

Syllabus – Spring 2015

## **Sculpture I - ART K131 T1**

Studio: Meets 6 hours per week.

Mondays and Wednesdays : 3:46 to 6:30

D-Wing- Room 100

Jason Rosen, Professor

Email: jrosen14@comcast.net

Students will explore more advanced figurative sculpture with a strong emphasis on concept and character design. Traditional concepts of line, gesture, mass, volume, space, size, color, light, surface will all be covered in relation to this exciting and contemporary vocation for artists seeking to work in the entertainment field. Students will explore techniques and processes through assignments that serve to push both the understanding of form, while solving various design problems. Throughout the semester, Students will sculpt multiple human figures in clay in addition to the “in class” projects. While we will have some discussions of basic human anatomy, this is not an anatomy class. Students of this class are expected to have a basic understanding of anatomy and the human form. The textbook for this class, *Anatomy for Sculptors*, is a tremendous resource that should be read, studied, and referred to throughout the course and beyond.

### **Course Description**

This class will be an intensive introduction to various sculpting materials, techniques, and approaches. The goal of this course is to give you a firm foundation in sculpting through an introduction to the materials and techniques, as well as basics of balance, composition, and fabrication. A variety of sculpture techniques and materials will be explored, including the design process. Drawing, second only to conceptualization, will be stressed as the basis for any art, including sculpture. The introduction of orthoscopic designs will be included on some projects.

### **Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course student will:

know methods for constructing and posing an armature.

develop technical skill and craftsmanship in concept design and sculpture using a variety of techniques.

use understanding of anatomy to rough in the basic forms, from correct head and body proportions to more advanced subtlety of human and animal physiology.

understand the basic elements of three-dimensional art: form, line, plane, mass, volume, space, size, color, light, surface, dynamic tension, and anatomical kinetics.

Be able to create works of art that solve specific design problems and communicate specific ideas of character and emotion through the design and creation of original, figurative sculpture.

know basic painting techniques for maquette sculpture

Be able to critique a work of art using an informed visual vocabulary.

### **Evaluation Procedures**

All materials involved such as sketches, exercises and the end product for each project will be collected on assignment due dates. All due dates for assignments are designated and explained in the syllabus. Due dates are **YOUR** responsibility. If you lose this syllabus, ask for another. Loss of the syllabus is not an excuse for not knowing due dates. Assignments not completed on time will be lowered one letter grade for each class they are late. On their due date,

assignments should be complete at the beginning of class. If you are unable to attend a class session on a due date, it is up to **YOU** to make arrangements to deliver your completed project **BEFORE** the due date or risk receiving a lowered grade.

Those that put forth effort in this class will inevitably show improvement in their work as the class progresses.

### Class Discussion

You are expected to be in class with a positive attitude. Participating in class exercises, assignments, discussions, and critiques is to everyone's benefit. Everyone should contribute at least once in each critique. Those who participate more will receive a higher grade in this area. You should plan to spend a minimum of two hours of your own time outside of class in preparation for each class hour (six hours per week.)

### Course Requirements

#### **Prerequisite-** Intro to 3-D

**Attendance-** Please plan to attend all classes and to miss class only for extenuating circumstances. Attendance on critique dates is mandatory. An absence on a critique date will be recorded as two absences; absence at the final critique will be recorded as three absences (unless a legitimate excuse is provided.) **Students are allowed to miss two classes per semester, but are required to find out what they missed and make up all work.** This is not a correspondence course: students are expected to be in class as Art work is produced IN CLASS. Assuming that you can pass the course without attending class is unfair to the professor and the students who attend every week.

**Tardiness/Leaving Early-** A tardy is considered more than 15 minutes late for class. An early out is considered leaving class 15 minutes or earlier before the end of class.

Most class announcements are made either at the beginning or end of class. Students who arrive late to class or leave class early will not only miss hearing important information, but also are disruptive to the rest of the class, as the instructor may have to repeat information.

**Every two times a student leaves early or arrives late equals one absence.** If there are extenuating circumstances causing you to be late or requiring you to leave early, please discuss with Professor *prior to the start of class*.

**Deadlines-** Assignments not completed on time will be lowered one letter grade for each class they are late (an A becomes a B, a  $\sqrt{+}$  becomes a  $\sqrt{}$ .)

**Completion of all assignments-** No student may receive a passing grade for this class without completing all assignments. **The professor is under NO obligation to accept LATE assignments** after the last class of the semester.

### Civility in the Classroom

Ideally, A classroom is a safe environment of learning. In an ideal setting, all opinions are heard and respected, although you may disagree. In this class we want to foster as safe an environment for creativity as possible. Thus, there will be no sexist or racist insults tolerated in class. Neither physical nor verbal abuse nor violence ( even implied or veiled) in any form will be tolerated. Students **MUST** respect each other, the creative process, and follow the rules and guidelines set by TRCC. Anybody diverging from these guidelines, or disrespecting anyone in class, will **NOT BE TOLERATED**.

### Explanation of Criteria for Evaluation/Grade Weights

Professor Rosen expects that ALL students will complete ALL assignments.

**Projects-** The average of all graded pieces comprises **80%** of the final grade.

**Class Participation/ attendance -** This comprises **10%** of the final grade.

**Effort/Improvement-** This comprises **10%** of the final grade.

**Instructor's note:** Effort and improvement is the most subjective aspect of assessment. As a full-time educator with over 20 years teaching experience, comprised with an even longer career as a working, professional artist, I am uniquely qualified to make assessments of certain subtle qualities that reflect growth, effort, originality, understanding, and employment of course concepts, and artistic achievement.

I will make every attempt to make expectations clear through the use of assignment rubrics, and offer as much specific feedback throughout the creative process, at a certain point those means can only begin to scratch the surface of the complexities of art and design.

The "partnership" of the Student/ Teacher dynamic is one that must be entered into willingly. It is a relationship that requires a certain amount of trust and faith in my personal investment, professional ethic and responsibility to support your artistic growth and academic success. The grade I assign you is my professional assessment, and as such is to be considered final, and non-negotiable. By taking this course, you understand and agree that you are also choosing me as your instructor, and therefore accepting my assessment of your works, effort, achievements, and overall growth.

### Grading System

Projects: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F

Exercises: √+, √, √-

### Numerical Components

A	93-100	√+	86-100
A-	90-92		
B+	87-89		
B	83-86		
B-	80-82	√	85-74
C+	77-79		
C	73-76		
C-	70-72		
D+	67-69	√-	73-60
D	63-66		
D-	60-62		
F	0-59		

### Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty shall in general mean conduct which has as its intent or effect the false representation of a student's academic performance, including but not limited to (a) cheating on an examination, (b) **collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course**, (c) plagiarizing, including the submission of others' ideas, concepts, or writing (whether purchased, borrowed, or otherwise obtained) as one's own, (d) stealing or having unauthorized access to examination or course materials, (e) falsifying records

of laboratory or other data, (f) submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course, and (g) knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

### **Inclement weather**

In the event of inclement weather, students should check the college's website: [www.trcc.commnet.edu](http://www.trcc.commnet.edu). There will be a message on the home page indicating whether or not classes are being held.

### **Electronic Devices**

Cell phones and other electronic devices are allowed in class *only* if they are turned off or turned to silent mode. **Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class or is text messaging to be done in class.** When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by electronic device, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

### **Revisions to Syllabus**

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of the instructor. As a new course, being taught for the first time here at TRCC, the instructor reserves the right to change/adjust the course and/or course projects. Students will be notified of any changes that will be made.

### **College Withdrawal Policy**

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once class has met must provide written notice to the Registrar. Withdrawal forms are available at the Registrars on all campuses. Nonpunitive "W" grades are assigned to any withdrawal requested before the various unrestricted withdrawal deadlines listed in the calendars published in front of each session's course listings. Withdrawal requests received after these deadlines must bear instructor signatures. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class preceding the final exam. Students who do not obtain an official withdrawal, but simply stop attending classes, run the risk of receiving an "F" grade for the course.

### **Hazardous Materials Statement**

Some materials, such as Acrylic paints are a hazardous material and must be handled with the proper care. There will be no eating or drinking while working with certain materials as this allows for possible ingestion or cross contamination. Although we will not use materials that create fumes openly in class, materials such as acrylic paint, epoxy putty, can be highly toxic. They should never be eaten or remain in contact with the skin for extended lengths of time. It is recommended that you wear rubber gloves when painting, using certain putties, etc., but it is not required. If caustic materials make contact with your skin, wash the area as soon as possible so as to not allow the toxic chemicals to enter your body through the skin. The instructor will advise as to suggested precautions when and where applicable.

Liquid waste created in the painting process (your used water medium) may be poured down the drain, but solid waste materials such as excess unused paint, putty, paper towels containing paint residue, or any other material containing paint residue should be placed in a container designated by the instructor, **not in the regular trash receptacle.**

### **Final Portfolio/Student Art Show**

On the last class meeting, students will submit four of their strongest projects from the course for review. This comprises the final portfolio and critique. A pick-up date for students to get their portfolios back will be scheduled within two weeks following the last day of classes. The professor will inform students of this date once it has been scheduled. **There is a college-wide Student Art Show at the end of every academic year in May. All students who take an art class are invited to submit one piece done in each class to this show. Students should notify the professor when submitting their final portfolios and He will hold their work and submit it to the show if requested.** Several cash prizes are awarded to students whose work is displayed in the Student Art Show by an outside juror.

## Disabilities Statement

If you have a hidden or visible disability which may require class modifications, please notify me as soon as possible. Students with Learning Disabilities and Physical Disabilities should contact Chris Scarborough in Student Services at 860.892.5751 or at cscarborough@trcc.commnet.edu as soon as possible to ensure timely accommodations.

## Communication

The professor is dedicated to guiding each student toward an understanding of the course material and a deeper relationship with their own creativity, whether pursuing art as a career, or a hobby. The Professor is committed to helping each student in any way possible to pass the course and achieve success in her/his college experience. Communication is an essential component in achieving this success. The Professor's email is provided in the syllabus heading. This provides each student with ample opportunity to contact the professor in cases of emergencies and difficulties. Communication is the best solution for many of life's challenges. The Professor is prepared to make pre-arranged appointments for extra help. Please take advantage of your college educational opportunities, for they, in part, prepare you for your future. As human beings and artists, we achieve what we can conceive. If you can dream it, you can do it.

Now lets make some art...

## **Class Outline (schedule subject to change when necessary)**

M 1/26/15	Intro to class.
W 1/28/15	1:6 scale Aluminum wire armature . Free form design technique.  Materials needed: 1/ 16" Aluminum wire roll, needle nose pliers, 1/18th floral wire, ruler or tape measure, 1 box super sculpey.
M 2/2/15	Multiple figures 1:12 scale
W 2/4/15	posing- maximizing drama and character in sculpture Materials needed: Same wire and tools, wooden base or bases. Drill, if you have access to one.
M 2/9/15	1:6 scale version of final pose. Materials needed: Same wire and tools, wooden base or bases. Drill, if you have access to one.
W 2/11/15	1:6 scale final pose work session. Materials needed: Same wire and tools, wooden base or bases. Drill, if you have access to one.
M 2/16/15	<b>No Class- President's Day</b>
W 2/18/15	Critique: Finished pose sculpture
M 2/23/15	Concept design: Creating Fantasy creatures Materials needed:Materials needed: Same wire and tools, wooden base or bases. Drill, if you have access to one.
W 2/25/15	Creature concept armature fabrication Steel Wire
M 3/2/15	Creature concept sculpting

W 3/4/15	Creature concept sculpting
M 3/9/15	Creature Concept painting
W 3/11/15	Creature Concept painting
M 3/16/15	<b>NO CLASS- SPRING BREAK</b>
W 3/18/15	<b>NO CLASS-SPRING BREAK</b>
M 3/23/15	Creature concept Critique
W 3/25/15	Anatomy for sculpting : The Head- covering basic structure of the head and face. The use of expression in character design.
M 03/30/15	Character design : Body type, expression, and visual storytelling Bring in character reference material and design ideas for Character bust.
W 4/1/15	Begin building,sculpting character bust wooden base, steel wire, wire clippers/needle nose pliers, plumbers putty ( 2 part epoxy putty).
M 4/6/15	Character bust sculpting session.
W 4/8/15	Character bust sculpting session.
M 4/13/15	Character bust painting session
W 4/15/15	Character bust Critique
M 4/20/ 15	Final project Full maquette including environmental base. - bring designs, reference materials, etc
W 4/22/15	Final project- sculpting
M 4/27/15	Final project- sculpting
W 4/29/15	Final project- sculpting
M 5/4/15	Final project- sculpting
W 5/6/15	Maquette painting
M 5/11/15	Maquette painting
W 5/13/15	Maquette painting
M 5/18 /15	<b>Maquette critique.</b>
W 5/20/15	Possible make-up class. Instructor's discretion.
W 5/29/15	Grades posted online.

### Supply List

*You are required to purchase the following at the start of the semester, which are available at the college's bookstore or at any art supply store. You may be required to purchase additional materials later in the semester.*

Small bottles of acrylic paints ( 2 fl oz.) in desired colors, plus black, white.

Exacto blade handle and blades.

1 roll ½” Masking tape.

Pencil and eraser ( always)

At least 3 synthetic acrylic paint brushes including:

1 flat size 12

1 round size 6

1 round size 0

paint palette or palette paper.

Small package of cheap kiddie art/craft brushes. Do not spend a lot of money on these. Will be used and disposed of.

9” x 12” Sketch pad

1 lb box of Super Sculpey or Sculpey Firm... to start with. Multiple lbs will be needed over the duration of the course.

ruler

Box of Plastic gloves ( optional, but recommended)

Wooden craft base.

1/16 inch aluminum wire

26 gauge wire or Floral wire (to wrap around the aluminum armature wire mentioned above)

various sculpting tools.

**Please note, most materials needed for each class are specified in the class outline and will be announced in previous class.**