

ART 600, Graduate Critique

Thursdays, 6:00—9:00 pm

ghselnu@udel.edu

Feb 7 - May 17

Spring 2022

Prof. Greg Shelnett:

Room: **SAB / ART 201**

Office Hours:

- Mondays, 10:00—11:00 am **via Zoom:** <https://udel.zoom.us/j/8164664563>, Password: 527289
- Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30 pm, **Recitation Hall 104-B** [NOTE: I will also leave the Zoom link open during those times should you wish to meet virtually.]

NOTE: Please do try to email in advance, since sometimes I get called to meetings by the Associate Dean, Dean, etc.

Course Description

Multidisciplinary graduate critique class in which students share and discuss creative work.

RESTRICTIONS: To be repeated up to twelve credit hours.

Student Learning Outcomes (i.e., course objectives):

The majority of the semester will center on your creative practice(s). Readings, critique preparation, and maintenance of an artistic practice. Customarily, critique is meant to give guidance to your creative practice. It is not a final objective, but rather a series of moments within your career as a creative professional. Beyond the academy, the practice of critique will be replaced by the curators' studio visits, exhibitions, and critical writings.

It is recommended that you take note of practices you may wish to emulate as a potential future instructor. Such practices can also help you to develop and maintain a group of friends with whom you may establish a feedback group. See [Twyla Tharp's *The Creative Habit*](#).

Group critiques will help you apply concepts, vocabulary, and exercises in assessing your work, contemporaries, and future students. We will examine and address issues including formal, narrative, and context as well as critique dynamics and preparation exercises, which will result in a critique that is helpful to all.

As a result of this course, students will:

- Produce and present creative works--i.e., creative practice(s)--that demonstrate innovation within formal, conceptual, and aesthetic languages & modalities;
- Describe, analyze, interpret, and evaluate creative practices through the presentation and discussion of in-progress and completed artworks within historical and contemporary discourses;
- Gain skills to develop and expand upon creative practices through verbal, visual, and written critiques (and digital uploads) that reflects the ideas and the significance of their creative practices over the semester;
- Thoughtfully reflect, research, and discuss the ideas brought forward for consideration over the course of the semester.

Course Requirements

Timely completion of studio projects that fulfill course criteria

- Regular attendance at all scheduled critique sessions; Staying for the duration of the full class session;
- Cohesive verbal presentation of your art / creative practice during critique;
- Active participation in all group critiques of studio projects;
- **Maintaining an active udel.edu email account that you check on a regular basis (as a student the university has provided you with an account).**

I have created a sign-up in Google docs for the following critique slots. The link has been shared with you, but just to be sure, here it is: [LINK TO SHARED CRIT SIGN-UP.](#)

Grad Crit Sign-Up, Spring 2022		6:00--9:00pm, Thursday nights	SAB
	<i>Please sign-up for two (2) slots</i>		
Class meetings	6:00--6:50pm	7:00--7:50pm	8:00--8:50pm
	Name	Name	Name
10-Feb	Kim Canfield = presented	Ezra Asohan = presented	Carlisle Bell = presented
17-Feb	Nick Callaway	Micheal Dela Dika (GWS)	Katie Delaney
24-Feb	Bryan DeProspero	Carlisle Bell	Hamilton Pedrick
3-Mar	Kyle Blute	Brandan Henry	Mike Dawson
10-Mar	Mariesa Beneventano	Sébasien Derenoncourt	Seiko Kamosawa
17-Mar	Hannah Kae Jacobson	Brandan Henry	Ezra Asohan
24-Mar	Noel Cross	Mariesa Beneventano	Sébasien Derenoncourt
7-Apr	Tony Santiago-Holt (GWS)	Sophy Chang	Hamilton Pedrick
14-Apr	Sahar Tarighi	Amir Campbell	Seiko Kamosawa
21-Apr	Hannah Kae	Nick Callaway	Michael Dela Dika
28-Apr	Mike Dawson	Kim Canfield	Kyle Blute
5-May	Noel Cross	Bryan DeProspero	Sophy Chang
12-May	Amir Campbell	Sahar Tarighi	Katie Delaney
Extra	Tony Santiago Holt (GWS)		

Evaluation Procedures:

Final grade for this course will be determined according to the following:

- Verbal and physical presentation of your studio practice (i.e., a selection of your artistic products) at least twice during the semester for group critique;
- Demonstrated ability to engage in meaningful discussions about both your creative practice(s), that of your peers within the group, and within the culture at large.

Grading

- 80% on class participation
 - taking notes & talking in critique &
 - completion of Weekly MFA Reflections in Canvas.
- 20% on presentation of your work in crit to your peers.

A=Excellent- Expansive investigation of ideas and excellent composition. Insightful contributions to class discussions and critiques.

B= Good- Substantial investigation of ideas with good composition and good craftsmanship. Insightful contributions to critiques and class discussions.

C= Fair-Problems with participation, effort and quality.

D= Poor- Two or more late projects, limited investigation of ideas, poor craftsmanship, incoherent compositions, minimal contribution to critiques.

E= Failure- Course failure due to minimal idea development, incoherent compositions, lack of participation.

Participation Policy

All students are required to come to class prepared and participate in assignments, discussions, and critiques.

5% of participation points may be deducted for late arrivals, and/or early departures. Please contact me immediately if an attendance problem arises.

Faculty and Student Responsibilities

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the MFA Handbook.

Late Presentations & Excessive Swapping of Dates

Student work will be presented at predetermined times for class discussion. The class will periodically discuss both ongoing and completed works. Please make every effort to stick to the schedule.

It is essential that every member of the class present at least twice during the semester. Of course, one may--unfortunately--become ill or experience other extenuating circumstances. Timely and clear communication is essential. Please email me ASAP if you are having or anticipate an issue with presenting on the night for which you have signed up.

Canvas: Course content is delivered both in-person and via Canvas:

<http://www1.udel.edu/canvas/index.html>

- Important announcements or changes to the schedule will be posted via Canvas and email. Turn on the ability to have announcements sent to your email to make sure you get them. Please do not ignore them. We will do this as infrequently as possible.
- Safari (the default Apple browser) does not work very well with Canvas. See Canvas for list of compatible browsers. Firefox is best. Chrome also works.

Accommodations: Please discuss your specific needs with me so I can best accommodate you. Bringing up accommodations late in the term may hamper my ability provide accommodations for assignments due prior to your sharing of the request, since there will be less time in the semester to, for example, provide extra time on assignments.

Attendance and Make-up Policy: Attendance is required, and you need to sign-in on Canvas for every session. If you exceed the maximum of three absences, email Professor Shelnett to ask how it is possible to make-up missed class periods.

- **If you are unable to attend, you are responsible for finding out what you missed through a classmate.**
Excused absences may require a written note from a doctor or other documentation. Recommend that you get documentation for any absence that qualifies. You will only need to turn them in if you go over three unexcused 3 absences.
- **More than three (3) unexcused absences may cause you to fail the course.** But you're in graduate school: this really shouldn't be an issue.

University Attendance Policies

Absences on religious holidays listed in UD's University calendar are recognized as an excused absence. *Students are to remind the instructor of their intention to be absent on a particular upcoming holiday.*

- Absences on religious holidays not listed in the University calendar, as well as absences due to athletic participation or other extracurricular activities in which students are official representatives of the University, *shall be recognized as excused absences when the student informs the instructor in writing during the first two weeks of the semester of these planned absences for the semester.*

Religious Holidays: It is the policy of the University of Delaware not to cancel classes on religious holidays. However, students and faculty are encouraged to exercise their own judgment pertaining to their attendance on religious holidays.

COVID-19 and Excused Absences

To stay abreast of what is likely to be a fluid situation this Spring, please check UD's [main coronavirus webpage](#) for updates on public health and the University's guidance.

As was noted in the 1/25/22 Email sent to everyone, "Preparing for Spring 2022":

- Prepare for online instruction the first week of the semester and face-to-face instruction for the remainder of the semester.
- Get tested before you arrive.
- All UD faculty members and staff members in Student Life, Athletics & Recreation and other student-facing offices are required to be up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccination (including booster, when eligible) or submit an exemption request.
- Upload your COVID-19 booster documentation.
- You are REQUIRED to wear a proper face mask that is well-fitted indoors at all times and outdoors in crowded settings; KN95 masks and surgical masks will be available.

FACE COVERING REQUIREMENT

Given the high transmissibility of the Omicron coronavirus variant, UD requires a [well-fitted mask worn properly](#), with specific recommendation of a surgical mask or KN95 mask in accordance with mask instructions. Mask-wearing is mandatory for everyone in indoor spaces, including laboratories and classrooms. **Effective immediately (1/6/22) and until further notice, masks must be worn by any individual speaking from a podium in classroom settings**, a significant change over our prior classroom masking requirement. In residence halls, mask-wearing is mandatory in all spaces except individual rooms.

Student Illness:

- For relatively minor, short-term illnesses of students (e.g., colds and flu, where attendance in class is undesirable), or their immediate family, the University system depends upon reasonable communication between students and faculty. If possible, students should report such illnesses before the affected class, following the directions of the instructor as provided at the beginning of the semester.
- Absences due to serious illness of the student (e.g., hospitalization, surgery, mental illness, or protracted medical illness or convalescence) shall be recognized as excused absences. To validate such absences, the student should present evidence of the illness to the Assistant Dean's Office of their college. Supportive evidence will be provided on the student's request by Student Health Services directly to the respective Assistant Dean.
- Students who experience long-term absences of a week or more should consult with their Assistant Dean; in such cases, it may be possible to negotiate with faculty for the opportunity to take an incomplete grade, or a withdrawal may be more prudent. The student's Assistant Dean will give guidance in these matters.

[Link to UD Academic Calendar](#)

Electronic Devices

Out of respect to the class and safety issues, no cell phones or other communication devices are to be used during class time. You may use your phones during class breaks only. No texting, messaging, emailing, or answering of phones will be allowed. Computer use during class is permitted if it is directly related to the creative practices which you are presenting.

Recommended Texts

Buster, Kendall & Crawford, Paula –“THE CRITIQUE HANDBOOK– A Sourcebook and Survival Guide”, Chapter Two, Meaning, pp. 41-64 ISBN:01315054400, Prentice Hall, 2006

Kosuth, Joseph, “ Intention. “ The Art Bulletin. Volume: 78. Issue: 3. 1996. Page Number: 407+. College Art Association of America, 1996

Knowles, J. Gary, Cole, L. Ardra–“Handbook of the Arts in Qualitative Research: Perspectives, Methodologies, examples, and issues”, Finley, Susan, Arts-Based Research, Chapter 6 pp. 71-81, ISBN:1412905311

Ledbetter, Mark and Grønstad, Asbjørn, editors, “Seeing whole: toward an ethics and ecology of sight”, Chapter 3, *Bowditch, Lucy*, Public and Private Light of Lingerie: Images within Images, pp. 49-62, ISBN: 9781443887076, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2016

Chicago, Judy, “Institutional time: a critique of studio art education”, Chapter Four: From Theory to Practice, pp. 99-125, ISBN9781580933667;ISBN1580933661, New York: The Monacelli Press, 2014

Thornton, Sarah, Seven Days in The Art World, pp. 3-39
ISBN039306722X (hardcover);ISBN9780393067224 (hardcover);ISBN9781847080370 (hbk.);ISBN1847080375 (hbk.), New York: W.W. Norton, 2008

Knudsen, Stephen, Practical Aesthetics, Examining Artwork with a Critical Eye, pp. 24-27, Art Calendar, October 2010

Gopnik, Blake Clichés Reach Critical Mass, Take Writers Down Slippery Slope, pp. 1-11, July 27, 2012, Staff Art Critic/ *Newsweek Magazine* and *The Daily Beast*

Waters-Eller, Susan, Basile, Joseph J., Editors, “Beyond Critique, Different Ways of Talking About Art”, *The Liberatory Critique, Krafchek, Ken*, Chapter 1, pp. 19-35, 2013, MICA Press Publication of the Maryland Institute College of Art, ISBN 978-0-944624-50-0
<https://www.mica.edu/Documents/Provost/BeyondCritique.pdf>

Program Learning Outcomes (both 2- and 3-year sequences)

Students will:

- Demonstrate advanced professional competence in some aspect of contemporary studio art practice as exemplified by the articulation, production, installation, presentation, and documentation of a significant body of creative work commensurate with the expectations of a terminal degree in the field;

- Demonstrate the ability to analyze critically aspects of the art making process and evaluate theories, philosophies, and conduct research pertinent to developing and supporting contemporary artistic practices;
- Articulate aesthetic and conceptual concerns orally and in writing that explores connections between individual works and practices and the larger contexts that inform them;
- Practice a high level of self-criticism necessary to sustain growth and development in their practice;
- Prepare for the delivery of instruction through pedagogical training and experience.

Code of Conduct*

In the Department of Art & Design, we are committed to protecting the safety and well-being of all people. To do this, we ask that every member of our community adheres to our Code of Conduct. People who violate our Code of Conduct may be asked to leave the program or have their studio and/or equipment privileges limited or revoked.

- We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, age, religion or religious creed, disability or handicap, sex or gender, gender identity and/or expression, sexual orientation, military or veteran status, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal, state or local law.
- We have a zero-tolerance policy against threats or intimidation, stalking, bullying or verbal abuse, gestures of a violent or inappropriate nature, sexual harassment, physical assault, or any other behavior that creates a hostile environment.
- Be kind and courteous to everyone, and follow instructions issued by staff, faculty, and studio monitors.
- Do not take part in or aid and abet in behaviors which jeopardize the health and safety of self or others.
- Be an active participant. Refusing to participate in classes, workshops, and studio clean-ups may adversely impact the learning experience of others.
- Disruptive behavior that breaches the peace, violates the rights of others, or distracts from learning, artmaking, or otherwise interferes with the normal functioning of the Art & Design community, is not allowed.
- Respect our shared spaces. Unauthorized use of Art & Design studios or other property is not allowed. Vandalism or theft of studio equipment or materials will be prosecuted.
- Leave your guns at home. [We are a weapons-free campus.](#)
- No illegal drugs are allowed anywhere on University of Delaware property.
- Alcohol is sometimes offered at special events but is otherwise not allowed in the building or individual studios. It is not allowed in shared spaces, and public intoxication is never okay.
- Smoking and tobacco use in all University of Delaware facilities, property, venues, and athletic facilities has been prohibited since August 1, 2014.
- The use of all tobacco products and tobacco related products, including E-cigarettes, is prohibited on all property that is owned, operated, leased, occupied, or controlled by the University.
- Always obey local, state, and federal laws.

***NOTE: This is a supplement—to and is intended to work in concert with—the [University of Delaware Student Code of Conduct](#) and related policies.**

Statement on Attending Visiting Artists, Designers, Critics, and Curators Lectures and Gallery Exhibits:

Art & Design Majors are expected to attend all Visiting Artist and Designer Lectures in the Department of Art & Design during the year. In addition, students are expected to see all the art exhibitions in the department's galleries. As a part of this course, you are asked to bring a sketchbook and take notes. Engaging in dialogue with our guests by asking questions is strongly encouraged.

Field Trips: Academic field trips are an important—and enjoyable—element of education. They often significantly enhance the content of a course by providing a type of information hard to convey in the classroom. Site visits to museums, galleries, contemporary art centers, design studios, and advertising agencies help to contextualize and enhance understandings of contemporary and historical practice. Students are strongly encouraged to attend.

NOTE: The “Documentation of Art & Design Projects from ALL CORE classes for CORE REVIEW” is for undergraduates, but many of you teach them, so I like to reinforce this policy. Thank you for helping to reinforce, too.

Documentation of Art & Design Projects from ALL CORE classes for CORE REVIEW: It is essential that you document all of your work from all of your CORE classes. You will need high quality (clear, color-balanced, high resolution) images of your art and design assignments for the required CORE Review. It is highly recommended that, in addition to storage on your computer, that you store these images on a back-up drive and in some form of cloud storage. The submission of images of your work from your CORE classes is a requirement of CORE Review, which is a requirement to advance in the department to complete your BA or BFA degree. It is also an important professional practice.

Harassment and Discrimination: UD works to promote an academic and work environment that is free from all forms of discrimination, including harassment. As a member of the community, your rights, resources and responsibilities are reflected in the non-discrimination and sexual misconduct policies. Please familiarize yourself with these policies at the [Office of Equity and Inclusion](#).

You can report any concerns to the University's Office of Equity & Inclusion, at 305 HULLIHEN HALL, (302) 831-8063 or you can report anonymously through UD Police (302) 831-2222 or the Ethics Point Compliance Hotline at www1.udel.edu/compliance. You can also report any violation of UD policy on harassment, discrimination, or abuse of any person at the [Compliance Hotline](#).

Faculty Statement on Disclosures of Instances of Sexual Misconduct: If, at any time during this course, I happen to be made aware that a student may have been the victim of sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual violence, domestic/dating violence, or stalking), I am obligated to inform the university's Title IX Coordinator. The university needs to know information about such incidents in order to offer resources to victims and to ensure a safe campus environment for everyone. The Title IX Coordinator will decide if the incident should be examined further. If such a situation is disclosed to me in class, in a paper assignment, or in office hours, I promise to protect your privacy--I will not disclose the incident to anyone but the Title IX Coordinator.

For more information on Sexual Misconduct policies, where to get help, and how to report information, please refer to the [Non-Discrimination, Sexual Misconduct, & Title IX policy pages](#).

At UD, we provide 24-hour crisis assistance and victim advocacy and counseling. Contact 302-831-1001, UD Helpline 24/7/365, to get in touch with a sexual offense support advocate.

Inclusion of Diverse Learning Needs: “Any student who thinks he/she may need an accommodation based on a disability should contact the Disability Support Services (DSS) office as soon as possible. The DSS office is located at 240 Academy Street, Alison Hall Suite 130. You may contact DSS at dssoffice@udel.edu or by calling 302-831-4643.”

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Any student who thinks he/she may need an accommodation based on a disability should contact the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) office as soon as possible. Students who have documentation of their need for accommodation should register via the [Online Services platform](#). Reach DSS in the following ways: Visit at 240 Academy Street, Alison Hall Suite 130, Phone: 302-831-4643, fax: 302-831-3261, dssoffice@udel.edu.

Non-Discrimination: The University of Delaware does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, marital status, disability, religion, age, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by applicable law in its employment, educational programs and activities, admissions policies, and scholarship and loan programs as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other applicable statutes and University policies. The University of Delaware also prohibits unlawful harassment including sexual harassment and sexual violence.

For complaints related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact: Office of Disability Support Services, dssoffice@udel.edu, Hall, Suite 130, Newark, DE 19716 (302) 831-4643

OR the [US Dept of Education -Office for Civil Rights](#)

Academic Integrity: Familiarize yourself with UD policies regarding academic dishonesty. To falsify the results of one's research, to steal the words or ideas of another, to cheat on an assignment, to re-submit the same assignment for different classes, or to allow or assist another to commit these acts corrupts the educational process. Students are expected to do their own work and neither give nor receive unauthorized assistance.

Complete details of the university's academic integrity policies and procedures can be found at the [Office of Student Conduct](#), 218 Hulliher Hall [CONTACT US LINK](#)