

Sculpture

Syllabus

COURSE DETAILS

NO. ARTS 2326
LEVEL Undergraduate
PREREQ. ART 1301
TERM Fall 2025
TIMES TTH, 11-1:45
ROOM Classroom Hall 105

INSTRUCTOR

Sarah Fox
sfox@tamusa.edu
Office Hours:
Friday 10-1 or
by Appointment

COURSE OVERVIEW

An introduction to creating sculptural form. Through a variety of projects, students gain direct experience with the tools, materials, and processes of sculpture. While exploring the complexities of three-dimensional composition and problem solving, students begin to understand the relationship between culture and object and to develop artistic vision and personal content. Technical demonstrations, presentations, readings, and group critiques provide a context for studio work.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the class students are able to:

- To become familiar with the building blocks of making, looking at and talking about sculpture.
- To problem solve and experiment with materials and ways of working.
- To enhance your technical and critical abilities.
- To articulate your ideas about your work and that of others.

COURSE STRUCTURE

We will be covering 4 units over the course of the semester. Each Unit will include lectures, readings, writing responses, projects and critique. Bootcamps are mini-sculptural assignments designed that will be given between larger projects. These are meant to introduce alternative medias and ways of thinking as warm-ups to larger projects.

Unit 1: Plaster Casting Paper/Trash Assemblage/Dollar Store Assemblage

Unit 2: Paper Mache Mask/Photo

Unit 3: Wood Working Offrenda/Shrine

Unit 4: Animation 4D/Narrative

ASSESSMENTS

The final course grade will be calculated as follows:

- 22% Unit 1 (220 points)
- 22% Unit 2 (220 points)
- 22% Unit 3 (220 points)
- 22% Unit 4 (220 points)
- 12% Critique Participation and Preparedness (30 points per critique, 4 critiques)

GRADING CRITERIA

- **Unit Projects and Bootcamp Projects** are evaluated based on concept, formal qualities, craftsmanship and a demonstration of sculptural ideas. Sketches, storyboards, and problem solving assignments will be part of each project.
- **Critique Participation** grade is based on having the work completed by the start of class, showing up on time, and participation. You must actively give feedback on your peers work, and be willing to hear feedback from your instructor and peers. You will be introduced to several different ways to critique. Be willing to listen to the feedback of your peers and grow your work.

GRADING SCALE

- **A = 100–90%** (Outstanding work, perfect documentation, not only fills the requirements of the project, but pushes past expectations.)
- **B = 89.99–80%** (Good work meeting the minimum requirements. Student demonstrates an average understanding of techniques, materials and relevant concepts, and puts forth considerable effort. Strong work ethic, average documentation of work.)
- **C = 79.99–70%** (Average work not meeting the minimum requirements of the project. Adequate understanding of techniques, materials and relevant concepts. Underdeveloped technical skills and minimum innovation, poor documentation and effort.)

- **D** = 69.99–60% (Poor work. Requirements barely met. Student's work shows little understanding of techniques, materials and relevant concepts. Studio time is not used effectively and student puts forth little effort.)
- **F** = below 60% (Unacceptable work. Requirements for the course are not met; a majority of work has not been completed. Student's work shows minimal or no understanding of techniques, materials and relevant concepts; little or no regard shown for in-class and out-of-class assignments.)

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- [Bag of Plaster of Paris \(powdered\)](#)
- [Oil Clay](#)
- **Vaseline or PAM**
- [utility knife](#)
- **scissors**
- **pencils**
- **sketchbook**
- [Masking Tape](#)

You will be asked to purchase additional supplies as the course progresses and specific assignments are given. Most supplies can be found at any craft, hardware or home improvement store.

COURSE POLICIES

EMAIL

When contacting me through email make sure that you provide all the necessary information. Provide me with your name, class, section number, and the specific about name of the assignment or material that you have questions about so that I can accurately answer your questions.

ATTENDANCE

I TAKE ATTENDANCE EVERY DAY DURING THE FIRST 5 MINUTES OF CLASS.

- You will be able to accrue 3 absences without penalty in this class. These absences will not alter due dates. Please talk with your classmates about missed work, or check on blackboard to keep up with any missed content.
- The 4th absence will lower your course grade one full letter grade. Each additional absence will also lower your course grade by one full letter grade.
- Students who accumulate 7 or more absences are strongly advised to drop this course.
- Arriving late 3 times or leaving class early 3 times counts as an absence. If you are late, check in with me to make sure your attendance is recorded.
- Arriving to class unprepared is considered as absent.
- Working on other class materials or not actively participating is considered an absence.
- Attendance is calculated for each day of class meetings. Students enrolling after the first class day are counted absent for the days missed prior to enrollment.

LATE WORK POLICY

Assignments will be **due at the start of class** on their specified critique date. Every class day it is late is an additional -20 points. If its due on Tuesday, and you turn it in on Thursday, the highest grade you can receive is a 180, if you turn it in the next Tuesday it is a 160, etc.

In extreme cases or under extenuating circumstance I may— at my discretion— offer an extension on an assignment. You will only be granted an extension if you contact me **before its due date**. Be sure to contact me as soon as possible when situations arise that affect your coursework. Early and transparent communication is always valued.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR

- Students are expected refrain from disruptive behavior. This encompasses a number of things including: Making / taking phone calls during Lectures, Demos, Critiques and Group Work
- Texting during Lectures, Demos, Critiques and Group Work
- Insulting or threatening others in face-to-face or remote discussions, lectures, small group work or during open studio time
- Studying for another class during Lectures, Demos, Critiques and Group Work
- Acting erratic, under the influence, and not staying focused on class work during Lectures, Demos, Critiques and Group Work
- Not participating in class activities
- Listening to music without headphones during open studio time

If a student is exhibiting disruptive behavior the instructor will:

- Give the student a warning: Asking the student to stop the disruptive behavior.
- If the disruptive behavior continues the student will be asked to leave the class.
- If the student refuses to leave the classroom the instructor may call campus police to help resolve the issue.

DRESS CODE FOR SCULPTURE STUDIO

- No open toe shoes.
- No rings, bracelets, necklaces or hanging earrings. No ties or hoodies with drawstrings. All of these present something that could get caught on power tools.
- I recommend finding heavy blue jeans and a thick cotton button down shirt for sculpture. Resale stores are the perfect place to find these. We will be getting messy and using tools that can cut, burn, poke, etc. Covering up more skin is always better.
- Long hair must be tied up or in a ponytail.
- If the instructor deems that the student is improperly dressed for the studio based upon the overbearing need for safety in the work environment, the instructor may ask to the student to leave. The student will be given the choice of changing clothes/shoes or leaving the studio and receiving a mark of absence for the day. It is strongly recommended that you keep a set of work clothes and work shoes in your locker or car with your supplies.

STUDIO CLEAN UP

You are responsible for cleaning up messes you make and required to participate in all-class clean up sessions. Put away tools and materials, clean your area and sweep the floor. We will start clean-up 20 minutes before class ends. Points will be deducted from your projects for leaving messes.

BLACKBOARD

I will use Blackboard to provide you with copies of the syllabus, calendar, and other course materials. This will also be where the most up-to-date grading information will be shared with you. Make sure you regularly check Blackboard for updates.

If you require technical support with your Blackboard account please contact Academic Technologies. Resources for Blackboard help can be found online at: http://www.tamusa.edu/its/student_resources/BlackboardStudentHelp/BbStudentHelp.html

Academic Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability,

Disability Support Services is located in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210. You can also contact us via phone at (210) 784-1335, visit us <https://www.tamusa.edu/Disability-Support-Services/index.html> or email us at dss@tamusa.edu. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services as soon as possible.

Academic Learning Center

The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the Tools section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu, calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

Counseling/Mental Health Resources

As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment, call 210-784-1331 or visit Madla 120.

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information on SCC services visit <http://tamusa.edu/studentcounseling>

Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331.

Additionally, the TELUS Student Support App provides a variety of mental health resources to including support for in the moment distress, an anonymous peer-to-peer support network, mental health screenings, podcasts, and articles to improve your mental wellbeing.

Emergency Preparedness

JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification system. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>. More information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan can be found here.

Download the SafeZone App (<https://safezoneapp.com/>) for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance

According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must

return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended by the published Census Date (the first week of class). Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend prior to the published Census Date (the first week of class) will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center: The Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://www.tamusa.edu/academics>.

Meeting Basic Needs:

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to submit a CARE referral (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities/file-a-report.html>) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources.

Course Calendar | FALL 2025 (Course Calendar is subject to change)

Week 1 | 8/25: Intro and UNIT 1

Tuesday:

- Syllabus Introduction;
- Trash Assemblage Intro

Thursday:

- Plaster Casting Paper Intro
- Workday Trash Assemblage

Week 2 | 9/1: UNIT 1

Tuesday:

- No Class (Use this day to collect objects you want to cast and to finish your Assemblages)

Thursday:

- Photographing your work demo
- Workday: Plaster Casting: Sketching

Week 3 | 9/8: UNIT 1

Tuesday:

- Workday: Plaster Casting

Thursday

- Workday: Pouring Plaster

Week 4 | 9/15: UNIT 1

Tuesday:

- Dollar Store Additive/Subtractive
- Finish Pouring Paper

Thursday:

- Last work day Unit 1

Week 5 | 9/22: UNIT 1 & 2

Tuesday:

- CRITIQUE #1: Paper casting, Trashcan Assemblage, Dollar Store

Thursday:

- Mask Intro
- Mask Ideation Day

Week 6 | 9/29: UNIT 2

Tuesday:

- Mask Workday: Have Supplies
- Wire/Paper Mache Demo

Thursday:

- Mask Workday
- Tape Casting Demo

Week 7 | 10/6: UNIT 2

Tuesday:

- Mask Workday

Thursday:

- Mask Workday

Week 8 | 10/13: UNIT 2 and 3

Tuesday:

- Critique #2

Thursday:

- Altar/Offrenda Introduction
- Woodshop Demo Day

Week 9 | 10/20: UNIT 3

Tuesday:

- Make a cube Model

Thursday:

- Altar/Offrenda Workday: Ideation/Sketching

Week 10 | 10/27: UNIT 3

Tuesday:

- Altar/Offrenda Workday
- Working with Sculpey Demo

Thursday:

- Altar/Offrenda Workday

Week 10 | 11/3: UNIT 3

Tuesday:

- Altar/Offrenda Workday

Thursday:

- Altar/Offrenda Workday

Week 11 | 11/10: UNIT 4

Tuesday:

- Critique #3

Thursday:

- Intro to Animation

Week 12 | 11/17: UNIT 4

Tuesday:

- Storyboarding, Group Roles

Thursday:

- Animation Workday

Week 13 | 11/24: UNIT 4

Tuesday:

- Animation Workday
- Video Editing Demo

Thursday:

- Thanksgiving Break

Week 14 | 12/1: UNIT 4

Tuesday:

- Video Editing Demo
- Animation Workday

Thursday:

- Animation Workday

Week 15 | 12/9: FINAL EXAM: Video Screening

Week 15 | 12/11: LAST DAY TO TURN IN LATE WORK