ART 307 Advanced 3D & Material Studies  
Spring 2018  
Tuesdays 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Professor: Rebecca Murtaugh  
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Office: KTSA 110  
Office Hours: Mondays 3:00–5:00 pm, Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:15–10:15am, + special hours, and by appointment  

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Making art is a creative process that is accomplished through experiential learning in the studio. This course will expose and engage students in the language of materials, advanced techniques, tools, and aesthetics of sculpture. The student will have the opportunity to expand their expressive, technical, conceptual, and visual skills as they relate to sculpture from a historical and contemporary approach. Techniques will include soft and rigid mold-making, casting a variety of materials, and numerous methods of fabrication and construction. Materials applied in class may include but not be limited to clay, ceramic, found objects, plaster, wood, thermoplastic, rubber, foam, polystyrene, wax, soap, smooth-cast, concrete, alginate, plexi-glass, steel and 3D printing. Students are encouraged to reflect upon personal experience, current events, history, contemporary visual culture, intuition and/or process in the creation of new original works.

Class Structure
• Presentation, lecture, demonstration, discussion and critique.
• Work in the studio.
• Wrap up, clean up and preparation for the following week.

There is no substitution for studio time, students should anticipate spending a substantial amount of time in the studio working on projects in addition to class time. This time may include but not be limited to skill practice, required reading, written assignments, journaling, collecting and purchasing materials, attending visiting artists lectures on campus, watching videos, and participation or attendance of community art functions and/or field trips.

EDUCATIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
This course will provide students a means for communication and expression utilizing mixed media sculpture. Each student will grow significantly in their ability to develop their own voice of original ideas (creativity) with a focused and very rigorous disciplinary practice. A developed visual and conceptual vocabulary will accompany the students’ technical proficiency with the tools and techniques demonstrated and utilized in the studio. Intellectual curiosity and flexibility will provide students with the opportunity to ask thoughtful and insightful questions in the making of art while working outside of their comfort zone. Students’ problem-solving skills will develop as they are challenged to find the best possible solution to a multitude of problems and projects presented in class. Students will practice aesthetic discernment through individual discussion and group critique in the evaluation of the quality of artworks and ideas. Upon completion of this course the student will be able to demonstrate a solid foundation in three-dimensional concepts and processes with an emphasis on material investigation, skill development, and independent thinking. Each student will make a professional presentation of their Independent directed work in the final critique of the semester in the Wilhelm Lobby.

GRADES
Will be determined by:  
• Quality and originality of work  
• Quality of presentation, participation/responsiveness to critique  
• Effort, growth, improvement in skill, investment in work  
• Studio citizenry  
• Willingness to experiment  
• Thoughtful, inquisitive, and reflective journaling

A+, A, A-  EXCELLENT  Fully engaged in the process of learning, each assignment demonstrates excellent commitment and effort, and a willingness to push yourself to do the very best work.

B+, B, B-  GOOD  Strong effort, good participation, good growth, good quality of work.
C+, C, C- AVERAGE Average performance, work and attitude that meet the minimum course requirements, effort, and quality of work.

D+, D, D- POOR Lack of projects or poor quality, poor participation, skill, effort, class work.

F, FF, XF FAILING Lack of projects, missing critique, unacceptable performance, honor code violation.

Critique: Critique will serve as a venue for students to be insightful, communicate their knowledge of technical skills, problem solving, critical thinking ability, a genuine desire to learn, and share creative experiences with peers. You will receive an F for your project grade if you miss critique without an excused absence. If your work is incomplete at the time of critique the maximum grade that can be earned for the project is a D. Late work will not be accepted.

Lateness: Demonstrations, discussions, assignments, and review occur at the beginning of class. Lateness will affect your ability to succeed in this course and will negatively impact your grade.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. You are expected to arrive on time and stay until class is over. We will have a short break during our 3-hour class. More than one absence will lower your grade for the course. The Dean of Students in the form of a letter, email, or phone call should provide documentation for excused absences.

Respect for the Studio: Your grade will be lowered (after one warning) if you are not properly maintaining a clean work area, this applies to both in and out of class time in the studio. Please do not keep your phones out during class, they should be put away and have a silenced ringer. While we will listen to music in some classes, students may not wear earbuds during class time, the professor will often give instruction and art conversations regularly in class during work time.

Academic Progress: Mid semester grades will be distributed to each student. This grade is only an estimate of your final grade and will comment on progress toward finished pieces. These grades are intended to help determine where improvement may be necessary.

Academic Warnings: If you feel this class is not for you, you may drop without penalty before March 9, 2018. Under normal circumstances I will speak with students individually if performance falls below a C.

Services for Students with Disabilities: Any student who feels that he or she may need an accommodation because of a learning disability, attention deficit disorder, psychological or physical needs, please make an appointment to see me in the first week of the semester during office hours. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities should first contact Allen Harrison in the Dean of Students Office (ext. 4021) who coordinates services and verifies eligibility for students with disabilities.

Statement from the Library
“Ask a librarian for help with your research in this class. Research Librarians are available in person at the Burke Info Desk, online via chat, and by appointment.”

TEXT and MATERIALS
There is no required text for this course but there will be many assigned readings that will be distributed via Blackboard or handouts. All readings are posted in blackboard under “Library Resources”, unless otherwise noted (not library reserves). Print all readings from blackboard for class and keep in your journal. The professor will review and grade your journal at midterm and at the end of the semester.

Students are responsible for checking Blackboard and email regularly for class updates. Students will be provided materials such as clay, slipcasting Miller clay, underglazes, glazes, foam-it, flex-foam it, moulding plaster, pottery plaster, hydrostone, smooth-cast 65D, release agents, nitrile gloves, eye protection, and ear protection by the Art department. Students will need to purchase additional materials for the course as needed. A list follows.
Smooth On Online order:
• Trial Size of Rebound 25 Silicone Brush on Mold Rubber $30.10 + tax & shipping https://shop.smooth-on.com/rebound-25
- You will need the Alginate by Feb 6th. If you call Smooth On, (610) 252-5800, you can request their email address to send an image of your student ID to receive a 10% discount.

Hannaford or Dollar General will have the following:
• 1” three ring binder for your journal (with lined and unlined paper)
• two small hand towels
• one box of small 4 gallon plastic white kitchen bags
• one empty milk carton, cardboard box, shoe box, or gallon plastic jug Think about your hand or foot fitting in it.
• pack of disposable cups, 4 or 8oz cups (must be able to cut the cup with a scissor)
• a small pack of wide popsicle sticks

Agway will have the following:
• two sharpie markers (a normal and a fine tip)
• two 1 gallon buckets
• 4 disposable black foam 1” brushes
• 4 disposable bristle 1” brushes
• one roll of saran wrap
• two 2 cup PLASTIC measuring cups, 16oz (no glass, plastic only)
• one heavy duty exacto-knife
• one snap blade exacto-knife (optional)
• duct tape
• masking tape
• good quality scissor
• hot glue gun (FYI: the studio will some to use but are often in poor condition)
• a variety of sizes of paintbrushes for use with glazes and/or acrylics
• 2 boxes (1 pound each) of paraffin wax

Michael’s or JoAnn’s will have the following:
• 1 a variety of ceramic tools (will be given out by Rebecca for students to use for the semester)
• crayola crayons (cheaper brands are not worth buying as they do not have quality colorants in them)
• 1 package of GLYCERINE soap (optional, but studio does not provide)

- Students will require additional specific materials as needed and for your independent directed project.
- Also recommend is an apron for the semester that you only wear in the 3D studios.

The Jitney is available for students without their own transportation. Coming to class without your materials is equivalent to an absence. On occasion the student may wish to order a specialty item or purchase specific materials such as adhesives, wood, additional casting materials, or their own tools.

A New Material Report form must accompany any new materials that are brought into the studio, material(s) should be discussed with the professor first and the form should be returned to the Professor and Studio Arts Operation Manager - John Powell. His office is in the Woodshop, KTSA 118, jdpowell@hamilton.edu.

SCULPTURE STUDIO ETIQUETTE
**Review the “Intro to Sculpture & Ceramics Guidelines” handout and “EH&S Handbook” on blackboard. Every student is required to fill out the last page of the EH&S handout and return to the professor on the second day of class.

Access
Students have varying degrees of access to KTSA 116, 116A, 116B, 116C, 117, and 118 from 8:00am-midnight during the semester and will require the buddy system. The studio is not open on college holidays. The woodshop is
open M-F 9am-4pm, it is best to make an appointment with Professor Murtaugh or John Powell when working out of class time to ensure you can use specific lock box tools.

**Buddy System**

Many situations can compromise an individual’s personal safety. For that reason, anyone working in the 3D studios is required to work with a "buddy" when the Professor, Studio Art Operations Manager, or Studio Monitor is not present. This is someone else in the class or Art 106, 109, 307, or 502 with who you will be in constant contact through sight or sound. "Buddy" hours will be posted on the outer door placard.

It is important to take safety very seriously in the studios. The proper use of tools and equipment will be demonstrated in the Sculpture Studio Safety Seminar. The Studio Arts Operation Manager conducts this seminar outside of class-time. All students must complete this seminar in the first week of classes. If you have any questions regarding the safe utilization of tools please do not hesitate to contact Professor Murtaugh or John Powell. Do not operate a tool if you are unsure of how to use it safely. Open toed shoes are not permitted in the studio.

A sign up sheet for the Sculpture Studio Safety Seminar will be available on the first day of class. If you are unable to make your scheduled time slot, please contact John Powell and reschedule to another session.

**Statement Regarding KTSA Facilities**

"All Hamilton custodial staff is excluded from handling student projects, work and related materials. This means staff cannot clean up after students and it is the responsibility of students to clean up after themselves."

**Cleanup**

Students are responsible for cleaning up areas used. A dirty/messy studio will not be tolerated. For health reasons, the studio is best cleaned with a wet sponge or the shop vacuum. If using a broom and dustpan please try to keep dust to a minimum by utilizing greensweep. If the studio becomes intolerably dirty it will be closed out of class time. Please respect the studio and your classmates. Each student will be assigned a locker, shelf, and two cubbies. Keep your area tidy. Lack of keeping the studio clean will negatively impact your grade for the course. Your art and materials must be removed from the studio by the last day of finals. Items left in the studio will be discarded and your grade will be lowered one full letter grade for lack of cleaning up and removing your belongings.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

The first half of the semester will be organized in a workshop fashion with lectures, demonstrations, and critiques. Students will learn new processes using contemporary and traditional materials in mold making, casting, and fabrication. For the second half of the semester each student will conceive and carry out an independent directed project that will conclude with a formal group critique at the end of the semester with the artwork professionally presented in the Willem Lobby in KTSA.

**WORKSHOP REQUIREMENTS (40%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 two-part slipcasting mold</td>
<td>February 13, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 plaster body cast</td>
<td>February 13, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 rubber mold with mother mold</td>
<td>March 12, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 ceramic casts, 3 of them must be glazed</td>
<td>April 24, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 casts of variable materials from rubber mold</td>
<td>April 24, 2018</td>
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**JOURNAL (10%)** There are 3 components to the Journal. Artist reviews and reading responses must be typed.

Late Journals cannot be accepted.

1. Print out of all assigned readings. Three readings marked with a ✶ should also be accompanied by a two-paragraph written response. I want to read about your interpretation of the article assigned. This should not merely be a summary, ultimately and more importantly I am looking for your position and response to the author’s intention and what you learned from each reading in a thoughtful and critical manner.
2. **Artist Research: 4 Artists**
   You are required to conduct a minimum of 3 hours researching a contemporary sculptor and summarize what you find, or don't find, intriguing/compelling about the artist and their work in two paragraphs and 1 photograph of the artists’ work. Give the work a critique. I want to know what you think of the work, not someone else’s opinion. Cite your sources MLA format. Wikipedia is not an acceptable source. Books and journals are the best sources. Artist websites are helpful but should not be your only source. You may also choose to write about a visiting artist lecture in lieu of an artist on the list provided.

   required: Margarita Cabrera @ the Wellin Museum: Monday, March 5, 2018 @ 4:30pm
   optional: Wendy Ewald & Fazal Sheikh @ Wellin Museum: April 4, 2018 @ 4:30pm

   You should be aware of and utilize the dialogue of art in your writing.
   - Organizational Principles: repetition, variety/unity, rhythm, balance/gravity, and proportion.
   - Elements of Design: form, volume/mass, space, line, texture, light, color, and time.

3. **Class Notes and Sketches**
   This includes vocabulary, class and demonstration notes, MSDS, product and process worksheets, sketches...

   - The professor will review your Journal at midterm and the last week of classes.

   **Due on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 (by 5pm)**
   - 2 Artist Research Papers.
   - Responses to Kosuth and Moszynska.

   **Due on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 (by 5pm)**
   - Another 2 Artist Research Papers.
   - Response to Strauss.

**DO IT (5%)**

**Part One**
1. Write five sets of instructions to create a work of art.
2. Each should be on a separate sheet of standard white computer paper.
3. Do not place anything else or alter the sheet in any way.
4. Use 12pt, Times font, all caps.
5. Place your 5 sheets/instructions in the Do-it binder in the sculpture studio cabinet on January 23rd.

**Part Two**
1. Each student will choose one set of instructions to enact (other than their own) by January 30th.
2. You can choose from both binders in the studio, the e-flux website, or Yoko Ono’s Grapefruit.
3. Students will present work for critique, see sign up sheet.

**INDEPENDENT DIRECTED PROJECT (45%)**
Please type up your proposal for our individual meetings before spring break.
Students will discuss draft before spring break with final version of your proposal due on March 27, 2018. Students wishing to weld steel or work with 3D printing should speak with the professor as soon as possible to make multiple meetings for safety and skill development and to discuss possibilities of scale, scope, and cost. Your grade for the Independent Directed will be comprised of our mid project one-on-one and your final crit.

1. What are your ideas/processes? Is there more than one way to express your ideas?
2. What do you want to make and why? What is your mission statement? Declare your intentions.
3. What tools and materials will you need?
4. Where will you acquire and store your materials?
5. Will your personal budget be adequate?
6. Are you working within a reasonable time frame? Create a calendar with specifics. cont…
6. Will you need to learn new skills? If yes, what assistance will you require, when, and to what degree?
7. What is your installation schedule and what will you need to install your work and where?
8. Each student will write an artist statement to accompany the work at critique.
   Artist statements should be submitted to the professor one day before critique.

COURSE CALENDAR

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tues  Jan 23</td>
<td>Demonstrate two-part plaster mold making for slipcasting. Slide Lecture: Slipcasting. Place your 5 instructions in the large binder upon your arrival to class. Submit signed EH&amp;S signed last page only to Professor. Homework: 1. Bring 5 objects (for possible slipcast object) to office hours or make an appointment. 2. Read Walter Benjamin, Essay: “The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction”. Parts I-V</td>
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Homework:
1. Rubber Mold due by March 12th.
2. Place any slipcast clay works on the to be bisque shelf before Spring Break.
3. Visit office hours/make an appt to discuss independent directed proposal before break.
4. Begin your proposal for Independent Directed, meet with Professor outside of class.

Mon March 5 Required: Margarita Cabrera @ the Wellin Museum @ 4:30pm

Tues March 6 Visit and conversation with Wellin Museum visiting artist Margarita Cabrera in class.
Slide Lecture: Ways of Working: Construction and Fabrication Techniques: Journals will be collected by professor by 5:00pm.
Homework:
3. Meet with professor outside of class to discuss ideas for Independent Directed.

Tues March 13 & 20 Spring Break

Tues March 27 Begin Independent Directed Project. Bring final draft to class and email a copy. 
Demonstrate New Castables.
Homework:
1. Continue slipcasting and begin casting in rubber mold.

Tues April 3 Independent Directed Project Work Day 
30 minute Glaze Demonstration.

Tues April 10 Independent Directed Project Work Day

Tues April 17 Independent Directed Project Work Day. One-on-one review of work in progress. 
The last bisque slipcast kiln will be loaded on Tuesday in class. 
The last glaze kiln for slipcasts will be loaded on Friday at 4pm.

Tues April 24 Independent Directed Project Work Day, All Casts Due (10 total).

Tues May 1 Independent Directed Project Work Day, Journals Due

Thurs May 3 Optional: Senior Art Exhibition Reception at the Wellin Museum 4:00 – 6:00 pm.

Sat May 12 Formal Critique of Independent Projects 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm
***Email artist statement one day before.***

Studio cleanup is to be done outside of class, shelves, cubbies, need to emptied and cleaned as well as common spaces in the studio. Artwork left after noon on Sunday, May 13, 2018 will be discarded. If you do not clean your cubbies and remove your artwork you will be penalized by one letter grade.

If you have any questions about assignments, techniques or need to discuss something please do not hesitate to ask. Call, email or visit my office.