

Art 281 Studio Concentration Seminar 2 Course Outline

Objective

A program completion course concerned with reflection, consideration and presentation. Students will survey and appraise their artistic growth over the past two years and make preparations for the post-graduation situation.

Specific objectives

Students will continue the emphasis on personal position and critical appraisal established in Seminar 1 (Art 280) and extend the work into the following

1. Keeping a notebook of critical reviews of visiting artists and exhibitions
2. Developing the following personal documentation for presentation to future employers, institutions, clients, etc.
 - a. visual (slides/photos and written (artistic statement and documentation of all your work)
 - b. letters of application, project proposals, requests for grants, bursaries, loans, and institutional entrance forms, etc.
 - c. a well written, up to date résumé, and a visual portfolio that will represent you in the best possible light
3. A project proposal for the Vertical Gallery at Open Space that will include most of the criteria mentioned above along with a maquette and/or finished artwork. This is not a hypothetical question. Two or three students will be selected by jurors (from Open Space) to install their projects. A detailed package of requirements, criteria, artist fees, etc., will be given to each student
4. A graduation show will be held at Eaton's Centre with representation of work from every student. All students will be involved in the preparation including jurying, publicity, fund-raising, installation, clean-up, exhibition catalog, etc.

Evaluation

Student will submit specific project work at fixed times during the semester. The grading breaks down as follows:

Résumé and portfolio	20%
Notebook	20%
Open Space proposal	30%
Involvement and participation including volunteer work *	15%
Graduation show	15%
Total	100%

** Attendance is one of the main criteria of the involvement and participation category. It is mandatory because class discussion cannot be recreated and therefore not made up if missed. Missing a class without a valid reason will result in a deduction of 5% from your final grade for each class missed.*

Missing more than two classes will seriously jeopardize your successful completion of the course. Tardiness will also have the same effect.

Involvement and participation will also be evaluated on the level of care and on the quality of your engagement with your work.

Portfolio Project

Due: 9:00 am

The class content has covered most of the procedures and requirements outlined below, and the formats employed for letters, resume references, slides, etc. should be adhered to for this project. Further details and samples will be discussed at the small-group seminars during the next two weeks.

Remember, please, to **exploit and sell** your well-defined and broad-ranging skills as an artist. Be purposeful and confident at all times and aim for a clear, concise, well-supported application.

The package must contain the following items in the order indicated below and be presented, as **one compact unit** in a large envelope. ***Check off the boxes below as you complete the various items and show me this list.***

- A one-page letter of application (typed); it may be something real or you may create the situation (bursary/grant/commission/permit/assistantship). State clearly what you request from them.
- One page (typed) list of contents in package.
- Complete resume (typed), with two references (they can be 'simulated' for this project, and your project). Aim for two pages (stapled) for the basic resume that must contain the following:
 - personal data
 - educational background
 - work experience
 - professional skills, etc. (sell yourself)
 - professional activities/memberships
 - interests (provides character 'image')
- references (two to four references - name, address, position, phone and/or 2 testimonials, maximum one page each, typed)
- Slide package of 16 - 20 slides presented in plastic slide sleeve, each slide named, titled, numbered and documented.
- Written (typed) documentation of slide package with some descriptive commentary to enrich or supplement an individual image (identify part of series concept, source, personal critique, etc.) - maximum two pages (stapled).
- One page (typed) artist statement (150 - 200 words).
- Self-addressed return envelope (for slides).

Please remember to have your name on all pages. Present the complete package in a (8½ x 11) envelope, addressed to:

Project 281 Bursary Competition

Visual Arts Department
Room Y101A - Young Building
Camosun College
3100 Foul Bay Road
Victoria BC V8P 5J2

If you are having trouble with any of the above tasks please come and see me well before the deadline.

Exhibition and Artist Talk Review Writing Tips

Introduction

What is the idea or theme behind the exhibition? This is usually explained in the curatorial statement; e.g. the idea of landscape within contemporary photography, re-evaluating the history of painting, or challenging an assumption or theoretical idea. Provide to your readers the concepts, the artists, the number of works, and other details relevant to the work. Always assume that the reader has not seen the show. Give your readers a context or framework on which you add your observations and opinions later.

Elaborate on the curatorial intent and put it in your own words. Titles are always important. What does the title mean in relation to the content or theme?

In an artist talk, take note of repeating keywords and ideas. This gives you the parameters of the artists' focus.

Main

Using the theme of the exhibition or curatorial statement, select one or two artists to write about. You can either choose artists that best exemplify the point of the exhibition or ones that are diametrically opposed.

In an artist talk, you can write about works that resonate with the artists' ideas. You can also write about the development of their work through a few select pieces. Describe the work and describe why they work or do not work. Make sure you provide evidence from the artwork to back your opinion.

You may have to do extra reading to fully understand the ideas presented in the exhibition or in the artist talk. You can and should ask questions during an artist talk if you are unclear about concepts.

Conclusion

Connect your analysis to the exhibition. Your review should be more than just describing art or your response(s) to the exhibition.

Format

Your review should be around 500 words (2 pages). It should be word processed and run through a spell check. Read your review out loud when proofing as your spell checker is not infallible.

What a spell checker won't do for you:

Eye halve a spelling checker
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marquees four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.
Eye strike a key and type a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weigh.
As soon as mist ache is maid
It nose be fore two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever wrong.
Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two no
Its letter perfect awl the weigh
My checker told me sew.

Open Space – Vertical Gallery Proposal

Due: 9 a.m.

Proposal must include (check off the boxes below as you complete the various items and show me this list):

- A typed double-spaced cover letter outlining your intention to apply for the exhibition and detailing what is included in your proposal package.
- A typed list of contents
- An Artist's Statement, typed double-spaced 150 - 250 words, which explains the proposed works intent and content.
- Three to five colour slides of the full scale finished work and details**
- All photo support material must be numbered with an accompanying list describing the dimensions and materials you will be using.
- All the above must be placed in a new envelope 8½ x 11 or 11 x 14 in., with your name and address in the top left hand corner, and, the name and address of the Gallery centered on the envelope.
- Vertical Gallery proposal due 9:00am *sharp*

This complete package will be handed in to me at the time listed above. Marks will be deducted if any of the above criteria are missing or improperly done.

Lateness will be considered missing the deadline, and could result in the proposal not being considered, and therefore, a failing grade would be assigned.

Address the proposal to:

Camosun College Vertical Gallery Proposal
Open Space
510 Fort St
Victoria BC V8W 1E6
Attention: Todd Davis

Grad Show Gallery Sitting Responsibilities

Keys:

- if you are starting the first shift of the day pick up the keys from the **Information Booth** in the mall.
- if you are relieving someone be sure to **get the key from them before they leave.**
- if you are the last shift of the day return the key to the **Information Booth** before you leave, so the next days shift can pick it up.
- be sure to check that you have locked the doors securely before you leave.**

Lights:

- when turning the lights on and off be sure to switch only the ones marked with the green dots. **Do not touch the ones that are taped or marked with red dots.**
- report any lights that may have burned out so they can be changed.

The installed work:

- turn on any of the slide projectors, lights, audiocassettes and any video equipment.
- check that all the work is straight, and nothing has come off the wall.
- turn all the above off when last shift of the day finishes.

Monitoring:

- do not leave the rooms unattended.**
- if you have to leave, lock the door and leave a note saying where you are and when you will be back.

Do not be late for your shift.

Projects Checklist

1. Complete full portfolio as outlined.

Due:

2. Complete the Vertical Gallery piece. If chosen for exhibition have it ready to install.

Due:

3. Complete your volunteer gallery work experience component.

Due:

4. A week prior to your final interview, hand in your notebook or binder with all reviews to date plus a brief typed summary (250 - 350 words) of your two years in this program.

Due:

5. Complete all preliminary preparation for the final exhibition (this is a group effort and may include fund-raising activities, and the publication of an exhibition catalog).

Exhibition dates:

Notes:

Gallery Work Experience (Volunteer)

Note to students: all work must be completed no later than:

Minimum time - 4 hours, all gallery work experience must be booked outside of class time

Name: _____

Date(s) worked: _____

Nature of activity:

Comments:

Gallery representative: (to be signed when work completed)
