ART 246: SCREEN PRINTING

Fall 2017 – Monday/Wednesday 9:05AM-11:05AM Studio Arts Building Room 223

Professor: Michael Kalmbach
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Course Description:
This course serves as an introduction to basic screen-printing techniques. Throughout the semester we will utilize drawing fluid/screen filler and photo emulsion techniques in the production of prints. Class will consist of demonstrations, critiques, and studio time. Students will develop an in-depth understanding and basic mastery of these processes, while simultaneously exploring and expanding upon their own conceptual ideas. The emphasis of this class is the development of rich personal imagery with content to effectively communicate ideas.

Objectives:
- To thoroughly learn and apply basic to intermediate level screen printing process and techniques
- To understand proper use, preparation of, and care for the equipment and facilities
- Create multi-layer screen prints with a variety of techniques, from concept and drawing to production and printing
- To better understand the idea and application of the multiple image. To comprehend and actualize the potential of printing as a series or edition
- To experiment with unconventional screen printing materials and surfaces
- To better the ability to speak about one’s work and to participate actively in group critiques and discussions of your peers work
- Analyze prints for their production quality and effectiveness
- Understanding the communal nature of the print shop and be able to work cleanly, safely, and efficiently within it

Classroom Policies:

Attendance
Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. In class time is paramount to the development and practice of screen-printing. Printing cannot be practiced at your dorm or apartment! Students are expected to make maximum use of all in class work time. I expect you to be fully present and on time. Failure to be present for in class demonstrations, presentations, and in class critique will also result in a deduction of your letter grade. Excessive absence will lead to failure. If illness, or serious personal issues occur, please email me. A doctor’s note is required for more than two unexcused absences. If a student accumulates more than 3 outstanding absences he or she will receive a deduction of one full letter grade. Any absences that exceed this amount will result in failure of the course. If you have extenuating circumstances, the Office of Academic Affairs handles excusing absences.
Punctuality and Preparation:
Arrive to class ON TIME with all the supplies that are required or necessary for the current assignment. All supplies must be purchased on your own time, and leaving class to do so will not be permitted. If a student arrives 10 minutes after the start of each class he/she will be considered tardy. If a student arrives 30 minutes after the start of class he/she will be considered absent. 3 tardies equal an absence. This is a printmaking course meaning that spending time working in facilities outside of class is MANDATORY. Assigned projects may require 5-15 hours outside of class each week to complete. Silkscreen is a complex process that takes time, practice, and dedication. Additionally, I am not able to repeatedly do demos, we do not have the time, and it is not fair to the other students for me to be unavailable to assist them. Work days are NOT optional attendance days. They are scheduled in order to ensure you have access to me for help.

Deadlines:
All work must be completed by the required date to receive full credit. Unfinished work, absence on critique days, or failure to turn in work on time is unacceptable. Late work will only be accepted one week after the original deadline. If a student is absent on a critique day their project will automatically be dropped a full letter grade. Deadlines are very important so that the class keeps moving as scheduled, and group critique is a central part of the curriculum.

Grading:
You will be graded on a combination of the following:
- Understanding and achievement of each assignment’s goals and objectives
- Craftsmanship – cleanliness, and consideration for your own work. Presentation and execution must be given great care.
- Conceptual development and creative ambition. Using the media to grow and better express your own ideas
- Technical improvement, comprehension, and execution of techniques
- Turned in all elements completely and on time

Grading will be determined on a point scale.

Course Grading Breakdown:

Projects (5 projects X 15 points each) 75 pts
Final Portfolio 10 pts
Attendance and Class Investment 15 pts

100 points total

Clean up
The print shop is a shared space! Respect for facilities, and equipment is essential. Always clean up after yourselves. Wipe down your station, clean up any excess or spilled inks. Make sure all squeegees, emulsion troughs, spatulas, and mixing containers are properly washed and stored.
Always store screens in their designated locations in the dark room, or the drying racks. Make sure glass on the exposure unit is clean. Remove any tape, or emulsion residue that may collect on the surface. Properly seal ink after you are no longer using it. Make sure safe light in darkroom is off when not in use. Do not leave transparencies, tape, scissors, paper scraps, or any other excess supplies out on the tables, and always store finished work in the drying rack, or in your flat file drawer. Follow power washer instructions carefully, and do not leave tape and other materials in the slop sink! Shop maintenance is very important. If you leave a mess in the print shop that someone else has to clean up, YOU WILL LOSE A LETTER GRADE off the current assignment. Remember this Buddhist saying, “Leave no trace”.

Required Course Materials
Your $95 art consumables fee will cover all the essential materials required for this class, i.e: screens, photo emulsion, drawing fluid, screen filler, acrylic inks, etc. However, there are a few extra supplies that the department does not supply that you will need to have on hand. Please purchase the following materials for yourself:

- Duct Tape
- Masking Tape
- Clear Packing Tape
- Scissors
- Several paint brushes, varying in size
- A roll of acetate (for registration, the acetate we have in the digital lab is for printing transparencies for screen exposure not for use in registration)
- A sketchbook, or notebook for brainstorming ideas, images, ad concepts.
- YOUR $95 ART CONSUMABLES FEE MUST BE PAID BY THE WEEK OF DROP/ADD. If the fee is not paid by this time you will be barred from use of facilities. This fee can be paid directly to the office, or online.

Instructor
Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or comments. If you are unsure about anything, please email me. If you are having trouble, email me. If I don’t hear from you, I will assume everything is going fine. My office hours are by appointment.

ADA Statement
Any student, who because of a disabling condition may require assistance in the event of an emergency may require some special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should discuss with the instructor the nature of their disability and needs so that the necessary accommodations can be made.

Tentative Course Schedule
Week #1: Wed 8/30 – First day, Introduction to course syllabus and procedures, safety overview. Screen stretching demo
Week #2 – Monday 9/4 – LABOR DAY – NO CLASS
Wed 9/6 – Screen stretching / Intro to drawing fluid/block out project

Week #3 – Mon 9/11 – WORK DAY / (printing demo)
Wed 9/13 – WORK DAY

Week #4 – Mon 9/18 – Critique of drawing fluid project / Introduction to photo emulsion.
Coating and cleaning screens
Wed 9/20 – Introduction to Propaganda assignment/burning screens

Week #5 – Mon 9/25 – WORK DAY
Wed 9/27 – WORK DAY

Week #6 – Mon 10/2 – Critique of Propaganda Assignment
Wed 10/4 – Introduction to photo emulsion technique (3 color separation)

Week #7 – Mon 10/9 – WORK DAY
Wed 10/11 – WORK DAY

Week #8 – Mon 10/16 – Critique of photo emulsion project
Wed 10/18 – Introduction to Zine project

Week #9 – Mon 10/23 – WORK DAY
Wed 10/25 – WORK DAY

Week #10 – Mon 10/30 – WORK DAY
Wed 11/1 – Critique of Zine Assignment

Week #11 – Mon 11/6 – Introduction to the Cooperative Print Portfolio assignment
(Justseeds.org)
Wed 11/8 – WORK DAY

Week #12 – Mon 11/13 – WORK DAY
Wed 11/15 – WORK DAY

Week #13 – Mon 11/20 – NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK
Wed 11/22 – NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week #14 – Mon 11/27 – WORK DAY
Wed 11/29 – WORK DAY

Week #15 – Mon 12/4 – WORK DAY
Wed 12/6 – FINAL CRITIQUE