

Department of Art Syllabus

- I. ART 234 *Introduction to Handmade Paper*, 3 Credit Hours
- II. PREREQUISITES
None
- III. TEXTBOOK
None
- IV. COURSE DESCRIPTION
An introduction to the fine craft of handmade paper, focusing on basic sheet forming techniques and the process of recycling material. Papermaking techniques applied to basic design concepts will also be explored. (Lab fee required).
- V. RATIONALE
Today a concern for recycling has led many artists to explore the possibilities of making paper from found material. Artists have also recognized the potential of the material as a medium in itself. Permanent, archival paper can be made from cotton or other cellulose fibers. Handmade paper techniques can be manipulated to express ideas. It offers another medium to explore a vast number of design ideas and concepts. This course addresses the craft of making paper and allows the student to experience making paper from recycled material as well as traditional techniques of making functional paper. The course also explores handmade paper as another means of self-expression and inspiration from design concepts.
- 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. Identify and explore a variety of cellulose fibers that can be adapted to papermaking.
 - C. Explore both aesthetic and functional applications of handmade paper.
 - D. Use papermaking terminology when describing and explaining techniques and processes unique to papermaking.
 - E. Demonstrate proficiency in the following sheet forming techniques: laminating, embedding, embossing, and pulp painting.
 - F. Apply basic design concepts to sheet forming techniques.

VII. COURSE TOPICS

- A. Introduction to handmade paper
 - 1. Short history of handmade paper
 - 2. Handmade paper tools and materials
 - 3. Research ideas in handmade paper
- B. Recycling
 - 1. Identifying cellulose fibers
 - 2. Recycling cellulose fibers
 - 3. Recycling
 - 4. Sheet forming techniques
 - a. Laminating
 - b. Embedding
 - c. Embossing
 - d. Pouring
 - e. Pulp painting
- C. Basic design concepts
 - 1. Elements of art
 - a. Line
 - b. Shape
 - c. Form
 - d. Color
 - e. Texture
 - f. Value
 - g. Space
 - 2. Principles of design
 - a. Balance
 - b. Unity
 - c. Contrast
 - d. Emphasis
 - e. Pattern
 - f. Movement
 - g. Rhythm
 - 3. Composition
- D. Presentation techniques

VIII. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

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

IX. GRADING SCALE

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

X. LIST OF MATERIALS

List of materials will be provided by instructor.

XI. 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-Guption.

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.