Art 2702c: Gravity and Buoyancy

M + W periods 8-10: 3:00 pm- 6:00 pm  
FAC B001  
Spring 2014  
3 credit hours  
David Goerk  
Office: FAC B-4 Tuesday 4:00-5:00pm  
dgoerk@ufl.edu  
or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course focuses on three-dimensional media with emphasis on an in depth investigation of the fundamental sculptural concepts of Gravity and Buoyancy. Students will build a solid understanding of three-dimensional concepts by learning basic sculptural skills and techniques, and will apply these skills within a traditional sculptural context while also relating them to contemporary sculptural issues. As we investigate these two forces of nature through the three-dimensional objects we create, we will also be exploring how our sculptural objects communicate the complexities of gravity and buoyancy. Instead of a literal reading of gravity and buoyancy, this course strives to examine our understandings of weight, mass, density and how they relate to the presence and conceptual integrity of the objects we create. The projects for this course may be based on solid objects as well as objects that float, inflate or suspend and respond to the space they are situated in.

The philosophy of this course rests on the foundation that "less is more" in terms of technology and emphasizes quality over quantity and size. Students will utilize basic, rudimentary materials and processes at the outset of the course and gradually build on a mastery of those materials and techniques.

Concurrent with studio projects students will be discussing, researching and responding to historical and current issues in sculpture.

COURSE GOALS
Students will leave this course with a solid knowledge of spatial concepts, formal issues, and sculptural strategies.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS
Attendance and active participation are essential to all studio class meetings, discussions, critiques, and field trips, and therefore will be a significant part of the course grade. Students will be graded on the quality and consistency of their participation. Please be on time for class, as announcements, lectures, and presentations will take place at the beginning of class.

Critiques are an essential part of the practice of art. They are necessary and beneficial not only for getting feedback on one’s work but just as importantly for learning how to look, discuss, and articulate ideas relating to the art work of your peers. Critiques are mandatory.

Be prepared to work on projects during class time. Working at home is not considered attendance. Students must come prepared to every class with proper attire (closed toed shoes) Also, each student must bring to every class all necessary materials and tools. Failure to bring necessary supplies to class will result in an absence for the day and a low participation grade.
PROJECTS
Five projects will cover the following:

1. Skeleton and Skin
2. Volume/Mass/Density
3. Moldmaking and Casting
4. Works on Wheels
5. Performative Objects – or TBA

Each project will begin with a detailed discussion and description session. Projects will have deadlines and will be critiqued. Reading responses will complement each specific project. Each student must be present in the studio working on workdays. There will be workdays allotted for each project and the last day of each project is reserved for a critique.

CRITIQUE DATES

JAN 27
FEB 17
MAR 17
APR 7
APR 23

MANDATORY CLEAN UP DAY APR 29

RESEARCH/RESPONSE
There will be response papers required of you based on readings which complement each series of projects. Students will also be required to complete one short but focused artist research project. All research aids in the building of a context from which you come to understand the history and ideas of sculpture and the confidence to relate these ideas to others from your perspective.

SKETCHBOOKS: COLLECTION/RESEARCH/METHODOLOGY
Each student is required to keep a sketchbook that is dedicated to this class and used daily for in-class exercises, as well as independent research, ideation, sketching, writing, recording, note-taking, and the collection of other information and resources. Sketchbooks will be checked throughout the course of the semester. Sketchbook guidelines will be handed out and specific requirements will be discussed periodically in class. Students are required to bring their sketchbooks to every class meeting. Minimum size for a sketchbook is 8.5x11 inches.

REQUIRED TEXT
No textbook is required for this course. Electronic copies of readings will be provided. One sketchbook specific to this class measuring no less than 8.5x11 inches is required.
EVALUATION
You will be evaluated by the evolution of your work during the course of the semester in terms of craftsmanship, conceptual development, planning (sketches, writing, discussion), fulfillment of the assignments, attendance and overall participation. The successful completion of a project will conclude with a critique—your participation in critiques is essential for your own development and that of the other students in this class. Any work turned in late may not receive full credit.

Grades for each project will be based on the following criteria:
- Evolution from proposal to finished work
- Craftsmanship/ Skills development/Innovation
- Aesthetic Concerns
- Conceptual Rigor
- Inventiveness/Risk-taking
- Personal Investment
- Adherence to Assignments
- Experimentation within the parameters of the project guidelines

Projects (5 projects at 12% each) 60%
Reading Responses/Research/Written Proposals 10%
Participation/ Preparedness/Critiques/Discussions 15%
Process/Data Collection/Sketchbook 15%

100%

GRADING FORMAT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Letter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above Average</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unacceptable</td>
<td>F</td>
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Excellent - Superlative work exceeding all requirements and expectations.
Above Average - Fine work meeting all requirements and expectations
Average - Meets most requirements and expectations
Poor - Meets minimal requirements and expectations
Unacceptable - Unacceptable work and effort

GRADING SCALE
A 95-100, A- 94-90, B+ 89-87, B 86-84, B- 83-80, C+ 79-77, C 76-74, C- 73-30, D+ 69-67, D 66-64, D- 63-60, E 59-0
(Note: A grade of C- or below will not count toward major requirements)
UF Grading policy: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx)

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Attendance is mandatory. Each student is allowed three unexcused absences during the semester. Late arrivals will be marked tardy. Leaving early will also be noted as tardy.
Three late arrivals or early departures = 1 absence
If you are more than 15 minutes late or leave class more than 15 minutes early, you will be counted as absent.
If you are absent it is your responsibility to consult with a classmate to cover material covered in class that day.
Critique days are important elements of class. You should only be absent on a critique day in cases of emergency.
Do not show up late on critique days. Tardiness on a critique day will count as two tardies.
½-letter grade will be deducted from the final grade for each absence after three.

LATE WORK POLICY
All projects, reading responses, and research projects must be completed on time. Due dates are stated on project sheets and will be announced in class. A missed class does not constitute an extension of an assignment.

Work should be finished and installed by the start of class on critique days. Late assignments will result in a drop of 1 letter grade per class period late. An assignment more than 3 days late will receive an F.

Assignments must be completed by the end of the semester.

REQUIRED TOOLS AND MATERIALS

Materials and tools required for this class may vary with each individual project. Required tools and materials will be discussed at the beginning of each project. Project-Specific Materials, sometimes tools, and costs will largely be left up to students to determine and manage. There are many cost-effective resources available for students and these will be discussed in class. In addition to project-specific materials and tools, students will be responsible for buying a toolbox in which to keep the items from the list that follows. These items will not only prepare you for this course, but are designed to be functional beyond it. Students should have their toolboxes in order by the third class, and they should be available at the start of each class thereafter.

Safety goggles - Keep in locker
Work shirt/apron - Keep in locker
Closed-toe shoes - Keep in locker
Pencil
Lock for your locker
Masking Tape
Scotch Tape
3 inexpensive disposable brushes of different sizes
Scissors
Hammer
Standard pliers
Needle-nose pliers with wire cutters
Phillips head screwdriver
Flat head screwdriver
Matte knife/Utility knife/Craft Knife w/ extra blades
Tape measure
Straight edge (metal ruler)
Rubber or latex gloves
Extension cord

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER AND SERVICES
University Counseling Services/Counseling Center
301 Peabody Hall
P.O. Box 114100, University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-4100
If you are experiencing problems or difficulties with the academic requirements of this course you may also contact the Departmental Advisor in Fine Arts: +1 352 392 0207. Further, the Dean of Students Office can assist you with a range of support services. http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp

ACCOMODATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The DOS will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this document to the instructor. DOS can be contacted at: 352-392-1261 or http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp

SA+AH HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY (SEE ATTACHED APPENDIX)
The School of Art and Art History Safety Manual will be reviewed in class. Students and instructors are responsible for following policy and procedures for making art safely at all time. The entire document is available online (http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/healthandsafety) All students are required to sign and turn in the signature page to the instructor on the first day of class.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY
The University’s policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, and student conduct related to the honor code will be strictly enforced. Full information regarding these policies is available at the following links:

Academic Honesty: http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html#honesty
Honor Code: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php
Student Conduct: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php

CLASS DEMANOR
Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. in order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES
Students must check their school email accounts regularly. Students are responsible for any information, deadlines, and updates emailed to their UF webmail accounts and should keep a careful eye on the class website.

The instructor, the School of Art and Art History, and the Sculpture Department are not responsible for student work left in workspaces, installation spaces, the critique space, the shops, or the classrooms.

Projects and materials are not to be stored in the wood or metal shops without consulting Brad Smith.

Each student is responsible for ensuring that his/her projects and materials are safely stored, displayed, installed, and removed from the classroom and critique space. Projects must be set up and removed from the critique space at the times and spaces designated for each project. Many classes and students require use of the critique room, it is important that students install and remove work in the time allotted for each critique and repair any damage promptly, including nail and pin holes.

You must use the spray booth located in FAC211A for all aerosol spray tasks

We have safety measures in place to prevent harm to students and reduce theft. Please respect these policies by not propping open doors or allowing strangers into the building.

Health & Safety Area Specific Information:
Appendix F: Sculpture

1. Hazards (inherent) Welding
Welding produces toxic fumes and radiates UV light.
Sanding Sanding produces toxic and/or irritating dust.
Spray Paint Spray paint produces toxic fumes, generates liquid hazardous waste in excess paint and solvents used in cleaning (acetone, mineral spirits.)
Epoxy, Bondo, Polyester Resins These produce toxic fumes and generate both toxic and liquid hazardous waste. Stones containing silica are also toxic when sanded.
Plaster, Cement Both generate toxic, irritating dust when mixing. Cement is highly alkaline and can burn then skin when exposed.
Silver Soldering Both electrical and structural soldering produces toxic fumes from flux (hydrochloric acid and phosphors). Solder may contain lead, which is toxic.

2. Best Practices
• All students must attend an orientation before using the wood and metal shops. During the orientation all shop rules and policies are presented as well as a discussion of the proper and safe use of shop tools.
  • Work in a well-ventilated area while welding; cover all skin.
  • Shield eyes with approved lens safety wear.
  • Work in well-ventilated area while sanding wood.
  • All spray painting must be done in spray booth.
  • Resins may not be mixed indoors.
  • Wear rubber gloves and use plastic drop cloth to contain chemicals when used. • Silver soldering should be done in a well-ventilated area.

3. Links
http://www.ehs.ufl.edu/General/resppol.pdf
http://www.ehs.ufl.edu/General/Shop/shophome.htm

4. Area Rules
All users of the studio classrooms are expected to follow studio area rules at all times. If you have any questions, ask your instructor.
• Follow all SA+AH Health and Safety handbook guidelines (the handbook should be reviewed by your instructor and can be found at: www.arts.ufl.edu/art/healthandsafety)
• Follow the SA+AH Satellite Waste Management Chart in the classroom and other health & safety guidelines posted for your media.
• In case of emergency, call campus police at 392-1111
• File an incident report (forms may be found in the SAAH H&S handbook, the SAAH faculty handbook and in the main office.) Turn completed forms into the SAAH Director of Operations within 48 hours of the event.
• Get permission from shop supervisor before beginning work
• Sign in to use the wood shop
• Eye protection must be worn when using any power tools
• Long hair must be tied back
• Hearing protection is available
• Familiarize yourself with the closest eyewash unit
• Shirt tails must be tucked in and loose sleeves rolled up
• Shoes must cover toes
• No loose jewelry allowed in the shop areas
• Clean up your mess
• Students are prohibited from taking home any SA+AH property
• All painting and sanding must be done in the courtyard when weather permits.
• Newspaper or plastic must be used to protect table and floor surfaces from paint, glue and
plaster

- Students are prohibited from storing materials or projects in the wood or metal shops.
- Do not use stationary equipment to cut painted, recycled or pressure treated lumber.
- Dust off tools, tables and sweep the floor when finished using wood tools.
- Scrap material must be disposed of immediately.
- Tools and shop equipment must be put away in its proper place.
- The table saw, jointer and planer are to be used only under the supervision of Brad Smith and any unauthorized usage will result in expulsion from the shops.
- No food or drink in the shops.
- Only students enrolled in current SA+AH courses who have attended the orientations may use the shops. No visitors while you work.
- Store all flammables in the flammable cabinet. Keep flammable cabinet closed at all times.
- First aid kits are found in each studio. Notify your instructor if supplies are low.
- Locate the nearest eyewash unit and familiarize yourself with its functions.
- Report any safety issues IMMEDIATELY to your instructor.
- All courses must engage in an end of the semester clean up.
- Follow the SA+AH CONTAINER POLICY (see policy below).

There are 2 types of labels used in the SA+AH-- yellow and white. Both labels are found at the red MSDS box and are supplied by the SA+AH. Each is used for a different purpose.

White:

All new and or used product in containers (hazardous or what might be perceived as hazardous - i.e. watered down gesso, graphite solutions, satellite containers of solvents, powders, spray paints, fixatives, oils, solvents, etc...) must be labeled within the SA+AH to identify their contents. Labels can be found at the MSDS box in each studio and work area. All containers must be marked with your name, contents and date opened. All secondary/satellite containers for hazardous materials must be marked with content, your name and the date opened. All unmarked containers will be disposed of with no notice.

Yellow:

WHEN HAZARDOUS ITEMS ARE DESIGNATED AS WASTE, All containers must have a yellow label identifying the contents that are designated as trash for weekly EHS pick up.
- Flammable solid containers (red flip top) must have a yellow hazardous waste label on the outside (top).
- 5 gallon jugs must have a yellow hazardous waste label on the outside.
- Fibrous containers must have a yellow hazardous waste label on the outside (top).
- Each item in the blue bin must have a yellow hazardous waste label.

Note: Hazardous Waste labels should include all constituents in the waste mixture as well as an approximate percentage of the total for that item and must add up to 100%. Labels should also include the Bldg and room number of the shop generating the waste along with the Waste Manager for your area, this is located on the SWMA sign posted at the sink or at the Waste Management Area.