

**Western University  
Department of Visual Arts**

We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, L naapéewak and Attawandaron peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.

**Course: SA 2643 Introduction to Sculpture and Installation**

**Term: Fall 2022- Winter 2023**

**Time: Monday & Wednesday 2:30- 5:30**

**Location: sculpture studios VAC 130 | 130A**

**Professor: Soheila K. Esfahani**

**email: [skolahd@uwo.ca](mailto:skolahd@uwo.ca)**

**Office Hours: Wednesday 1:30 – 2:20 & Friday 12:30-1:30 or by appointment**

**Office: VAC 120**

**TA:**

### **Course Description**

This course introduces students to contemporary processes used in three-dimensional construction. Students will experiment with a variety of new and used materials and construction methods in order to learn how to use the tools in the sculpture studio, as well as basic construction techniques. In addition to technical development, the course will emphasize the exploration of conceptual and critical approaches in contemporary sculpture and installation. This course provides an opportunity for students to experiment with both technical and conceptual aspects of three-dimensional practices through technical lessons/exercises, major projects, readings, presentations, and critiques.

### **Learning Outcomes**

#### *Depth and Breadth of Knowledge*

Students will develop a familiarity with contemporary sculpture and installation practices, as well as a background of its methods, theoretical motivations and historical influences.

#### *Knowledge of Methodologies*

Students will gain an understanding of art making methodologies through practical application of process, from "brainstorming", presenting ideas to creating final projects in various three-dimensional art practices.

#### *Application of Knowledge*

Students will develop critical thinking skills. They will demonstrate perceptual, visual and conceptual skills through art making and as a critical viewer and will expand upon their skills to further explore and develop in advanced studio courses.

## Assessment

### 6 Studio Projects

Project 1: Assemblage; due October 3	15%
Project 2: Formalist Planar Sculpture; due November 21	15%
Project 3: text-based installation; due December 5	10%
Project 4: Installation at the ArtLab; due February 6	15%
Project 5: Additive polymer clay; March 6	15%
Project 6: Subtractive/Independent; April 5	15%
Presentation	5%
Participation	10%

## Grading Scheme

**90-100 (Outstanding, A+)** - The studio work shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated analysis and synthesis involving complex theoretical and conceptual

minimal requirements of the assignment. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is unacceptable.

### **Course Requirements**

Students will complete six major projects and one presentation over the course of the full year, in addition to participating in reading discussions and critiques. There are readings assigned most weeks that are used as jumping off points for our class discussions and generating ideas for the studio projects. These readings are available on OWL. Students must complete all assignments by the start of class (2:30 pm) on the listed dates. Late penalty is 5% per day after the due date. Re-submitting of projects is permitted, provided the original project was handed in on time. All re-submitted works must be handed in by the last class in winter term.

### **Student Responsibilities & Preparations**

Students are expected to attend all classes punctually and participate in all class discussions and critiques. Students are also required to come to class with the necessary materials for each work session. Failure to meet these expectations will be reflected in their overall participation grade. Students are responsible for cleaning up after themselves after each work session. Failure to do so will be reflected in their overall participation grade. Students are responsible for following department policy in the installation and take-down of projects. Failure to do so will be factored into your assignment grade. At the end of each semester, students will be required to take home all of their sculpture projects from the storage area. Failure to do so will result in your projects being disposed of by building staff.

Students are expected to work during class times, plus an additional 6 hrs/wk out of class and to make themselves aware of all assignments, procedures A

Note that if a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and be debarred; assignments may stop being accepted and such assignments will receive a mark of 0 (zero).

In accordance with University policy, students are responsible for making themselves aware of all assignments, procedures, demonstrations and due dates. With fair notice, course assignments, schedule or due dates may change. Students are responsible for keeping abreast of course changes. Failure to attend an important demonstration or lecture without due cause will result in the student researching the information for themselves.

### **Participation**

Attendance, punctuality and preparedness for class are critical, as the teaching methods used will include class critiques, lectures and studio work. Student preparation and active participation in these sessions is a requirement of the course. In addition to affecting participation grades, students late or otherwise not prepared for scheduled critiques or discussions will forfeit the opportunity for class feedback on their work. Evaluation of participation will depend on attendance and commitment to class discussions and activities, as well as general respect towards fellow students and the workshop. Students arriving unprepared, unreasonably late, or leaving early, will not be considered as having participated in a class.

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Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

Documentation from Family Physicians/Nurse Practitioners and Walk-In Clinics A Western Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. An SMC can be downloaded at

## Additional Course Material Request Policy

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## Health and Wellness

Western offers a variety of counselling services and several mental health resources for students. If you or a friend are feeling overwhelmed, confused or unsure of your mental health state, please don't ignore it. There are steps you can take to help yourself or help others. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre. Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca/>.

If you are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Mental Health Support at Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

## Gender Neutral Bathrooms

Middlesex College does not have specifically gender-neutral bathrooms. There are two gender neutral bathrooms in the JLVAC. One is located in the Artlab and is open only during Artlab hours. A second single stall gender neutral bathroom can be found on the third floor of the JLVAC. Here is the full list of inclusive washrooms at UWO: [http://www.uwo.ca/equity/doc/inclusive\\_washrooms.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/equity/doc/inclusive_washrooms.pdf).

Please contact the Administrative Officer, Meghan Edmiston ([meghan.edmiston@uwo.ca](mailto:meghan.edmiston@uwo.ca)), for card access to the elevator and stairs if you are in need of the 3rd floor gender neutral/accessible washroom for the academic year.

## Sculpture Studio Maintenance & Safety Policies

The safety of our students, faculty, and staff is our top priority; **it is a shared responsibility, and we all play a critical role.** Please refer to *Visual Arts Sculpture Studio Policy* and *Sculpture Studio Safety and Maintenance* sheets for complete rules and regulations.

## Required Materials

Each student must pay a \$160 materials fee and a \$20 shop fee for this course to the course instructor. The materials fee goes towards the purchasing of some assignment materials (such as wood, sculpey, metal wire, and window film) and the shop fee is used for restocking the shop with things like screws, nails, glue, etc., available for use by all students. In addition to these fees, students will have to supply additional materials for certain assignments. Students will be expected to come prepared with the specific materials they need to develop their projects. In general, students will also require the following items:

- Sketchbook
- Pencil-Eraser
- Tape Measure
- Dust mask
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