ARTS 2996 502

Special Topics:

Installation Art and Site Specific Art

Tuesday/ Thursday, 1:30- 4 pm
Valencia Business & Technology 106
Erin Gould

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Office hours: T/TH, 12-1 pm or by appointment

This hands-on, experimental studio art course will explore the history, influence, and limitations of installation art as a genre in the contemporary art world. Themes will include site-specificity, perception, phenomenology, socio-cultural contexts, and the dialectics of authorship, viewership, and participation. This class encourages the student to develop personal direction with an emphasis on expanding sculptural possibilities.

This course will enrich your knowledge and imagination around the elements of SPACE and SITE, deepening your capacities to create what you can imagine. You will be challenged not only to resolve the projects with attention to detail and craft, but to develop a fully realized artwork for each project. Readings, discussions, demonstrations, and critiques are integral to the course.

Learning Objects
-Become familiar with historical developments and terms surrounding Installation Art
-To create independent and collaborative artworks in the genre of Installation Art
-To begin to locate your own work within the continuum of art and social history
-To develop vocabulary to successfully articulate visual ideas in the work and in discussions about the work
-Apply and integrate new techniques and information in a significant way within each project
-Learn how to document and present work in a professional manner
-Work as a team to further the group's understanding and trust of one another's vision

My expectations for you
-Fully participate! We will be completing a series of strange/ silly/ experimental exercises in class throughout the semester. Participate to the best of your ability.
-Complete all assignments promptly in order to receive and critique.
-Attend all scheduled classes and arrive on time.
-You work, draw, write, read, and think at least 6 hours outside of class time each week.
-You engage seriously with each project and push yourself to grow creatively.
-You act responsibly in the studio, whether in class or at your home, with regard to your own safety and that of your classmates.

My commitments to you

- The classroom should be a place of excitement, curiosity, and joy. I will do my best to keep boredom to a minimum.
- You have chosen to be here, therefore, I serve you and your learning. As your instructor, I will trust and respect you.
- My role is not to convince you of my opinions, but to help you form your own. Art is subjective! I will do my best to never speak over you or make you feel like I do not value your opinions.
- If following your interest in a project or assignment brings your work outside of the parameters of that assignment, your passions come before my guidelines. I will do my best to support your explorations and not penalize you for being creative.
- I will never ask you to compete against one another. There is no limit to how many As or Bs will be given, and differences of opinions are encouraged (as long as we respect and support each other).
- While it is important for you to learn the vocabulary of art and art making, I will never penalize the use of common language or references to popular culture. Art is made in the world, not above it.
- I will never force anyone to participate in ways that make them uncomfortable. I will do my best to make space and time for everyone to contribute in whatever way they need.
- I will never judge or criticize you for ways that you differ from me, whether that be race, gender, sexuality, religion, nationality, class, politics, or culture. I will do my best to not only respect, but encourage you to explore, share, and express any differences in your life.
- I am always learning and trying to be a better teacher. If you ever want to share with me any ways that I could make this learning experience better for you, I will greet that with gratitude!

Course requirements

- **Projects**: Students will complete 4 mini-projects and 2 large projects over the course of the semester, along with numerous in-class exercises. You should do your best in every assignment, even if it is outside of your comfort zone or not a kind of art that you personally enjoy making.
- **Sketchbook:** every student will engage in an active sketchbook practice throughout the semester. Your sketchbook is yours, but should include things like sketches, printed out inspiration images, brainstorming, reading and critique notes, your writings
- **Writing:** you are required to engage in assigned writing exercises outside of class time at least six times throughout the semester (see schedule for due dates). Collect these in your sketchbook. You will be asked to share insights into your writings in class Tuesdays.
- **Reading responses:** You will complete three written responses to assigned readings and videos. These will be uploaded to Canvas and discussed in class.
- **Digital portfolio:** Document all of your work this semester, including in class exercises! You will need to bring a camera of some kind to class on days with “IN CLASS EXC” on the schedule. Getting proper documentation may require you asking another student to

take photographs for you. Collect these images and/or videos and compile them into a portfolio due at the end of the semester.

- **End of semester reflection:** At the end of finals week, students will submit a written, personal reflection about their experiences and learning in this course.
- **Participation and attendance:** Attendance is mandatory! Your attendance will be kept across the semester and calculated as a percentage. Participation in exercises, reading discussions, writing works, and critiques will also be noted throughout the course.

Grading:

- Installation project: 15 points
- Group site project: 15 points
- Mini projects: 20 points (4 projects, 5 points each)
- Sketchbook: 8 points
- Reading responses: 12 points (3 at 4 points each)
- Digital portfolio: 10 points
- Participation and attendance: 15 points
- End of semester reflection: 5 points

_____
100 points

A (90 – 100%)	Excellent
B (80 – 89%)	Very good
C (70 – 79%)	Satisfactory
D (60 – 69%)	Barely meets requirements
F (below 59%)	Student fails to meet all requirements

Attendance

Attendance is required. Due to the nature of the class and the material being studied, this is especially important. Your attendance/participation score is calculated by the number of times you attend class, divided by total class meetings. If you leave class early or arrive to class late, it will be reflected in your attendance score. Students with excessive absences (more than 3 absences) will be dropped from the course. If you are not in class by the start time as designated on this syllabus, you are late. Three tardies equals one unexcused absence. Excused absences will require a doctor's note. Students are required to bring in a copy of the doctor's note to the instructor within a week's time of the absence.

Late Work

In general I do not accept late work. Because of the collective aspect of the critique, it is mandatory that your project is presented on time, so that the critique covers the widest possible breadth of work. Late projects may be accepted up to one week after their due date, with the understanding that you lose 10% of the project grade (making B+ the highest possible grade for any late project). Grades will be posted on Canvas throughout the semester. Please come to office hours or make an appointment with me if you would like to discuss any grade given.

Extra Credit

It is possible to receive up to an additional 5% on your final grade by submitting a copy of a scholarship or exhibit application or by attending select art events and submitting a one-page write up for 1% extra credit each. Art events will be announced during class. Check in with me to receive prior approval for events not discussed during class.

Student Behavior

I am committed to building with you a positive classroom environment in which everyone can learn. I reserve the right to intervene and enforce standards of respectful behavior when classroom conduct is inconsistent with University expectations and our classroom community agreements. Interventions and enforcement may include but are not limited to required meetings to discuss classroom expectations, written notification of expectations, and/or removal from a class meeting. Removal from a class meeting will result in an unexcused absence. The University of New Mexico ensures freedom of academic inquiry, free expression and open debate, and a respectful campus through adherence to the following policies: D75: Classroom Conduct, Student Code of Conduct, University Policy 2240 – Respectful Campus, University Policy 2210 – Campus Violence.

Credit-hour statement

This is a three credit-hour course. Class meets for one 6 hour session of direct instruction for fifteen weeks during the Fall 2024 semester. Please plan for a minimum of six hours of out-of-class work (or homework, study, assignment completion, and class preparation) each week.

Academic Integrity and/or Plagiarism Policy:

Having academic integrity is paramount to your success in any class. Plagiarism or cheating is not tolerated. Any instance of this will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Here is the link to the UNM Academic Dishonesty Policy:
https://policy.unm.edu/regents-policies/section-4/4-8.html .

Accommodation Statement

UNM is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an inclusive classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact Accessibility Resource Center at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone at 505-277-3506. The UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu.

Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination

The University of New Mexico and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and providing an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. The University's programs and activities, including the classroom, should always provide a space of mutual respect, kindness, and support without fear of harassment, violence, or discrimination.

Discrimination on the basis of sex includes discrimination on the basis of assigned sex at birth, sex characteristics, pregnancy and pregnancy related conditions, sexual orientation and gender identity. If you have encountered any form of discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic or dating violence, we encourage you to report this to the University. You can access the confidential resources available on campus at the LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center (https://loborespect.unm.edu), the Women's Resource Center (https://women.unm.edu), and the LGBTQ Resource Center (https://lgbtqrc.unm.edu). If you speak with an instructor (including a TA or a GA) regarding an incident connected to discrimination on the basis of sex, they must notify UNM's Title IX Coordinator that you shared an experience relating to Title IX, even if you ask the instructor not to disclose it. The Title IX Coordinator is available to assist you in understanding your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct and reporting, please see https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html and CEEO's website.

If you are pregnant or experiencing a pregnancy-related condition, you may contact UNM's Office of Compliance, Ethics, and Equal Opportunity at ceeo@unm.edu. The CEEO staff will provide you with access to available resources and supportive measures and assist you in understanding your rights.

Support for Undocumented Students

As an educator, I fully support the rights of undocumented students to an education and to live free from the fear of deportation. I pledge that I will not disclose the immigration status of any student who shares this information with me unless required by a judicial warrant, and I will work with students who require immigration-related accommodations.

Connecting to Campus and Finding Support

UNM has many resources and centers to help you thrive, including:
opportunities to get involved (https://valencia.unm.edu/students/index.html),
mental health resources (https://mentalhealth.unm.edu/),
academic support such as tutoring (https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/learning-commons/index.html),
resource centers for people like you (https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/pasos/pasos-resource-center/index.html) ,
free food at Valencia Campus Food Pantry (https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/pasos/pasos-resource-center/campus-food-pantry.html),
and jobs on campus (https://valencia.unm.edu/students/financial-aid/student-employment.html).
Your advisor, staff at the resource centers (https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/pasos/pasos-resource-center/index.html)
and Academic Affairs Office (https://valencia.unm.edu/academics/academic-affairs/index.html),
and I can help you find the right opportunities for you.

Wellness

If you do need to stay home due to illness or are experiencing a wellness challenge, please take advantage of the resources below. You can communicate with me at elgould@unm.edu; I can work with you to provide alternatives for course participation and completion. Let me, an advisor, or another UNM staff member know that you need support so that we can connect you to the right resources. UNM is a mask friendly, but not a mask required, community. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please do not come to class.

Course Schedule

**This calendar may be adjusted as necessary and updated on Canvas*

Week	*Date*	*In Class*	*Due*
1	Tues 8/19	Introductions, syllabus, classroom exploration	
1	Thurs 8/21	Campus exploration and discussion	
2	Tues 8/28	IN CLASS EXC: Wrap something Introduce Pile Project	*Site free write*
2	Thurs 8/28	IN CLASS EXC: Something with tape	
3	Tues 9/2	Reading discussion/ Sensory exercise	*Reading 1, Introduction and chapter 1*
3	Thurs 9/4	IN CLASS EXC: Something that disrupts interior/ exterior -- Drop class before Sept 5 for free--	
4	Tues 9/9	IN CLASS EXC: String in space	*Site free write*
4	Thurs 9/11	Pile project critique	*Pile artwork*
5	Tues 9/16	Introduce light/ projection	*Reading 1, Chapter 2*
5	Thurs 9/18	IN CLASS EXC: Color light	
6	Tues 9/23	Reading discussion, work time	*Reading 1, Chapter 3*
6	Thurs 9/25	Field trip to Albuquerque Museum!	
7	Tues 9/30	Video Projection Project critique	*Video projection artwork*
7	Thurs 10/2	Sound installation discussion	
8	Tues 10/7	IN CLASS EXC: Weird sounds	*Site free write*

8	Thurs 10/9	Fall break!	
9	Tues 10/14	Sound installation critique	Sound artwork
9	Thurs 10/16	Introduce site specific intervention; Reading discussion	*Reading 1, chapter 4* *Reading Response due*
10	Tues 10/21	Site free write discussion; Group work day	*Site free write*
10	Thurs 10/23	Group work day	
11	Tues 10/28	Group work day	*Site Free write*
11	Thurs 10/30	Reading Discussion, group work day	*Reading 2* *Reading response due*
12	Tues 11/4	Site specific work crit	*Site specific intervention due*
12	Thurs 11/6	Site specific work crit	*Site specific intervention due*
13	Tues 11/11	Discuss text in space and final projects; work time	*Site free write*
13	Thurs 11/13	Work day	
14	Tues 11/18	Installation proposals and discussion; worktime	*Installation proposal*
14	Thurs 11/20	Site and poetry critique	*Poetry and site project*
15	Tues 11/25	Installation Critiques	
15	Thurs 11/27	Installation Critiques	
16	Tues12/2	Installation Critiques	
16	Thurs 12/4	Installation Critiques	*Sketchbooks*
17	Tues 12/9	Portfolio presentations	*digital portfolio*
17	Thurs 12/11	Submit any outstanding work	*End of semester reflection due via Canvas*