Instructor Contact

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I think that artists can in fact help one another. They can clarify the situation to one another. I’ve always thought of friendship as where two people really tear one another apart and perhaps in that way learn something from one another. I think that…criticism, especially by other artists, is certainly the most helpful criticism…when people praise you, well, it’s very pleasant to be praised, but it doesn’t actually help you.
--Francis Bacon

A picture is something which requires as much knavery, trickery, and deceit as the perpetration of a crime. Paint falsely, and then add the accent of nature.
--Degas

The artist must know the manner whereby to convince others of the truthfulness of his lies.
--Picasso

“The modernist work (painting) attempted to present itself as possessing complete ontological integrity. The Post-Modern work (painting), on the other hand, attempts to embody, illustrate, analyze, and exhibit the particular manner of its lack of integrity. Thus, the post-Modern…involves pastiche, or meltdown of elements from manifestly different matrices.”
“Art is what we make it. Painting is defined by what we tell ourselves it can be—so tell yourself interesting stories. In other words, art is a game. You therefore better make the game complicated enough that it has the breath of something full and necessary. This means asking a lot of your process, your thinking and your aspirations for your art...maybe too much.”

--Yours truly

**Course Description**
3 hours. For students qualified to develop professional competence in special areas of studio work. 
Prerequisite(s): 12 hours in painting and the consent of the school.

**Course Objective**
This course is designed to increase the level of sophistication and vitality in your painting/drawing practice. Through discussions and critiques, we will strive to recognize and dissect the aesthetic concepts and execution behind your art. I would like you to consider this class as a kind of laboratory where you experiment with ideas about what your art should be or how what you currently do can be refined. This means that your art can be and look like anything you choose. But like Picasso's oft-quoted statement above, it is your job to convince others of the necessity and validity of your work…whatever it might be.

**Course Structure**
The structure of the class will be arranged around group critiques and individual meetings. We will meet roughly every two weeks on Monday for our critiques/discussions or films. In addition, you may request to meet me anytime by talking with me or emailing me to arrange our schedules.

**Grading/Attendance**
Your final grade will be based on my evaluation of the **quality and quantity** of your work produced over the semester. You will also be graded on participation in critiques and on any written reviews. As graduate students you are expected to attend all meetings (see details below). Further, when we are not meeting as a group you
should be working in your studio. If requested, you will be apprised of your unofficial standing in the course at mid-semester.

**Student Evaluation and Assessment**
Students will be evaluated based on artwork completed for periodic group and individual critiques. All students will also be evaluated based on their participation/contribution in classroom critiques. Attendance can affect your final your grade (see below).

Through the above evaluation criteria, students are assessed according to their ability to demonstrate a dedicated direction in their artwork that is aware of historical and contemporary painting ideas and theories, such as modernism, post-modernism, color theory, value, spatial arrangement and compositional structure. Student painting will be evaluated in relation to current art practice with an eye to developing students into professional artists. My expectations are that you are working to develop a body of work worthy of exhibition and geared toward what will ultimately be your MFA thesis show.

**Attendance**
Furthermore, I will make note of attendance for individual meetings, special meetings and critique days. **Two unexcused absences will lower your grade by one letter.**

**Policies**
Academic Integrity: [https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/academic-integrity](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/academic-integrity)

**ADA Policy**
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation
for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. **Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment.** Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at [http://disability.unt.edu/](http://disability.unt.edu/). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Course Risk Factors**
According to University Policy, this course is a classified as a category 2 course. Students enrolled in this course may be exposed to some significant hazards, but are not likely to suffer serious bodily injury. Though painting would seem to be relatively risk free, there are risks and safety practices you should be aware of. Most of the solvents used in oil painting (turpentine, thinners, mediums etc.) are toxic. In fact, some paints, like cadmium red, are also toxic. Consult the labeling of solvents and pigments for information. Toxic materials should not be ingested or allowed to touch the skin. Wear protective gloves when using these materials in order to avoid skin contact. When using solvents, always have good ventilation. When spraying commercially available enamels, lacquers or fixatives do so in the spray booth and wear a respirator designed for organic vapor protection. A dust mask will not protect you. Furthermore, it is never good practice to eat while using painting materials. If you intend to use the shop, make certain to observe ALL the safety rules. If you decide to use materials not addressed above, read the safety labels and consult with your instructor as to their safe use.

**Emergency Evacuation Information**
In case of emergency (alarm will sound), please follow the building evacuation plans posted on each floor of your building and proceed to the nearest parking lot. In case of tornado or other weather related threat (campus sirens will sound), please go to the nearest hallway or room on your floor without exterior windows and remain there until an all clear signal is sounded. Follow the instructions of your teachers and act accordingly.
Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities:
All students have academic rights and responsibilities within the University community. For a detailing of these rights please see UNT’s website at: www.unt.edu/csrr.

Changes to the Class
I reserve the right to make changes to anything about this class, including requirements, schedule, assignments, etc., at any time during the semester. All changes will be announced in class or via your UNT email. It is your responsibility to be in class/check your email to hear/read any changes and adjust accordingly. No excuses for failure to adjust to changes in the course will be allowed.

Supplies/Painting Rules
Students are expected to build their own stretchers. You will have to spend time outside of class to accomplish this. If one wants to use pre-fabricated stretcher bars then you must get instructors acceptance prior to using this method. Everyone, however, must build his or her own stretchers for at least one assignment during the semester. Please note that acceptable stretcher bars for purchase (such as 2 ¼” x 1 ¼” Craft Cut out of Santa Fe New Mexico) will be more costly then building your own. The cheap pre-stretched canvases seen at most art stores will NOT be accepted, unless pre-approved.

No Recording of Lectures/Critiques/Reviews
You may not record any interaction you have with your instructor (that would be me), including individual appointments, lectures, critiques or end of term reviews, without my express permission. My lectures and critiques are considered my intellectual property and any attempt to record or disseminate such material without my permission will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
**Painting Review:**
Grad Review is scheduled for **Monday April 17** at 9 am in Oak Street Hall.

**Graduation File Deadline**
Those planning for a May graduation must file with the Toulouse Graduate School by **February 8**.

You must also submit work via slideroom (at no cost) by pre-finals week (ask Angela in studio office for details):

1. 15-20 images from your MFA show
2. 2-3-page extended artist statement
3. Scan of Final Defense form signed by committee and Chair

**Grant/Scholarship Information (please check deadline dates, as they might have changed):**
Date: 31 January before 12 midnight
Nicholas and Anna Ricco Ethics Scholarship Competition deadline

Date 31 January and 1 June
Toulouse Graduate School Travel Grant:
Remember – these applications require a reference form from a faculty member and processing through a department chair or other entity with matching funds
[https://tsgs.unt.edu/new-current-students/travel-grants](https://tsgs.unt.edu/new-current-students/travel-grants)

Date: 1 February before 4pm
Continuing Student Scholarship application deadline
Scholarships for continuing CVAD students. Applications and further information available at [https://art.unt.edu/current-students/continuing-student-scholarships](https://art.unt.edu/current-students/continuing-student-scholarships).
Date: 1 February
Applications for TA and TF positions for Summer 2016 and Fall 2016
You can access the applications at https://art.unt.edu/sites/default/files/u45/CVAD-TATF-App13.10.02.pdf. More information about TA and TF positions and the application process is available at https://art.unt.edu/fellowships-assistantships.

Date: 15 February
Undergraduate graduation applications are due.
For information see http://registrar.unt.edu/graduation-and-diplomas/information-for-graduates.

Date: 25 March
Applications for CVAD Student Project Awards due
Information and links to applications are available at https://art.unt.edu/current-students/funding-awards-projects
Remember – these applications require a reference letter from a faculty member and processing through a department chair or other entity with matching funds

Date: 9 April
First Year Experience Bus Trip to Dallas Arts District
The interface to sign-up still needs to be updated. The students will get this information once it is created and I’ll send it directly to the folks in the Core. We’ll also have advertising in the Art Building

Date: TBD
Raupe Travel Grant: http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/raupe-travel-grant

Please join the D & P Facebook page! @ UNT CVAD Drawing and Painting
I acknowledge that I have read and understood the contents of the syllabus for the above course, including the course risk factors. I am responsible for following all regulations for this course as outlined in the syllabus. I hereby agree to the syllabus and its provisions.

Art 5210 Risk Rating Category 2

Student Phone #, email address (print)

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Sign name______________________________

Date________________

Faculty Name Matthew Bourbon

Signature______________________________

Date________________