Studio: Senior Project
AFA 490-2 CRN: 39025
FALL SEMESTER 2026 – SYLLABUS
3 credits

Course Description:
Synthesis and culmination of undergraduate studio experiences in studio with a student exhibition and supporting written composition as the concluding effort.

Prerequisite: ART 295 and sponsorship by a Studio Art faculty member; permission of the Director of the School of Art.

Course Objectives:
Upon completion of this course, students should demonstrate understanding and application of skills and knowledge in the following categories:

- Draw upon influential historic and contemporary artists, scholars, and ideas to inform their practice.
- Demonstrate technical and conceptual proficiency in their medium.
- Articulate artistic ideas.
- Evaluate the work of peers in order to encourage intellectual and artistic development.
- Demonstrate professional skills of installation and marketing for artists.
- Disseminate research and artwork.

Coursework Requirements:

- ***Cohesive Body of Artwork*:** each student is responsible for creating a cohesive grouping of artworks which will be documented in a digital portfolio.
- ***Exhibition Installation***: grading will be based on the layout of the space, professional presentation, labeling, statement, and collaboration with your exhibiting peers.
- ***Thesis Paper***: serves as an addendum to your body of work created for this course. This paper will serve as a document to define your intent, process, and research as a visual artist.
- ***Drafts***: Required Writing Center appointment
- ***Presentations/Critiques***: There will be one power point and 2 in-person critiques or presentations addressing the work you are creating for your Senior Exhibition.
- ***Exhibition Promotion***: As part of your exhibition marketing, you will create and print a postcard to use for promotion of your art exhibit.
- ***Professional Development***: Practice Installation of, *A Conversation Out of the Darkness.*

Grading Policy:

Body of Artwork (digital portfolio)	**30**
Paper (library submission)	**30**
Drawing Wall	**5**
Presentation 1 (Influences and Process)	**5**
Presentation 2 (Progress)	**5**
Presentation 3 (Gallery Exhibit)	**5**
Writing Center Feedback Session	**2**
Paper Draft	**5**
Exhibition Postcard	**5**
Practice Installation	**3**
Exhibition Installation	**5**
Total	**100pts**

Example Sample Assignment Rubric

Process	Followed the parameters of the assignment	2 Points	Comments
Outcome	Technical Fluency	2 Points	Comments
Outcome	Submission: On-Time, Presented Well	1 Points	Comments

Body of Artwork Grade will reflect the following:

- The demonstrated degree of understanding the material and technical process.
- The extent to which the project solves the given problem.
- The creativity and inventiveness of completed work.
- The completion of the project by the designated deadline.

Course Grading Scale:

A = 94-100 pts
A- = 90-93
B+= 87-89
B = 84-86
B- = 80-83
C+= 77-79
C = 74-76
C- = 70-73
D+= 67-69
D = 64-66
D- = 60-63
F = 0-59

Course Modality / Structure:

The format for this class is in-person and will combine lecture, demonstrations, group discussion, presentation, studio work time, writing time, and critiques. The class will be meeting as a group in AJ 450, but as outlined in the calendar some class sessions will be scheduled for individual studio work time. Professor will be mapping out studio visits throughout AJ and Glick during these studio workdays.

Mentors:

Each student of the course has an area mentor. The mentor is to assist with questions that might be material and/or process specific but can also give constructive feedback on concepts and execution of work. It is up to the student to keep in communication with their mentor. The course calendar reminds and suggests three points of outreach/meetings. One at the start of semester, before Fall Break, and when the work is installed in the gallery.

Attendance Policy:

Students are to attend all regularly scheduled classes. More than <u>three</u> un-excused absences will lower your final grade by one letter. Your grade will then be lowered by 1/3 letter grade for every absence thereafter. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of the class period and students regularly arriving late or leaving class early, will be marked as having one absence. Absences will be excused for the following: funeral and bereavement leave, jury duty, late course addition, military absences, observance of religious holidays, pregnancy leave, student-athletes participating in University- or department-approved activities, university advisories, and doctor' note.

Any student missing class will be responsible for any class work that may be collected on that day. If you must miss class on the day work is due, the work must be submitted/delivered, and I must be notified for you to receive full credit. If a student is absent for more than once class, the student is advised to contact the professor to inquire about next steps and missed course information.

Student's attendance to final presentation is mandatory.

Illness:
If absent from class due to illness, consider visiting the Health Center. If student thinks they might be getting sick, but unsure and coming to class, please wear a mask during class.

If a student is ill for an extended period, the professor reserves the right assign an alternative assignment, which may take the form of an at-home project or research related to the process. Incompletes may be an option, depending on the situation and the student's academic standing in the class.

Classroom Participation:
Students are required to come to class prepared to work with the designated materials necessary for the current assignment or discussion. If a student comes to class unprepared, they may be counted as absent for that class day. Verbal participation in the class is very important, and students are encouraged to ask questions and to express opinions.

Assignment Collection Policy:
All class work and assignments will be accepted on a specific due-date and any late work will receive a lower grade. All work is due at the beginning of the class period on the specified date.

Academic Honesty:
All work in this course is expected to be original. This means conceived, developed, executed and presented by the student. (See Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities Section VII, www.bsu.edu/sa)

AI Statement:
You are welcome to use generative artificial intelligence (GAI) tools such as CHATGPT for any writing outlines created for this class's writing requirement. However, do not copy and paste direct language from the chatbot. Any use, even for the purposes of planning, must be appropriately acknowledged and cited. Any uncited use of GAI tools will be considered plagiarism and is subject to the university's Student Ethics Policy. Be aware that GAI tools currently have significant limitations. They are prone to making up facts, making assumptions about the rhetorical situation, and much more. Never uncritically accept the written results of GAI.

Writing Center:
All writers improve with practice and feedback, so as a student in this course, you are encouraged to use the Writing Center (in Robert Bell 295 during weekdays, Bracken Library First Floor West in the evenings, or online during any of our regularly scheduled hours) to get additional feedback on your writing. The Writing Center offers free planning, feedback, and accountability sessions (in person and online) to all students composing essays, reports, reflections, research projects, web content, lesson plans, slideshows, poster presentations, resumes, and other digital or print texts. To schedule a free appointment to discuss your writing, go to http://www.bsu.edu/writingcenter. Online and in-person appointments are available; however, plan ahead because appointments book quickly.

Canvas and Gradebook:

Grades for the class will be posted on Canvas and students can keep track of their progress there. Written comments will also be posted in Canvas Gradebook for main projects. Canvas will be the main method of communication and relevant course information, so it is important that you check it regularly.

Email Etiquette:
Students are encouraged to email or send a message in Canvas to the Professor if they have any questions or concerns. In order to maintain a level of professionalism, I ask that you use a respectful letter format when contacting your professor through email. The Professor will work to return emails from your official BSU address or Canvas email account within 48 hours during business days, Monday through Friday.

Phones/Devices:
Phone will only be allowed for instructional use during class – if a student is researching information for an assignment or referencing Canvas for this class.

Material Fee:
There is no set materials fee for this course as students are working in different combinations of studios to complete their cohesive body of artwork. In many cases students are paying a materials fee for these studios through other courses. If a student will be accessing and using materials of a studio area that is not already connected to another course, the professor will reach out to area faculty to determine is any studio fee is needed. This will be determined by the end of the second week of the semester.

Studio Workspace:
Students have different workspace needs dependent on their process and work. Many students of the class have been assigned a studio workspace/desk by studio area faculty/mentor. For any student that does not have a workspace, the professor will reach out to area faculty to determine what space can be allocated.

Room Key Card Access:
Student BSU ID Card gives access to SOA studios. Please contact the professor of this course if your key card is not giving you access to studios you need for Senior Project. Note that some studios will have access time schedules.

Safety and Access Information:
Due to the safety concerns related to the studios, the following rules must be adhered to.

- No drugs, alcohol, or smoking will be tolerated.
- No eating or open food storage in the working classrooms of the building.
- Follow safety guidelines of each studio that you are working in which includes considerations towards attire, materials, access time schedules.
- Notify faculty if there is any malfunction of equipment.
- Please treat the studios and tools with respect. Clean up after yourself.

Emergency Evacuation Procedure:
Familiarize yourself with building evacuation routes. In case of a tornado students would move to ground level bathrooms.

Weather:
Ball State announces cancellations by email and on the bsu.edu web site. Ball State University rarely cancels classes. If the professor needs to cancel class, you will receive an email through the Canvas course email system.

Ball State University:
We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor of record as soon as possible. Ball State's **Disability Services** office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or **dsd@bsu.edu**.