**ART 4340 : Section 001 : Advanced Kiln Formed Glass**

**Spring 2015 : Mon / Wed 8AM - 10:50PM**

Instructor: Jean Fernandes

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 2pm-2:30pm by appointment please

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**Course Description/Objective**

This course explores glass as a traditional and contemporary art form and method for visual communication. Throughout the semester, students will use various glass kiln-forming techniques to gain a thorough understanding of the material and how it functions within today's art context. Fusing, slumping and kiln-casting will be some of the techniques addressed during the semester. The beginning section of this class is appropriate for students who have had very little to no prior experience working with glass-forming techniques. The advanced section of this class is for returning students or students with significant prior kiln-forming knowledge (with instructor consent).

Students are encouraged to incorporate all technical demonstrations into their own creative work. **Each demonstration will be given only once**. It is required that you attend class regularly so that you do not miss demos, lectures and instructions on proper equipment use. By the end of the semester, students will be able to create a variety of technically accomplished forms with strong conceptual reasoning while using glass as the primary art medium.

This course will demand a complete exploration of your ideas through visual journaling, reading, sketching, making models, and experimentation with the material. Various demonstrations will be given to assist with the understanding of different processes. While demos and lectures will be given during class time, you will also be required to take the initiative in your own investigation of the material, including using online and other resources. Students are required to complete projects on time and attend every critique.

**Attendance/Drops**

You are required to attend class regularly. Pertinent information will be given during each class period, and missing class time will negatively impact your ability to pass this class. It is your responsibility to sign in on the provided sign-in sheet with your time of arrival when you enter the classroom. Falsifying this information is academic dishonesty and will have severe consequences.

Partial class attendance will also impact your grade negatively. If you are late to class, it is your responsibility to immediately sign in and/or let the instructor know that you are present so that it can be logged as a tardy instead of an absence. Attendance may be taken twice: once at the beginning of class and once during or at the end of class (at the discretion of the instructor). If at either time you are absent, you will be counted as a partial attendee for that class period.

You are responsible for obtaining any material covered during your absence from a classmate. The instructor will not repeat assignments, technical demonstrations, video presentations, discussions or lectures.

**You must have all of your required materials by the end of the second week of classes (January 28).** Failure to attend class with required materials will impact your grade negatively. Class time is for working, learning, and getting input/feedback from your peers, so you may not use the time to obtain materials.

**Medical Absences:** Report medical related absences to the Art Office (817) 272-2891. Medically based absences do not excuse you from doing the required course work. With proper documentation, a medical based absence may allow an extension of a project due date.

**University Authorized Absences / Religious Holy Day Absences:** Making up missed coursework can be arranged as long as the instructor is notified at least one week prior to the absence. Details of this policy are outlined in the link below: <http://wweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#9>

**Drops:** The responsibility for initiating a “drop” from this course is yours. **This is not done automatically by the instructor or the departmental office**. You may drop through the Art Department Office, room 335. If you are not an art major, please go to the office of your major and they can handle your drop from this course.

Please be advised that add/drop rules have changed at UTA. You may withdraw with a “W” until the two-thirds point of the current semester. If you entered UTA during or after Fall 2006, you are only allowed a total of 15 hours worth of “W”s. Also, you are only allowed to replace grades three times: two (2) –1000/2000 level courses and one (1) 3000/4000 level course.

**Evaluation/Grading**

A 100%-90%

B 89%-80%

C 79%-70%

D 69%-60%

F 59% and below

Private discussion concerning your progress in the class is encouraged. I prefer that these discussions take place during my office hours or after class. If you are unable to meet with me during these times, you may email me to schedule an appointment.

Simply completing the assigned work does not assure you of an excellent grade in this course. At UTA, a "C" is an average grade and in this course is given to students who simply complete the assignments and show up to class. **"A" and “B” grades are reserved for students who go “above and beyond” the requirements of the course.**

**Do not waste my time or yours with anything less than your very best.**

Advanced students will be divided into two groups: one focused on BFA show requirements and the other focused on a more thorough understanding of the technical processes in kiln-formed glass.

All advanced students will be required to show weekly progress during class meetings and formal critiques will be held periodically throughout the semester.

Grades for both groups will be based on how thoroughly students conduct the investigation of their ideas and concepts. This exploration should be documented in sketchbooks, visual or written journals, literary research, model making and research. Students will present their total exploration along with all experiments, failures and successes periodically during the semester and will be expected to turn in completed projects on critique days.

Grades for the BFA group will be calculated as follows:

50% Participation points

30% Professional development assignments

20% Kiln-glass components and development for the BFA show

Grades for the rest of the advanced students will be calculated as follows:

50% Participation points

30% 3 Technical Assignments

20% Final Project

Participation points\*\* will be evaluated on a daily basis with each day equating to 100 points:

25 points: On time attendance (-5 points late arrival/early departure)

25 Points: Completed homework (No points for partial or incomplete homework)

25 Points: Daily in-class activity/Participation/Staying on task

25 Points: Daily clean up/managing the classroom task

**Pop Quizzes:** At the discretion of the instructor, pop quizzes or tests will be administered for both beginning and advanced students if it appears that the content of the course is not being reflected in the students’ visual and verbal expressions.

**Late Work:** Late work will not be accepted for any reason. Not turning in work on time will result in a 0% for that assignment. In order to avoid this, you must bring in your project, even if unfinished, on critique day to get in-progress feedback from your peers.

During the semester, with instructor consent, you may re-submit any project (before the last day of class) for an amended grade after resolving issues brought up during critiques. This includes finishing an unfinished project presented during a critique. However, keep in mind that 10% of your assignment grade is dependent on whether your project was finished within the allotted time frame, so the maximum grade possible after re-submitting work that was originally shown unfinished in critique will be a B grade. This opportunity is only available for projects turned in on time and does not apply for late work. Again, **late work will not be accepted for any reason**.

**Critiques:** Attendance is required. All work must be set up prior to class on critique days. Your participation is essential to having a productive critique; participation includes being present AND actively engaging your peers in the discussion about the work. Positive feedback and constructive criticism is encouraged, but students should also be able to provide reasoning for their opinions.

**Studio Time Outside Class:** Students should be aware that completion of classroom assignments can require an additional minimum of 3 to 9 hours per week of studio time outside of regularly scheduled class periods. It is also mandatory to sign up for 1 evening (per enrolled glass class) of charging clean up per semester.

**Charging Days:** Please note that missing these days will impact your grade severely. If you are a no-show on a charging day, **you will lose a letter grade** from your final grade in the class. These days are taken very seriously as the charging leader depends on every member of the team to show up and work diligently. If you have to miss your cleaning assignment for any reason, it is your responsibility to arrange for someone to take your place on the charging team for that evening.

**Written Components:** For the written components of this class, students are recommended to use the UTA writing center. The writing center is located on the 4th floor of the library and the phone number is 817 272-2601. Tutors at the writing center are available on a first-come-first-serve basis or by appointment to assist you with any writing assignment.

**Classroom and Critique Etiquette**

The classroom is an open environment for sharing thoughts, feelings and ideas. Attitudes that hinder this environment should be left at the door. Disrespect toward the instructor or other students/faculty will not be tolerated. This is a learning environment and cell phones should be either turned off or put into vibrate/silent mode. If you absolutely have to take a call, you must step outside the classroom. You are welcome to listen to music during work time, but you must use a set of earphones/headphones and the volume must be set low enough that you do not disturb those who are sitting next to you. Laptops may not be used in the classroom for anything other than project-related research. Use of excessively loud equipment must be avoided during class time.

**Safety:** The glass studios can be a hazardous environment if you are not well-informed about studio practices and precautions. You are required to be present for the safety walkthroughs that will be covered during class and will not be allowed to use the facilities until the safety procedures form is signed. Failure to follow safety rules and recommendations will result in loss of access to the facility. In the absence of the instructor, safety instructions given by the glass department faculty, glass studio technician, graduate students or the environmental health and safety officer must be followed.

**Safety glasses and close-toed shoes must be worn at all times.**

\*\*\*\* In cases of a medical or other emergency use the red telephone in the cold shop for assistance. This phone is a direct line to campus police \*\*\*

**Tobacco-Free Campus Policy:** Effective August 1, 2011, the use of tobacco products (including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, electronic cigarettes, and other tobacco products) by students, faculty, staff, and visitors are prohibited on all UT Arlington properties.

**Materials**

This course requires materials for general studio use, personal glass and tools as well as some supplementary tools you will find useful. Students must have all materials by **January 28**. Failure to come to class with the necessary materials will result in a mark of absent for that day regardless of whether you are physically present or not.

**Facilities**

Remember that using the hot, warm and cold glass shops is a privilege. There are specific guidelines for the proper use and care of the machines and supplies. Students are expected to strictly follow these guidelines without exception. Failure to comply with these guidelines could result in being prohibited from using the facilities.

Your understanding of the operation and maintenance of the facilities is part of this class.

**Rule #1: If you feel uncomfortable with or are hesitant about the proper operation of the mechanical equipment in this facility, ASK a technician or a grad student for more instruction.**

You will be required to actively participate in the cleaning and maintenance of the glass studio. There may be times during the course of the semester that equipment must be shut down for repair. This is the nature of this medium, and to be expected. For this reason, it is important that you do not wait until the last minute to complete your assignments. Every effort will be made to keep machine downtime to an absolute minimum.

**Disabilities**

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

The instructor of this course will provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. As a student, your responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of the need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](file:///C:\Users\Jean\Documents\Kiln%20SPRING%202013\www.uta.edu\disability). You may also visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Dishonesty**

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.   
  
"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

**Student Support Services**

The university supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. They include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the office of Student Success Programs at (817) 272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

\*\*\*\*This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor\*\*\*\*