

Department of Art Syllabus

- I. ART 6563 *Studio/Thesis I*, 3 Credit Hours, Hybrid
- II. PREREQUISITES
ART 6507 and ART 6508
- II. TEXTBOOK
None
- IV. COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is preparative to the MFA thesis and focuses on the combination of written and studio research. Students will investigate research findings and research methods in art and prepare individualized research.
- V. RATIONALE
The culminating research experience for the Master of Fine Arts student is the Studio/Thesis. This research opportunity allows the graduate student to pursue focused investigation into a topic relative to their particular interests and needs in studio art. The Studio/Thesis combines visual and written research with the primary objective of creating a body of artwork supported by a written explication. Under the supervision of a graduate faculty member, graduate students in this course will develop a research problem and write a prospectus delineating research.
- VI. LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
 - A. Describe the connection between visual and written research.
 - B. Describe 3 types of studios/theses.
 - C. Develop a research problem for a studio/thesis.
 - D. Support a studio/thesis research problem with an annotated bibliography.
 - E. Identify the parts of a research prospectus.
 - F. Write a research prospectus in the APA writing style.
- VII. COURSE TOPICS
 - A. The Studio/Thesis: 1) the thesis. 2) studio research. 3) combining studio and thesis.
 - B. Conducting research: 1) finding a topic. 2) limiting the topic. 3) considering the sources. 4) conducting research. 5) brainstorming and making an outline. 6) writing the paper.
 - C. The Studio/Thesis prospectus: 1) review of literature. 2) problem statement. 3) research methodology. 4) potential significance of the

research. 5) limitations. 6) definition of terms. 7) annotated bibliography.

D. Writing styles: 1) APA. 2) MLA. 3) Turabian.

E. Visual research: 1) defining a problem. 2) identifying a line of investigation. 3) connecting with the written research.

VIII. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

A. Lecture

B. Group discussion

C. Studio projects/lab setting

D. Library research

E. Reading assignments

F. Written assignments

G. Independent research

IX. ASSIGNMENTS

A. Research problem statement

B. Prospectus outline

C. Prospectus for the studio/thesis

D. Annotated references

X. EVALUATION

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

XI. REFERENCES

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. (6th ed.) Washington, DC: APA.

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Booth, W. C. (1995). *The craft of research*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago.

Cone, J. D. (1993). *Dissertations and theses from start to finish: Psychology and related fields* (1st ed.). Washington, DC: APA.

Crabtree, W. L. & Miller, W. L. (1992). *Doing qualitative research*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.

Ely, M. (1991). *Doing qualitative research: Circles within circles*. New York: Falmer.

Good, C. V. (1971). *Essentials of educational research: Methodology and design* (2nd ed.). New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts.

La Pierre, S.D. & Zimmerman, E. (Eds.). (1997). *Research methods and methodologies for art education*. Reston, VA: NAEA.

Mann, T. (2005). *The oxford guide to library research*. NY: Oxford.

Marshall, C. (1995). *Designing qualitative research*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.