

Art 14

SCULPTURE I

Mon., Wed. 1-4 Rm. 001 Fayerweather Hall

Professor: **Carol Keller**

Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 4-5 pm

Course Objectives: This course will serve as an introduction to basic 3-D Design concepts and vocabulary, basic sculptural techniques and materials, and the discipline of three-dimensional research from observation. Additionally, the intention is to have students consider and experiment with the expressive, descriptive, and evocative potentials of three-dimensional form. Clay modeling, wood construction, plaster moldmaking and casting, direct plaster modeling, basic welding, and nontraditional materials will all be introduced during the course of the semester. While preliminary drawings and occasional related readings may be required, the semester's work will consist primarily of five major sculpture projects. Projects will include both representational works from observation and compositions comprised of invented or abstracted forms.

Course Expectations and Requirements: Full participation in all aspects of the course is expected.

In addition to coursework, the following are also required aspects of the course:

- attendance at all three artist lectures (listed below) hosted by the Department of Art and the History of Art
- 15 minute presentation to the class on a modern or contemporary sculptor
- *possible* fieldtrip during the semester to a prominent art collection or museum show

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend every class on time and for the full three hours. Exceptions to this would be serious illness, medical problems, or an equally valid and serious conflict. (Dr.'s notes should be provided.) Extended illness will require that special arrangements be made to compensate for the lost class time. Attendance will be taken at the start of each class. Over three unexcused absences will have a serious negative impact on your final grade for the course.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Students should expect to spend *considerable* time outside of class working on class assignments. An anticipated average might be approximately 6 hours a week, but the amount of time needed will vary widely with the person and with the ambition and scale of any given solution to a class assignment. This course will involve regular group critiques at the conclusion of each of the class problems assigned. It is expected that all students will participate actively in these critiques, honing their critical skills and their ability to articulate responses. Consideration for the needs and concentration of others will be expected of every student, and the classroom will be a place for research and creative work, not general conversation. Phone conversations and texting are not allowed in the classroom while the class is in session.

ASSIGNMENT GRADING:

- Grades for individual projects will be given after the class critique at the conclusion of each assignment. Work is to be finished by the assigned completion date. If any change in a completion date, or any other information pertinent to the class, is announced in class and a student is absent, it is the student's (not the teacher's) responsibility to make sure they get that information.

-The completed projects should convey a clear understanding of the goals, imposed limitations, and format for each assignment. A student's willingness to rework assignments or even begin again when necessary will be taken into consideration when grading a project. Time and effort invested in a project will be taken into account, but achievement of the outlined project goals and quality of execution will be the most important elements when grading. An especially creative or thoughtful solution, which goes beyond the required expectations of a project, will also result in a higher grade.

-Students always have the option of having each project regraded once. The changes to the project must be substantial enough to warrant a reconsideration; they must be completed within two weeks of the original due date; and the regrading must be requested and scheduled. Both the original grade and the new grade will be recorded and considered together at the end of the semester. *Continued work on a project does not guarantee a change in grade.*

SEMESTER GRADING: I will take into account the following when arriving at the final semester grade: grades for each of the assigned projects, attendance record, class participation and class attitude, and improved understanding of the material and techniques covered. Consistent engagement with course material that generates research, questions, and independent work or extended solutions to assigned projects will be acknowledged in a higher grade.

Please feel free to contact me regarding any questions about your grades, progress, or understanding of course material and we will arrange a time to go over them.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING WILL BE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE:

Attendance at the following lectures and talks and field trip –

1. **Thursday, January 27, 4:30 pm**, Pruyne Lecture Hall.
John Willis, Artist Talk in conjunction with the exhibit of his photographs, Jan. 24- Feb. 12, Eli Marsh Gallery.
2. **Thursday, March 3, 4:30 pm**, Pruyne Lecture Hall.
Ramón Rivera-Moret, Artist-in-Residence, Artist Talk in conjunction with the exhibit of his video installation, opening February 28th, Eli Marsh Gallery.
3. **Thursday, March 31st, 4:30 pm**, Pruyne Lecture Hall.
Subhankar Banerjee, photographer, will give the **2011 Rapaport Lecture in Contemporary Art**.
4. **Saturday, Feb. 5th, Field Trip to “On Line” exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art** in NYC, 7:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.

If you are unable to attend any of these events, you will need to see an alternative event or exhibit in its stead. This should be arranged with me in advance.