

University Western Ontario, Department of Visual Art

VAS 3310 – Advanced Painting, 2017-18

Professor / TA:	Sky Glabush and Colin Dorward	Time:	Wednesday: 9:30-1:30
Course:	VAS 3310	Office Hours:	Wednesday: 1:30-2:30
Location:	VAC 230	Email:	sglabush@uwo.ca , colindorward@gmail.com
Section:	001	Phone:	661-2111 ext. 86845

Course Description

VAS 3310 (Advanced Painting) will explore the visual language of painting. Through exposure to a range of theoretical and conceptual concerns, and rigorous experimentation with material-specific processes, this course will investigate the discipline of painting while emphasizing the individuation of the student's pictorial language. Students will be encouraged to develop working methodologies in the realization of their own independent studio work while also exploring themes outlined by the instructor. The course materials will be shared through instructor and student-led presentations, group critiques and discussions, assigned readings, and studio projects.

Experimentation and a willingness to challenge inherited perceptual models will be encouraged as students develop greater independence and clarity of vision. The instructor will work with students individually to address technical and theoretical concerns specific to their studio projects. There will also be group critiques and discussions relevant to the course content.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate technical, analytical and critical awareness of a wide range of material and conceptual problems specific to the painting practice and the visual arts
- Demonstrate an advanced knowledge of historical and contemporary issues relevant to the development and evaluation an evolving painting practice
- Demonstrate a sound, individuated and analytical awareness of the field of contemporary painting necessary for continued development within the faculty of visual arts and beyond

Course Requirements

Assigned Readings:

The course includes required readings, followed by student and instructor-led discussions and presentations designed to foster a working knowledge of critical and theoretical concepts. Assigned readings will be made available through OWL. All work will be posted to a moderated blog <https://studiovas3310.wordpress.com>

Participation and Attendance:

“Advanced Painting,” as the name implies, is a course in which the student should truly develop the language, expressiveness, and intentionality of his or her practice. In such an environment independent investigation and critical focus is mandatory. Students should be prepared to spend a minimum of one hour working outside of class for every hour of class time. Attendance is **mandatory**. Students are expected to show up to every class, on time, and with the appropriate material and must clean up after themselves at the end of each class. Missing more than 15% of classes (including late arrival and early departure) without prior consultation with the instructor may result in a failing grade. Students that miss class for medical reasons must present documented medical or bereavement excuses vetted through their academic advisor.

Students are expected to complete all assignments on the due date for critiques. Failure to hand in assignments in a professional, organized manner may result in instructor declining to grade portfolio.

Lastly, it is expected that students take notes on all lectures, presentations, and class discussions. A sketchbook or journal should be brought to each class along and the Course Outline.

Evaluation and Critiques:

As an instructor I will attempt to provide an environment of respect and security in which students will be encouraged to engage in a wide latitude of experimentation. In this environment of mutual respect there will be regular critiques of student projects in which **participation is mandatory**. Participation will be evaluated and constitute a portion of the final grade. Grades for this course are based upon the submission of class assignments and failure to submit projects will result in the subsequent loss of their respective percentage of the final grade.

Evaluation:

Studio Assignments	80%
Participation in critiques and class discussion	10%
Attendance, conduct and professionalism (showing up on time, ready to work and with your materials)	10%

Studio assignments and subsequent critiques will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **effort**: the degree to which a student is willing to really engage with a project and the willingness to challenge inherited conceptual models
- **creativity and innovation**: the ways in which a student experiments and arrives at interesting and thoughtful uses of material language and structure
- **clarity of intent**: despite the wide range of possibilities and latitude for experimentation, it is important that a student can identify the parameters of his or her own practice and present this in a clear and cogent manner
- application of a **critical vocabulary** in relation to one’s work and an expressed awareness of the **theoretical** issues that have emerged in this class .

Students may contact the instructor for additional assistance or critique of work, either in class, during office hours, or by appointment. (Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to speak one-on-one).

Grading: Based on the student's success in meeting the above requirements, grades will be assessed according to the following standard:

A+ 90 - 100%	Outstanding work, well exceeding the basic requirements of the project and demonstrating profound insight.
A 80 - 89%	Excellent work, well exceeding the basic requirements of the project and demonstrating creative insight.
B 70 - 79%	Very good work, showing thorough understanding of the course material and exceeding the basic requirements.
C 60 – 69%	Satisfactory work, meeting the basic project requirements and showing good understanding of the material.
D 50 – 59%	Satisfactory work that meets basic requirements and demonstrated some understanding of the course material, but not a thorough understanding.
F below 50%	Unsatisfactory work which shows insufficient effort or comprehension.

Supplies:

Oil Paint (acrylic is optional)

- cadmium red
- cadmium yellow
- raw umber
- cobalt blue
- sap green
- titanium white
- mars or bone black
- walnut oil can be used for thinning paint and cleaning brushes
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Brushes:

- #1, #2, #6, #8 round bristle
- #2, #4, #8 bright bristle
- an assortment of cheap house painting brushes including a flat 2-inch

Supports and Other:

- mahogany panels (will be supplied for 10.00 fee)
- canvas (to be discussed)
- masking tape (variety of sizes)
- large container (for holding water to clean brushes)
- wood for building canvas supports (or "stretchers") to be discussed
- bar of laundry soap and or dishwashing detergent
- paper towels or rags

*(Please note that certain materials will be discussed in class and are not included on Supplies list).

Visual Arts Department

POLICIES

Student Conduct:

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

Attendance:

A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams, or participation in final studio evaluations. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.

Prerequisites:

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism, which may be defined as "The act or an instance of copying or stealing another's words or ideas and attributing them as one's own," will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from Black's Law Dictionary, 1999, 7th ed., p.1170). (Refer to <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg113.html> with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.) This includes presenting the visual or aural work of another creator as your own. Visual or Aural Plagiarism may involve both hand-based media such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, as well as digital media such as photography, video and sound. It includes work subsequently manipulated or transferred between different media, as well as self-plagiarism – work submitted for assignments previously produced and graded for another course. Similar to textual plagiarism, all student work involving the visual or aural work of others must be appropriately cited/identified whether in print or orally. Failure to do so will lead to similar academic penalties as those identified in Western's Academic Calendar.

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments.

Mental Wellbeing:

"Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Wellbeing http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help."

Building Access:

The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:00pm each night Monday to Friday. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00pm-5:00pm unless otherwise posted; access by side entrances only. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:00pm and 5:00pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

Permission re: Promotion

You grant permission for Western University to reproduce your name, information describing your artwork, representations of your work and any other information you have provided for the purpose of display, promotion and publicity either now or in the future.

By installing your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you grant Western University an irrevocable, perpetual, royalty-free world-wide licence to photograph your artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, flickr,

Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Artlab Gallery or Cohen Commons. As the area is open to the public, students, faculty, staff and other visitors will not be prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre.

You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.

Artwork Installation Liability Release

You understand that the area where your artwork will be hanging or displayed is unsupervised and is in a part of the building that may be open to the public, day and evening, whether or not the building is open. Western University accepts no responsibility for damage to, or loss of, artwork at any time while on display or while being transported to or from the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. By displaying your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you accept all risk of loss or damage to your artwork. Western University does not provide insurance for the artwork on exhibition. **If you wish to insure artwork, it is your responsibility to do so.**

Removal

Western University reserves the right to dispose of artwork not picked up by April 15th of each year.

Please remember:

One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Professor C. Barteet (tel. 519-661-3440; vaugc@uwo.ca). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty. Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the academic counselors in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities located in IGA Building, Room 1N20.

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; www.sdc.uwo.ca) offers a wide range of useful services including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.

The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: www.lib.uwo.ca.

Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program which offer part-time positions on campus for Western students. Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail, finaid@uwo.ca; or check out their website at http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html

Safety and Maintenance Sheet Painting Studio, Room 230

Faculty Responsibilities:

- Inform students about safe use of toxic materials and solvent storage and ensure that students are following safe procedures. In case of an emergency, call 911.
- When using solvents, open the porthole windows, turn on the fan in the spray booth and **close** the spray booth door.
- The fan in room 230C should also be turned on. See Marlene Jones in the Main Office for the key to room 230C, in case it is locked.
- If a solvent spill occurs, pour sawdust from the container in the spray booth onto the spill to absorb it. Notify Marlene Jones who will ask the maintenance staff person to sweep it up when he does the regular cleaning.
- At the end of each class, return props and drapes to the model closet.

- At the end of each class, return space heaters and skeleton to room 206A, and opaque projectors, slide projectors, etc. to room 244. In the case of evening classes, equipment may be stored in your office and returned the next day.
- Notify Marlene Jones of any burnt-out bulbs, broken or missing furniture, broken window blinds, etc.
- Inform students about general cleanup, storage of work in progress, and removal of completed marked work.
- Supervise students' adherence to the maintenance requirements listed below, under the heading "Student Responsibilities".

Student Responsibilities:

- When using paint, the primary dangers involve the accidental ingestion of pigments and the inhalation of fumes from solvents such as turpentine and mineral spirits. Skin contact with these solvents is also a problem. Some pigments are more hazardous than others. Take special care with cadmium colours, cobalt colours, manganese colours, zinc white, flake white, cerulean blue, vermilion red, burnt and raw umber.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while painting since these activities may lead to accidental ingestion of paint.
- Use aerosol fixative only in the spray booth or outdoors. Fine mists from these sprays can penetrate deep into the lungs.
- All flammable chemicals, sprays and solvents must be stored in the flammable cabinet, not in your locker.
- Do not pour solvents down the sink. Dispose of used solvents in the metal container in the spray booth. Never leave open solvent containers in the studio.
- Throw used jars and other containers, and dirty rags and paper towels, into the garbage containers.
- At the end of each class, remove work-in-progress from easels and store these works in the painting racks.
- **Take home all completed graded work.**
- Replace drawing boards in the model closet.
- Wash your hands thoroughly when you are finished working. Use a good hand cream after washing with soap, in order to prevent damage to your skin's natural defensive barrier.

Please note: According to University regulations guiding "Laboratory Use," students who fail to respect the responsibilities listed above will not have their final course grades sent to the Registrar.