

University Western Ontario, Department of Visual Art

VAS 3310 –

an environment independent investigation and critical focus is mandatory. Students should be prepared to spend a minimum of one hour working outside of class for every hour of class time. Attendance is **mandatory**. Students are expected to show up to every class, on time, and with the appropriate material and must clean up after themselves at the end of each class. Missing more than 15% of classes (including late arrival and early departure) without prior consultation with the instructor may result in a failing grade. Students that miss class for medical reasons must present documented medical or bereavement excuses vetted through their academic advisor.

Students are expected to complete all assignments on the due date for critiques. Failure to hand in assignments in a professional, organized manner may result in instructor declining to grade portfolio.

Lastly, It is expected that students take notes on all lectures, presentations, and class discussions. A sketchbook or journal should be brought to each class along and the Course Outline.

Evaluation and Critiques:

As an instructor I will attempt to provide an environment of respect and security in which students will be encouraged to engage in a wide latitude of experimentation. In this environment of mutual respect there will be regular critiques of student projects in which **participation is mandatory**. Participation will be will be evaluated and constitute a portion of the final grade. Grades for this course are based upon the submission of class assignments and failure to submit projects will result in the subsequent loss of their respective percentage of the final grade.

Evaluation:

Studio Assignments	80 %
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Part One will explore the materiality of painting, and **Part Two** will examine the notion of “image” in light of the discoveries you made within your material investigations. A fusion or synthesis of these two parts will be brought together with the result being an exhibition in artLAB gallery from November 19 – December 3.

Readings:

Barry Schwabsky, Shirley Wiitasalo: *The Ineffability Effect in Shirley Wiitasalo* (exhibition catalogue), Toronto: The Power Plant, 2001
Nickas, Bob. ‘The Persistence of Abstraction’ in *Painting Abstraction: New Elements in Abstract Painting*. Phaidon Press: London, 2009. Pages 5-11.

Artists to consider:

Henri Matisse
Pierre Bonnard
Kurt Schwitters
Milton Avery
Raoul de Keyser
Renee Daniels

Luc Tuymans
Shirley Wiitasalo
R.H Quaytman
Richard Tuttle
Thomas Scheibitz
Peter Doig

Tomer Aluf
Rochelle Feinstein
Brad Troemel
Ted Gahl
Tuba Auerbach
Lesley Vance

Term Two: Independent P:

Faculty Responsibilities:

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

When using solvents, open the porthole windows, turn on the fan in the spray booth and **close** the spray booth door.

The fan in room 230B should also be turned on. See the Main Office for the key to room 230B, in case it is locked.

If a solvent spill occurs, pour sawdust from the container in the spray booth onto the spill to absorb it. Notify Marlene Jones who will ask the maintenance staff person to sweep it up when he does the regular cleaning.

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

At the end of each class, return space heaters, skeleton, opaque projectors, slide projectors, etc., to room 122. 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, 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, the primary dangers involve the accidental ingestion of pigments and the inhalation of fumes from solvents such as turpentine and mineral spirits. Skin contact with these solvents is also a problem. 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 or outdoors. Fine mists from these sprays can penetrate deep into the lungs.

Do not pour solvents down the sink. Dispose of used solvents in the metal container in the spray booth. Never leave open solvent containers in the studio.

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg113.html> or the 2015/2016 Western Academic Calendar,