

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 and 148  
Term: Fall 2016/ Winter 2017  
Professor: Anna Madelska (abarelk@uwo.ca)  
Office: 241B  
Office hours: 1:30-2:30 Monday  
TA: Paul Chartrand (lchartr@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 frameworks - class readings, lectures, field trips and workshops are offered in support of exercises and assignments designed to provide hands-on experience in studio problem solving processes. Working with 2D, 3D and time-based media including drawing, painting, sculpture, photography and multi-media practices, VAS 1025 facilitates the technical, creative and critical understandings of these approaches and provides students a formative groundwork for their continued practice and study.

### Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. *Depth and Breadth of Knowledge:* Students will acquire a range of fundamental skills required to engage both technically and conceptually in the material art practices being studied. Students will also be familiar with relevant historical precedents relating to these practices as well as contemporary reconsiderations and adaptations.
2. *Knowledge of Methodologies:* Students will gain an understanding of conceptual/material methodologies through application of both traditional and non-traditional processes, developing and presenting ideas via drawing and other modes presenting ideas via drawing and other modes as well as through resources such as lectures and demonstrations and consultation with the instructor.
3. *Communication Skills:* Students will be able to communicate in writing and orally regarding their projects and with respect to an informed foundational understanding of art/contemporary art, and will be skilled with a variety of formats of critique at the university level.

### Important Resources

**Owl.** To facilitate aspects of VAS 1025, students can access the VAS 1025 Owl site through <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>. Course outline, readings, slide lectures and class assignments will be posted to Owl in a timely manner.

**Facebook.** This site offers the opportunity to grow a social connection among the students, while also providing a playful discussion space that can continue to exist beyond the timeline of the course. We will set up a group for the class.

**Tumblr.** Primarily used personally, but also another venue for fostering discussions, interest and community among students. This will help to facilitate an ongoing research practice.

## **Course Requirements**

### Studio Assignments and Critique Discussions

Critiques and shorter artwork discussion sessions are regularly scheduled in VAS 1025 and represent important assessment situations in the course. Student preparation and active participation in these sessions is a requirement of the course. In addition to affecting participation grades, students late or otherwise not prepared for scheduled critiques or discussions will forfeit the opportunity for class feedback on their work.

Failure to complete assignments without prior consultation with instructor may result in a failing grade. With prior discussion, students may hand in late work with 2% per day late penalty deducted from the assignment (Monday to Friday, weekend considered one day).

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

## Grading Breakdown

Studio Assignments	80%
Research	10%
Attendance, participation, and professionalism	10%

**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