

Department of Art Syllabus

- I. ART 5434 *Sculpture Techniques in Papermaking*, 3 Credit Hours
- II. PREREQUISITES
None
- III. TEXTBOOK
None
- IV. COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course focuses on experimentation with handmade paper techniques as a means to create three-dimensional works of art. (Lab fee required)
- V. RATIONALE
When addressing their work, artists have always concerned themselves with the characteristics of paper – its weight, texture, and tone. Today, however, artists have recognized the potential of the material as a medium in itself. The tremendous versatility of paper pulp accounts for much of its popularity. It can be cast for sculpture, manipulated by hand like clay, burnished like metal, embellished with gold or silver leaf, vacuum-formed, sprayed, poured, daubed, or splattered like paint, or spun into thread and woven as textiles. Amide this versatility, still other artists are interested in papermaking simply as a medium within itself and the ability to make fine quality paper. This course offers the artist an opportunity to explore papermaking as another means of expression. Both the two-dimensional and the three-dimensional possibilities will be explored with a final framework focusing on a three-dimensional work of art.
- VI. LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
 - A. Trace the history of papermaking from its early use in Asia, to its emergence as an art form in Western culture.
 - B. Locate a cellulose fiber that has been transformed to clothing or another functional state, prepare the fiber for recycling by breaking it down and creating a pulp base, and pull sheets of paper from the pulp.
 - C. Use papermaking terminology when describing and explaining techniques and processes unique to papermaking.
 - D. Demonstrate proficiency in the following sheet forming techniques: laminating, embedding, embossing, pouring/marbling, joining, and pulp painting.

- E. Design and cast paper from prepared molds using the modeling and carving techniques.
- F. Design a bas relief, create a plaster mold, and cast it in paper.
- G. Cast paper pulp from a plaster or plastic mold.
- H. Create a sculpture using two forming techniques: Armature and Free-form.

VII. COURSE TOPICS

- A. Introduction to papermaking
 - 1. The craft of papermaking
 - 2. Paper as fine craft
 - 3. Functional versus aesthetic
 - 4. Artist exploring papermaking as an art form:
 - a. David Hockney
 - b. Allen and Patty Eckman
 - c. Bonnie Ferrill Roman
- B. Short history of papermaking
- C. Tools and materials
- D. Pulp presentation
 - 1. Recycling paper
 - a. Part-processed fibers
 - b. Trash paper
 - c. Old artwork: drawings, prints, etc.
- E. Papermaking: sheet forming variations
 - 1. Laminating
 - 2. Embedding
 - 3. Embossing
 - 4. Pouring
 - a. marbling
 - b. stencil
 - 5. Pulp painting
- F. Other techniques
 - 1. Couching
 - 2. Pressing
 - 3. Drying paper
- G. Sculptural techniques
 - 1. Casting techniques
 - a. carving
 - b. modeling
 - 2. Molds
 - a. plaster
 - b. clay
 - c. ready-made

- 3. Baas relief
- 4. Forming
- 5. Construction
- H. Finishing techniques
 - 1. Charcoal/pastel
 - 2. Stenciling
 - 3. Collage
 - 4. Weaving
 - 5. Torn paper
 - 6. Painting
- I. Final projects
 - 1. Cast sculpture
 - 2. The book as sculpture
 - 3. Construction

VIII. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

- A. Lecture/demonstrations
- B. Studio exploration
- C. Critiques

IX. ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Portfolio of 2 examples of all 5 sheet forming techniques
- B. Cast sculpture
- C. Construction
- D. Book art

X. GRADING SCALE

See Department of Art Syllabus Addendum for Grading Scale and Evaluation.

XI. LIST OF MATERIALS

List of materials will be provided by instructor.

XII. REFERENCES

- Allen, N. B. (1929). *Cotton and other useful fibers*. Boston, MA: Ginn.
- Bierman, C. (1996). *Handbook of pulping and papermaking*. San Diego, CA: Academic Press.
- Dawson, S. (1992). *The art and craft of papermaking*. New York: Lark.
- Fabri, R. (1966). *Sculpture in paper*. New York: Watson-Guptill.

- Grummer, A. E. (2011). *Trash to treasure papermaking*. North Adams, MA: Storey.
- Johnson, P. (1958). *Creating with paper: Basic forms and variations*. Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press.
- Johnston, M. G. (1952). *Paper sculpture*. Worcester, MA: Davis.
- Smith, G. Z. (1995). *Teaching hand papermaking: A classroom guide*. Cedar Rapids, IA: Paperpress.
- Toale, B. (1983). *The art of papermaking*. Worcester, MA: Davis.
- Valentine, M. (1990). *How to make your own recycled paper*. Kent, England: British Wildlife.