

**ART 307 11671: CORE ART STUDIO, SPRING 2021**  
**Asynchronous Class**

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 Office hours: Tuesdays 5:00 – 6:00 PM  
 Course website: [canvas.csun.edu](http://canvas.csun.edu)

**Catalog description**

This course is an introduction to upper division art department concentrations, goals, and expectations. The focus is on studio exploration of technology in art and its relationship to contemporary art practice and theory.

**Course background / description**

This class is a discussion-based seminar that will expose you to various ways of thinking about art, careers, and what it means to study in an art program. It's designed to help you avoid common misconceptions and should be useful whether you are studying studio art (e.g. Painting, Sculpture), applied art (e.g. Animation, Illustration, Graphic Design, etc.), art education or art history.

**Course student learning outcomes**

- Develop an assessment portfolio. Articulate interests, strengths and weaknesses and know how to tailor upper division class choices accordingly.
- Acquire knowledge of paths of study, instructional approaches, expectations, advisement options and career possibilities for various Art Department concentrations.
- Demonstrate understanding of the nature of art discourses.

**Art program goals addressed in course**

- Acquire a basic knowledge, theories, and concepts about art; develop a foundation of art skills and a high level of craft; communicate ideas and concepts through writing, speaking and art making; acquire a competency with the tools and technologies associated with the visual arts.
- Develop an understanding of the theoretical, cultural, and historical contexts of art.
- Apply processes of generating and solving problems in art; analyze, interpret and question traditional methodologies and preconceived notions of art and art making.
- Develop an appreciation and tolerance of diverse perspectives dealing with art, culture teaching and learning.
- Develop a career path for an art profession or an art-related field; develop an understanding of the demands and expectations of that area of art profession or art field

**Required text / supplies**

Flying Paint Means Freedom [free PDF chapters to be downloaded from canvas]. You need to be able to access the internet (e.g. Canvas) outside class hours.

How to Find Fulfilling Work by Roman Krznaric, 2013. About \$13. Available on Amazon! You can buy it used for about \$7 including shipping but order now because it takes awhile.

**What this class is like**

- Each week Read the assigned chapters and complete the Response to Reading on Canvas before Saturday midnight that week. Work submitted before deadline earns the full 10 points. Work submitted a day late (max. late submission allowed) earns 5 points.

- Once the Response to Reading is submitted, students can read their group members' responses (around 3-4 group members) and start a conversation in regards to the reading with your assigned group, or do an additional small assignment provided in Group Conversation. Work submitted before deadline earns the full 10 points. Work submitted a day late (max. late submission allowed) earns 5 points.

This gives me time to carefully review everyone's submissions before our next reading.

Note that some of the readings have links to videos and other related materials.

Note: We might need to schedule Zoom meeting days for Individual Conferences and Office Hour meetings.

**Things to do right now**

1. Toward the middle of the semester, we will be discussing How to Find Fulfilling Work, the text for this class. It is recommended that you start reading it now. Don't wait until the last minute. Past students have really liked this book and found it a quick, interesting and useful read. You can also get it immediately as a kindle text.

2. We will be discussing two films in depth: Twister (1996) and The Hunger Games (2012). Please watch these films beforehand. They are available for streaming, free from many public libraries and inexpensively on DVD (e.g. from Amazon)

**Participation****Professional Attitude and Practice:**

<https://catalog.csun.edu/policies/student-conduct-code/>

## Grading

Final grades are on a +/-system. You can get an A in this class if you do a good job on the projects, don't miss class, and turn everything in on time. To get full credit for a class session, you must answer the discussion questions on Canvas on time (Saturday midnight the weekend before class) and show up in class and be prepared to discuss/present as specified.

1. **Weekly Response to Reading on Canvas: 90 Points Total (10 points each week.)**  
You must do the required reading and then answer the discussion questions on Canvas by midnight on the Saturday before class. **Late work policy is strict.** You'll have a 24-hour grace period to turn in late work. You will receive ½ credit for late work submitted in that grace period. No work will be accepted after that grace period window. You are expected to finish work on time; the whole point is to have a discussion with your group based on your answers.
2. **Weekly Group Conversation on Canvas: 90 Points Total (10 points each week)**
3. **2 Art Projects + Critique: 60 Points Total.**
4. **Final Portfolio Presentation + Individual Conference on Zoom: 50 Points Total.**
5. **Citizenship and Participaion: 10 Points Total.**

Total points available in the semester is 300.

A range 300 – 270

B range 269 – 240

C range 239 – 210

D range 209 – 180

F range 179.5 and below

## Email

CSUN considers your CSUN email account to be the official means of contacting you. This means that if the University or I send something to this address, we will assume that you received the information and you are consequently responsible for it. If you regularly use another account, please set your CSUN mail to forward to your preferred email account.

**Topics and activities subject to change****ALL Response to Readings are DUE SATURDAYS.****ALL Group Conversations are due TUESDAYS on Canvas****Week 1. FPMF 1: Applied Art / Studio Art**

Students often think that the main difference between commercial art and studio art (fine art) is that in commercial art, you get paid to do art while in studio art, you do whatever you want. Actually, while these fields overlap, they represent very different assumptions about the way that art works.

**Week 2. FPMF 2: Dear Julia**

An insider's view of what it means to study and practice art. Covers common misconceptions about "hard work," the 10,000 hour rule, critique, etc.

**Week 3. FPMF 3: The Disappearing Century**

We discuss the waning influences of Freudian psychology, modernism/modern architecture, and the idea of the frontier. Learn to talk about your work in a way that seems contemporary and not dated.

**Week 4. FPMF 4: Making art that connects**

The stereotypical view of art is that it is all about the artist's ideas and skills. In this chapter, we discuss how good artists go beyond self to tap into the often unvoiced assumptions of our culture-at-large. (Assign Project)

**Week 5. FPMF: Art that Connects Project**

Create a new logo for Hunger Games, What does an apartment in Capital City look like, What kind of a keychain does Jonas have, What is in \_ purse vs Helen Hunts purse?

**Week 6. FPMF 5: Dreaming**

What's the difference between the American Dream and Disney dreaming? What's the difference between following your dreams and following your passion? Why do bankers avoid lending money to people passionate about their business? Discussion of fundamental approaches to career development.

**Week 7. How to Find Fulfilling Work, Ch. 1-3**

Discussion of book.

**Week 8. SPRING BREEAK****Week 9. Drips in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century + Lecture Attendance**

Is what we want artistic freedom? Or is it connection to others? This chapter suggests that the task of art is related to the development of personal authority.

**Week 10. How to Find Fulfilling Work, Ch. 4-6**

Discussion of book continued

**Week 11. Project Critique: Drips in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century****Week 12. FPMF 6/7. Accessing a Culture of Power & From Therapy to Artistic Authority**

**Week 13: Individual Conferences**

**Week 14. Individual Conferences**

**Week 15. Final Presentations**

**Week 16. Final Presentations Cont.**

Emergency Final Exam Contingency Plan: Department of Art

**Online Presentation using Canvas / Zoom**