

The University of Western Ontario  
Department of Visual Arts

Course: Visual Arts Studio 1025  
Title: VAS1025 (002) Advanced Foundations  
Time: Monday and Wednesdays 2:30-5:30 in JLVAC 206  
Professor: Anna Madelska (abarelk@uwo.ca)  
Office: 241B  
Office hours: 1:30-2:30 Monday  
TA: Colin Dorward (cdorward@uwo.ca)

Course Anti-requisite: VAS 1020

**Course Description**

**VAS 1025** is an advanced level introduction to core studio practices in the visual arts. The course embraces an immersive and exploratory approach to art making - one informed by the creative tactics, critical concerns and historical precedents underpinning recent artists' practices. Organized around formal, material and thematic

## Course Requirements

## Grading Breakdown

Studio Assignments	80%
Research (gallery visits and response, presentation)	10%
Attendance, participation, and professionalism	10%

## Specific Projects and Breakdown

### Term One:

Sculpture	15%
Photo	10%
GIF	5%
Video	10%
Trip Paper	5%
Participation	5%

### Term Two:

Drawing	10%
Painting	10%
Printed Matter	10%
Cross media/Blog	10%
Presentation	5%
Participation	5%

**Each term is worth 50% of the total course value.**

### Studio Assignments

All studio grades will reflect the student's ability to clearly *demonstrate* understanding and engagement of project concepts and parameters  
effort and ambition  
technical resourcefulness, proficiency, follow through  
inventiveness and initiative  
presentation, organization, communication of intent

Work will be handed in for regular grading and will be given a number grade based on the following grading scorecard: **Idea/Concept, Preparation, Material Execution, Presentation**. Students' artwork will be provided with verbal comments during critiques. Formal evaluation of students' progress will take place after the presentation.

### Attendance, Participation and Professionalism

Attendance and participation in all class activities is mandatory. Grades for attendance are tallied as follows: 5% percent per semester. Perfect attendance= 5%, 1 absence= 4%, 2= 3%, 3=2%, 4 = 1%, please note any more than 4 absences in a semester could lead to being debarred from participation in final critiques. 2 Lates = 1 Absence. A student is considered absent if they miss more than half a class on a given day. *See course requirements for more detail regarding attendance policy*. Marks will also be awarded for class Participation and Professionalism (5% per semester), including for demonstrated engagement in class activities as well as oral participation in critiques and in class discussions. Marks are deducted for lack of preparation (for example, attending class without having materials to work with).

## Department Grading Criteria

### 90-100 (Outstanding, A+)

The **studio work** shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated analysis

## Materials

### Materials Storage

Shared lockers will be assigned to students. It is your responsibility to maintain the use of this locker in a cooperative spirit and to ensure that it is locked and that the supplies of others are respected.

### 1025 Basic Supplies

All students are required to pay a materials fee of \$30.00 to cover a student Safety Kit (10\$) and class purchasing budget (20\$) for collectively used materials. This fee is payable by cash or cheque (payable to Western University - Dept. Visual Arts) within the first two weeks of the course

Specific materials pertaining to individual assignments and media will always be discussed in class early enough so you will be able to purchase what you need in advance for your projects. There will be times when you can share materials- this will also be discussed in class.

*Art Supply Stores: Please call ahead to confirm store hours*

**Mercury Art & Crafts Supershop** Unit 16-332 Wellington Road (at Baseline, near Staples)

519-434-1637 Lots of free parking

**Bijan's Art Studio** on Mill Street, north side, just off of Richmond Street, 2 blocks south of Oxford – right across from Barney's – free parking on Mill Street 519-439-1340 – on Richmond 6, Wellington 13 or University bus routes

**Curry's** corner of Wharnccliffe and Southdale (accessible by Wharnccliffe bus, but quite out of the way)

## VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT POLICIES

### Safety and Maintenance Responsibilities in Drawing and Foundations

#### Faculty Responsibilities:

Inform students about safe use of toxic materials and ensure that students are following safe procedures. In case of an emergency, call 911.

Instruct students in the proper use of the spray booth in room 230 if they wish to use aerosol fixatives. (The door of the booth must be closed when in use.)

At the end of each class, return props and drapes to the model closet.

At the end of each class, return space heaters and skeleton to room 206A, and opaque projectors, slide projectors, etc. to room 244. In the case of evening classes, equipment may be stored in your office and returned the next day.

Notify Marlene Jones of any burnt-out bulbs, broken or missing furniture, broken window blinds, etc.

Inform students about general cleanup (including removal of paint, etc., from table surfaces), about storage of work in progress, and removal of completed marked work.

Supervise students' adherence to the maintenance requirements listed below, under the heading "Student Responsibilities".

#### Student Responsibilities:

When using paint, remember that some pigments are more hazardous than others. Take special care with cadmium colours, cobalt colours, manganese colours, zinc white, flake white, cerulean blue, vermilion red, burnt and raw umber.

Do not eat, drink or smoke while painting since these activities may lead to accidental ingestion of paint.

Use aerosol fixative only in the spray booth in Room 230 or outdoors. Fine mists from these sprays can penetrate deep into the lungs.

x **X** At the end of each class, remove work-in-progress from easels, A-



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**Re: Medical Illness:**

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf>  
[downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical  
Documentation heading]

should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty (Mr. Ben Hakala or Ms. Amanda Green for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities).

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; [www.sdc.uwo.ca](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca)) offers a wide range of useful services to students including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.

The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely