

Northwest Arkansas Community College
(Communications and Art Division)

Discipline Code

ART

Course Number

1013

Course Title

Creative Thinking and Practice

Catalog Description

Students in this course will develop strategies for idea generation, creative project planning, as well as skills in communicating ideas in both written and oral forms, while being introduced to the tools and methods of critique in contemporary art.

Prerequisites

Recommended prerequisite or Co-requisite ENGL 1013.

Credit Hours

3 credit hours

Contact Hours

45 lecture contact hours; 45 lab contact hours

Load Hours

3 load hours

Semester Offered

Fall

ACTS Equivalent

N/A

Grade Mode

A-F

Learning Outcomes

Students completing this course will:

- Develop the skills needed for creative and productive idea generation.
- Effectively conduct and critically assess art related research.
- Develop an understanding of postmodern art approaches and classifications of Contemporary art theory.

- Hone skills in critical analysis of challenging and/or unconventional artworks.
- Develop multiple methods of documenting and communicating ideas.
- Cultivate new habits outside one's creative comfort zone.
- Learn basics of the written and oral critique process.

General Education Outcomes Supported

- Students develop higher order thinking skills.
- Students gain greater awareness of cultural awareness.
- Students can write clear, coherent, well-organized documents, which are substantially free of errors.
- Students can read selections at the college level.
- Students can develop effective oral communication skills.
- Students can employ a variety of sources to locate, evaluate, and use information.

Standard Practices

Topics List

Topics include but are not limited to the following:

- The elements of the creative process
- Classifications of Contemporary Art including: Realism, Expressionism/Cognitivism, Formalism, & postmodern pluralism
- Concepts in Synectics: Analogy, Imaging and Transforming, Signals/Signs/Symbols, Myth & Mythmaking, Ritual/Game/Performance, and Paradox
- Criticism in Contemporary Art
- The discipline of keeping a sketchbook
- Outsider art
- Approaches to postmodern art-making including but not limited to: Escaping the confines of museums, collapsing boundaries between "high" and "low" art, rejecting "originality," working collaboratively, appropriating, simulating, hybridizing, mixing media, layering, mixing codes, recontextualizing, confronting the gaze, facing the object, constructing identities, using narratives, and creating metaphors

Learning Activities

- Discussions
- Lectures
- Creative Projects
- Sketchbook work
- Critique

Assessments

- Creative Projects graded by individual grade or portfolio. Sketchbook practice is developed as an adjunct to creative projects. Sketchbooks may be analog or digital.
- Critiques with grading based on best practices of critiques as outlined in course.
- At least one semester paper.

Grading guidelines

- At least 60 – 75% of this course's grade should be creative projects, with sketchbook work, and critiques.

Revision Date September 14, 2020