directed by Ruben Östlund, Tri-Art Film, 2017. 2. Readings: Hans Obrist and a Video lecture by Guillermo Gomez-Pena <p>5pts.</p>
Week 9: 10/21
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Group 2 presentation regarding <i>The Square</i> screening/readings (10pts.) 2. Group 1 respondents: questions/topics for group 2 (5 pts.) 3. Benedicta Presentation/Critique: includes suggested assigned reading and

presentation about work. At least 3 finished works presented in critique space. (10 points)
Week 10: 10/28
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Changil and Kyle: Presentation/Critique: includes suggested assigned reading and presentation about work. At least 3 finished works presented in critique space. (10 points) 2. Screening 3. <i>6 Days to Air: The Making of South Park</i>, Documentary, Directed by Arthur Bradford, Comedy Central, 2011.
Week 11: 11/4
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Group Area Sculpture Critique: seminar with guest Profs. Conrad Cheung and Fatimah Tuggar (10 pts.)
Week 12: 11/11 HOLIDAY NO CLASS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No Class
Week 13: 11/18
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visiting Artist Yashua Klos 6:15 -7:30PM 2. Alex Individual Presentation and Critique includes suggested assigned reading and presentation about work. At least 3 finished works presented in critique space. 20 Points
Week 14: HOLIDAY BREAK - 11/24 and 11/25
No class all week
Week 15: Project 5 Critique - 12/2
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of Final Projects
Final's Week: 12/08/2025 @ 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM Rachel and Yalecxa Individual Presentation and Critiques includes suggested assigned reading and presentation about work. At least 3 finished works presented in critique space. 20 Points

COURSE COMMUNICATION

Communications about this course will occur verbally in class as well as online. Canvas will be used for this course and will include: updated weekly calendar (with due dates,

special events and critique schedule), announcements, readings, speed and project assignments, and assignment grades. Please refer to the class Canvas daily (before each class) for supplementary resources. The course instructor will check their email every other day, if not every day. Students are required to check their email for updates several times a week, including before class. For emergencies (or quick check-ins) it is ok to text or call instructor. Cell phone is listed on syllabus.

GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCT

Student Conduct Code; Violations, Penalties and Procedures for Adjudication.

<http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4016.htm>

UNIVERSITY PHILOSOPHY ON BEHAVIOR AND CONDUCT

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 they engage in disruptive behavior. Detailed information about disruptive behavior can be found in the University of Florida Student Code of Conduct: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2020/12/Orange-Book-Web-Version-2020.pdf>

In order to maintain an environment where these goals can be achieved safely and equitably, the University promotes civility, respect and integrity among all members of the community. As stated in the Standard of Ethical Conduct, students are expected to exhibit high standards of behavior and concern for others.

UF POLICY FOR IN-CLASS RECORDING

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

UF RESOURCES AND POLICIES

For information on UF academic policies and student support resources, please visit <https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolicies>.

UF A-Z Resources: https://dso.ufl.edu/areas_services/a-z_services/

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY: The course will follow the University’s academic honesty policy. The course work submitted should be your own and must be created specifically for this class; “no double dipping” by submitting projects to more than one studio course or work done by another. <https://teach.ufl.edu/resource-library/academic-integrity-at-uf/>

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR: Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated in class. Please turn off cell phones during class, and do not email, text, work on homework for other

courses, smoke or eat during indoor or outdoor studio or class critiques. "Being there" means giving *all* your attention

to activities in class without disruption. 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 they engage in disruptive behavior. Detailed information about disruptive behavior can be found in the University of Florida Student Code of Conduct:

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

Should you require accommodations, please register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>) and provide appropriate documentation. Once registered, you will receive an accommodation letter to give the instructor. If you have any limitations or documented learning disabilities, please let the course instructor know immediately. Schedule time with the instructor during the first two weeks of class so 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 each semester a positive experience for you from the very beginning. The student and professor will agree on appropriate accommodations and paperwork will be signed and returned to the Dean of Students Office.

For mental health support, contact the Counseling & Wellness Center at 352-392-1575 or visit <https://counseling.ufl.edu>.

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit the website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website 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.

STUDENT NIGHTTIME AUXILIARY PATROL (SNAP): SNAP provides nightly escorts anywhere on campus to persons on request. The service is staffed by students, equipped and supervised by the university police department. Escorts are routed on foot and driven trips. A person requesting an escort may contact SNAP via telephone at 392-SNAP (7627). The requester provides their first name, location of pick-up and destination to the dispatcher who determines the best method of meeting the requester's need. A walking or driving escort is dispatched to their location.

DRUG-FREE SCHOOL & WORKPLACE & CLEAN INDOOR AIR ACT: The School of Art and Art History (SA+AH) 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.

SHARED STUDIO AND SHOPS: Please leave the studio and shops clean.

Regardless of the condition you find it in, we request that you leave it clean for the next person. Remember to place all work in progress on the storage shelves or designated area. This is a shared studio and we all need to work together to keep it a clean and productive environment.

STUDIO PRACTICE: The instructor and the School of Art and Art History are not responsible for student work left in workspaces, installation spaces, the critique space, the shops, or the classrooms. Projects/materials are not to be stored in the group working space. Each student is responsible for ensuring that their projects and materials are safely stored, displayed, installed, and removed from the classroom and critique space. Projects must be set up and removed from the critique space at the times and spaces designated for each project.

POLICIES REGARDING CLASSROOMS, STUDIOS & OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL

SPACES: 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. We ask that you follow these guidelines:

- 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.
- 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.
- No art project may interfere with or impede access to classrooms, hallways or other public spaces.
- All site-specific art projects must be installed and engineered with the safety of the general public in mind. Your instructor, and if necessary the SA+AH office, should be informed and approve of your public artwork before installation and critique.
- 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.

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. Student Conduct Code: Violations, Penalties and Procedures for Adjudication: <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4016.htm>

Health & Safety:

- Review and follow the SA+AH Health & Safety Handbook:
<https://arts.ufl.edu/academics/art-and-art-history/health-safety/>
- Follow the SA+AH Satellite Waste Management Chart and posted media-specific safety guidelines.
- Report any safety issues immediately to your instructor.

Emergencies:

- Call 911 and/or the University Police Department (352-392-1111, <http://police.ufl.edu/>). Your course is in Fine Arts Building C, Basement, UF Building #0599.
- File an incident report (forms in SAAH H&S handbook, faculty handbook, and main office); turn into the SA+AH Director of Operations within 48 hours.
- First aid kits are located in every studio/shop. Notify your instructor if supplies are low.
- Familiarize yourself with the nearest eyewash unit in the studio and shops.

Shop Access & Supervision:

- Shop hours outside class are posted on the door.
- Get permission from the Teaching Lab Specialist (TLS) before working.
- After approval, sign in on the clipboard.
- The table saw, jointer, and planer may only be used under supervision of TLS or shop technicians. Unauthorized use = expulsion from shops.
- Only currently enrolled SA+AH students who have completed orientations may use the shops. No visitors, even friends or family, allowed.

Personal Safety:

- Eye protection must be worn when using power tools (goggles provided).
- Hearing protection is available (ask TLS).
- Long hair tied back; long shirt tails tucked in; loose sleeves rolled up.
- Shoes must cover toes.
- No loose jewelry.
- Keep hands at least 5 inches from stationary saw blades; use push sticks or ask for help on difficult cuts.

Conduct & Cleanliness:

- No food or drink in shops.
- Do the loop: circle the space and organize tools/materials as you go.
- Clean up: dust off tools/tables, sweep floors, dispose of scrap immediately, and return tools to proper storage.

- All courses participate in end-of-semester cleanup.

Material Use & Restrictions:

- No SA+AH property may be taken home.
- Students may not store materials/projects in wood or metal shops.
- Do not cut painted, recycled, or pressure-treated lumber on stationary equipment.
- Painting/sanding must be done in the courtyard when weather permits.
- Use paper or plastic to protect surfaces from paint, glue, or plaster.
- Paint rollers/latex paint often yield better results than spray paint (consult instructor).
- Store all flammables in the flammable cabinet; keep it closed.

Hazardous Waste & Containers:

- Two types of labels must be used (found at red MSDS boxes):
 - White labels** – for all new/used products in containers (hazardous or potentially hazardous: e.g., watered gesso, solvents, powders, spray paints, oils, fixatives).
 - Must include: contents, your name, date opened.
 - Required for all secondary/satellite containers.
 - Unmarked containers will be disposed of without notice.
 - Yellow labels** – for all containers designated as trash for weekly EHS pickup.
 - Required on flammable solid containers (red flip tops), 5-gallon disposal jugs, and each item in blue bins.
 - Labels must list all waste constituents with approximate percentages totaling 100%.
 - Must also include building/room number and the Waste Manager (posted at sinks/Waste Management Area).

GUIDELINES FOR WORK IN SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

Proper care should be taken to assure all property in the surrounding area is respected and well-maintained, and projects should be executed with public health and safety in mind. Vandalism of any kind will not be tolerated. As on campus, students doing site-specific work off-campus will be legally and financially accountable for any illegal or destructive actions. In addition, projects involving the greater community should be

carefully considered and faculty must be consulted throughout. All public projects must be cleared by faculty and permission granted. Remember, that the UF SA+AH retains the power to require a more appropriate solution to any project that may violate any of the guidelines outlined above. Please do not litter or leave materials out in public. Failure to comply with these rules may result in disciplinary action, withholding of grades, the possible lowering of grades, or course failure.