

ART 4390: Special Topics, IRON

Subject to change as necessary

Spring 2025: M/W 2:00pm-4:50

Professor Dewane Hughes

CONTACT INFORMATION: dhughes@uttyler.edu Phone: 565-5510 Office: 127

Office Hours: M/W, please schedule an appointment!

UTT Student Resources and University Policies and Information

Please see the Syllabus Module in Canvas for the UTT Student Resources and University Policies and Procedures

The primary objectives of Special Topics, IRON are:

Iron casting has become an increasingly popular process within the sculpture world, and the larger sculpture hosts numerous exhibitions and conferences annually. The casting of iron for artistic purposes sprouted from the abstract expressionism and that movements inclusion of non-traditional/industrial materials, specifically sculptors like David Smith who used mild steel drops from his job working in shipping yards, and Julius Schmidt who introduced small scale iron casting.

For this class, we will explore the use of the cupola (iron furnace), design, construction, use and all pertinent safety elements.

In addition, we will learn several mold making and investment techniques to create numerous sculptures in cast iron.

This class will require a great deal of effort, attention to detail, and participation as a class.

For final grade assessment, students must turn in a digital compilation of the following:

1) completed images of artworks created during the semester 2) inventory list 3) More details regarding format are TBA.

NOTES:

Any and all required supplies and materials not supplied by the department will be listed prior to assignment demo. There are no text books required for this course.

ATTENDANCE AND MISSED WORK POLICY:

Attendance is mandatory. **After 2 absences (2 sick days) you may be dropped a full letter grade from your semester GPA, at 4 absences students may fail the course!** Continual tardiness will also have an effect on the overall grade. If you are more than 30 minutes late to class (or if you leave 30 minutes early), you will be marked absent. If you are unprepared for class you will be marked absent. Being late is walking into class 5 minutes after start time. Being tardy or leaving early up to three times is equal to one absence. **If you are absent on critique day, you may fail that assignment, if you are absent on midterm critique you may be dropped a letter grade from your GPA or if you are absent final critique day, you may fail the class.**

BFA STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Technical Proficiency: Students will be able to create technically proficient works of art.
2. Conceptual Proficiency: Students will be able to create conceptually proficient works of art.

3. Interpretation of Artworks: Students will be able to explain how formal or conceptual elements function in works of art.
4. Historical Context: The student will be able to contextualize works of art in relation to art history or contemporary practices.
5. Document Works: Students will be able to document works of art for the purpose of archiving, application, and presentation.
6. Disseminate Research: Students will be able to disseminate research through exhibition participation.

Mandatory artist to know:

Claes Oldenburg	Christo	Luis Jimenez
Tony Gragg	Anthony Caro	Isamu Noguchi
Eva Hesse	Constantine Brancusi	Louise Bourgeois
Mark DiSuvero	David Nash	Lee Bontecou
Magdalena Abakanowicz	Andy Goldsworthy	James Surls
David Smith	Rodin	Sol Lewitt
Donald Judd	Rachel Whiteread	Richard Deacon
Damien Hirst	Stephan Balkenhol	Anish Kapoor
H.C. Westerman	Tom Otterness	Terry Allen
Robert Arneson	Barbara Hepworth	Alexander Calder
Antony Gormley		

There will be a written final on the work of these important sculptors.

Reminder: In addition to the above class time structures, *you may also need to plan to come in "outside of class" around an additional 7-14 hours (as necessary)*, in order to complete the course work. It may not be possible to work only 5 hours per week and complete the course work necessary to pass this class.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE: NO CELL PHONES!! Class time may consist of critiques, writing assignments, reading assignments, gallery visits, and open studio work time. Things that will not be tolerated during class time: texting, emailing, chit chatting, constant breaks, loud music (headphones are ok or quiet music as long as people close to your space approve), studying for other classes. **Students who do not use studio time wisely will be marked absent and have additional sculptures added to their required load. Students who exhibit disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the class and/or will be expelled from the course altogether. Some (but not all) examples of disruptive behavior include habitually lateness or leaving early, an extensively sloppy studio space, interrupting or talking during class instruction or discussion when not in turn and failure to maintain proper classroom safety and etiquette.**

STUDIO DRESS AND SAFETY WEAR CODE:

- 1) Appropriate work clothing is required for the *entire* Department of Art and Art History, however individual classes may have different requirements depending on the materials and equipment being used.
- 2) **Sculpture classes require the following dress code:**
 - No open toed shoes are allowed in the studio
 - Students are expected to wear long pants

-Students should wear long sleeved shirts (preferred) however short sleeved shirts will be permitted.

MATERIALS AND CHEMICALS:

All solvents must be properly stored in the flammable storage cabinets, and not left out around the studio. If you bring any solvents into the studio, they must be catalogued by Alicia Quijano, studio lab tech.

GRADING PROCESS:

The student is graded on his or her dedication and output in completing the course objectives. **Attendance, studio work ethic, quality of artwork and completion of required assignments, maturation of work during the course of the semester, participation and presentations during any critiques, and any additional writing assignments and artist statements are all part of the overall grade.** Students are encouraged to ask questions and are expected to commit outside time. Expect between 7-14 hours of outside time per week.

Please note: By simply completing the above listed requirements, you may earn the average letter grade of C. You must go above and beyond the basic requirements of the course in order to earn yourself a grade that is above and beyond average.

Numeric to Letter Grade Translation: 100 - 90% = A 89 - 80% = B 79 - 70% = C 69 - 60% = D 59 - 0% = F

HOW FINAL GRADE IS DETERMINED:

100% BODY OF WORK CREATED

*It is expected that you attend all gallery openings and any art lectures (unless excused)

***Students will have 24 hour access every day of the week** once safety trainings are completed and Art Student Safety Agreements have been signed and turned in with Karen Lutes (FAC 2009) Students working after hours need to sign in and out on the sheets provided near the doors to Art Studios I and II. *Please note that any abuse of access privileges will result in the loss of after-hour studio access.*

*Clean up is an imperative part of this class. You are expected to do your part in keeping the classroom organized, safe, and flowing smoothly! Policy of clean up will be discussed with the class on a case by case basis.

2025 STUDIO SAFETY AND ACCESS INFORMATION

Facility Access & Studio Lab Safety and Mechanical Safety Training

Studio facility access is for enrolled students only. Students are required to use appropriate safety equipment (PPE) and practice safe operation procedures when using any hazardous equipment or materials. All students must successfully complete the lab safety training and mechanical safety training and quizzes on Canvas and complete an Art Safety Agreement through Canvas before after-hours access to the complex is granted. Failure to adhere to the terms of the Art Safety Agreement will result in the loss of studio facility access.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

For your safety, you must follow all safety requirements established by the department and university. It is required that you provide your own Personal Protective Equipment for use in studio areas. This equipment includes: dust mask with at least a N95 rating and attached filter, safety glasses, ear protection, gloves, close-toed shoes, and appropriate clothing. Failure to use this equipment while working may result in the loss of studio privileges.

Materials and Chemicals

Any additional materials or chemicals not included on the course material list must be approved by the faculty member in charge of the area where the chemical (material) will be used prior to the material/chemical being brought into the studio. Students are responsible for notifying the studio technician of any new materials/chemicals the day they are brought to the studio in order to insure that the appropriate Safety Data Sheet is on file and in the SDS binder.

Labels for any new, approved chemicals brought into the art studios must include the following information when they are transferred to a new container or if the original chemical label is damaged: Name of Chemical, Date chemical was opened, and any basic hazards associated with the chemical. Labels are located in each studio and must be filled out and adhered to the container immediately.