

**Carnegie Mellon University
School of Art**

60131 A
3D Media Studio II: Mixed Media Mini-Installation
DH B302
M/W: 1:30-4:20

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Course Description

This course explores a broad range of sculptural materials with an emphasis on mixed media; a hands-on approach to working with a variety of materials and combining those materials with an array of connectors. Students expected to learn a variety of skills and vocabulary related to mixed media sculpture, assemblage, installation and site work.

Requirements

Attendance is required and absolutely necessary. Demonstrations on the use of tools, techniques, and materials are continuous. Participation in presentations, demonstrations, classroom discussions and critiques is a valuable part of the learning experience.

- Students are expected to complete a project that demonstrates skill and inventiveness in problem solving. These seven-week courses are short—work efficiently during class and beyond class time doing research, planning and developing your projects.
- Students are expected to use resources: the library, local museums/galleries, and attend the School of Art Lecture Series. Sometimes specifically assigned.

Grading

Grades determined by the effort to complete the project in class and the research and work completed outside of class, plus participation in discussion and critiques is expected.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Employ knowledge of historical models and movements of mixed media, assemblage, sitework and installation art;
- Produce a small-scale project for an actual naturalistic location based on ecology and natural systems;
- Demonstrate ability to work with a conglomeration of materials—natural, found and recycled-- to create a site-specific, mini-installation artwork;
- Multi-task to conceive, propose and implement a mini- installation artwork for a specific space/venue.

Artists for reference

Joseph Beuys
Marcel Duchamp
Arte Povera Artists
Donald Lipski
Robert Smithson
Rachel Harrison
Mierle Laderman Ukeles
Siah Armajani
Pipilotti Rist

Ed & Nancy Kienholz
Mark Dion
Robert Rauschenberg
Natalie Jeremijenko
Richard Long
Anna Mendieta
Hans Haacke
Mary Miss
Ragnar Kjartenson

Agnes Dennis
Kim Adams
Sarah Sze
Corey Escoto
Hamish Fulton
Buster Simpson
Lynn Hull
Meg Webster
Delanie Jenkins

Vito Acconci
Ikebana Artists
Allan Kaprow
Joseph Beuys
Alan Sonfist
Mel Chin
Bill Viola
Fritz Haeg
Andy Goldsworthy

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The OBJECTIVE is to creatively combine in design, construction and presentation a variety of natural, found, and/or recycled materials into an artwork for a given site. Pay particular attention to the existing site conditions; plan to install/interweave your artwork as 'parts of the whole ecosystem' while conceiving and creating your 'installation/site work'. Keep in mind, you may choose to present an arrangement of various materials in relationship to each other. Also consider issues about: Site; collaboration with each other and/or nature; the use of resources and the passage of time as elements; a variety of viewing perspectives and the best way to document your completed artwork.

Students provided with:

Wood, soil media; a wide variety of materials, tools and hardware in the classroom and storage. Part of the challenge is to obtain your own materials. You are encouraged to reuse and recycle materials from on/off campus. Construction Junction and Creative Reuse are great resources.

All students expected to acquire:

- soft material; fabric, felt, paper, canvas, rope, jute, etc.
- at least one found object, some form of natural material: soil, rock, plants, water, etc.

Week 1	Mar 20	Introduction/ presentation about mixed media artmaking; Present and discuss syllabus, project parameters, visit one potential site; assign <u>exercise</u> in locating materials, discuss <u>Research</u> on artists who use mixed media to create sculpture, assemblages, installations. Consider your choice of materials and <u>begin to design your project through drawings, text or digital imagery. Remember, Collaboration is encouraged.</u>
	Mar 22	Present exercise 1. Discuss materials and then potential sites, prepare for proposal making and visit sites if weather permits. Begin work with proposal, <u>visit site.</u> Remember while conceiving ideas and collecting found materials that collaboration can aid your idea generation. <u>Pay attention to the world around you.</u>
Week 2	Mar 27	Pin up proposals for brief group discussion. Discuss site issues; Gather materials, choose a work area within the classroom appr, and work on project.
Week 3	Mar 29 Apr 3	Demonstration of various kinds of tools, hardware & connectors, continue work Presentation of artist's work; Demonstration of riveting, grommets, suspension techniques, etc. continue work
Week 4	Apr 5 Apr 10	Soft materials demonstration, work on projects Demonstrate Laser cutter and/or vacuum former, work on projects mini critique and continue working on projects
Week 5	Apr 12 Apr 17 Apr 19	Demonstrate a variety of hardware and connectors, work on project Work day and presentation of artists Demonstrate concrete, plaster and other base and skin materials/techniques
Week 6	Apr 24 Apr 26 Apr 28	<u>Continue working on projects</u> , consider integrating into site continue working on projects, Fine tune the construction of artwork Present video, audio, performance, installation artists for reference, discuss site issues for final presentation
Week 7	May 1 May 3	COMPLETE PROJECT; Discuss finishing techniques and modes of presentation, plan the best way to present project, install, and fine tune for final presentation Final Presentation and Critique

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Take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, avoiding drugs and alcohol, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress.

All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone. There are many helpful resources available on campus and an important part of the college experience is learning how to ask for help. Asking for support sooner rather than later is often helpful.

If you or anyone you know experiences any academic stress, difficult life events, or feelings like anxiety or depression, we strongly encourage you to seek support. Counseling and Psychological Services (CaPS) is here to help: call 412-268-2922 and visit their website at <http://www.cmu.edu/counseling/>. Consider reaching out to a friend, faculty or family member you trust for help getting connected to the support that can help.

If you or someone you know is feeling suicidal or in danger of self-harm, call someone immediately, day or night:

CaPS: 412-268-2922

Re:solve Crisis Network: 888-796-8226

If the situation is life threatening, call the police:

On campus: CMU Police: 412-268-2323

Off campus: 911

If you have questions about this or your coursework, please let me know. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

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