

ART 3857C Professional Practice
Spring 2025
Syllabus

Monday 8.30–9.20am (period 2) + Wednesday 8.30–10.25am (periods 2-3)
Fine Arts Building C, Room 201

Instructor: Anthea Behm

Pronouns: she/her

Email: antheabehm@ufl.edu

Office hours via zoom: Wednesdays 11.45–12.45pm and by appointment

Office location: FAD 333 & online

Course Description

This course will address the burning question “What do I do after art school?” We will address how emerging artists support themselves, how to talk and write about your creative work, and consider various paths available to pursue an artistic life. Opportunities for emerging artists including grants, residencies, shows, jobs, and freelance work will be examined and discussed. We will explore what professional growth, success, and networking look like in a field where the criteria for being a “professional” are open-ended and shifting. We will look at issues of equity, access, and inclusivity in the arts and the impacts of emerging digital platforms.

Course Objectives + Goals

- Learn about professional aspects of the field
- Begin to understand how to situate your work within the field
- Learn about how to look and apply for professional opportunities
- Learn about and put together documents needed for participation in the field
- Meet professionals in the field
- Build a website and/or PDF
- Learn tools for a sustainable practice
- Develop a list of resources
- Build practical literacy, including etiquette and unwritten rules within the field

Required Materials

Below is a list of supplies you will need to succeed in this class. Other materials may need to be purchased throughout the semester depending on your specific needs from project to project.

- Access to a computer + creative cloud
- A method to take notes
- Optional: a website domain + hosting service (more info to come)

Required Reading

Readings will be provided to students as PDFs. There are no required textbooks for this class.

Grading + Evaluation

This course includes the following assignments that you will be graded on:

- Goals [10% of final grade]
- Artist Statement [15% of final grade]
- Application [20% of final grade]
- Final Portfolio [20% of final grade]
- Visiting Artist Lecture Report [15% of final grade]
- Participation [20% of final grade]

Your work will be graded on specific criteria defined by individual project goals. However, all projects will be graded on their success in the following areas: development, design making, risk-taking, experimentation, ambition, and meeting deadlines. Participation includes arriving ready to work on time, with materials, keeping studio clean, device use, respectful behavior, and participation in critiques and discussions.

The course grade for each student will be evaluated based on:

- The completion and success of a series of projects/exercises
- Completion of readings, writings, and discussions.
- Attendance at all assigned lectures and workshops
- Presentation - all work should be presented in a finished and professional manner.
- Effort, hard work, and a diligent, consistent effort toward excellence.
- Active participation and discussion.

Grading Criteria

A: This grade is awarded for exceptional work that demonstrates critical thinking, a full realization of the ideas put forth in assignment, and outstanding engagement of both form and content; excellent amount of effort given to the class and assignments, with minimum lateness and absences; going beyond the basic course requirements through independent work and research; display a strong commitment to learning, being an active member of the class community, and growth as an artist and student.

B: This grade will be awarded for very good work that demonstrates a sound and competent realization of the ideas put forth in each assignment; excels in many areas but lacks one or more of the outstanding characteristics listed above.

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C: This grade will be awarded for well-presented, average work that demonstrates a fairly good attempt at grasping the expectations of each given assignment. This work lacks a competent, comprehensive understanding mentioned in 'B' above.

D: This grade is awarded for inadequate work, extremely poor and/or half-finished work with no care or attention to the assignment. In addition, when someone has missed three or more classes, has failed to completed one or more assignments, or keep up to date with the studio- based syllabus.

E: When someone stops coming to class and stops communicating with instructor. This is a severe grade and is usually given in severe circumstances.

UF grading policies can be reviewed at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Weekly Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignment
Week 1	Introduction + Syllabus	Visit to University Galleries
Week 2	The field of Contemporary Art	Reading discussion
Week 3	Artworlds + Opportunities	Goals 1
Week 4	Artist Statements	Writing workshop, part 1
Week 5	Artist Statements, contin. + Documenting Work	Writing workshop: Draft Artist Statements Documenting Artwork Workshop Visiting Artist Assignment
Week 6	Statements + Portfolios	Final Artist Statements Visiting Artist Assignment
Week 7	Bios, CVs, Budgets, Ref Requests	Guest Speaker 1 intro presentation
Week 8	Websites Guest Speaker 1	Application Guest speaker 2 intro presentation Guest Speaker 1 questions
Week 9	Guest Speaker 2	Guest Speaker 2 questions

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Week 10	Spring Break	Spring Break
Week 11	Guest Speaker 3	Guest speakers 3–7 intro presentation Guest Speaker 3 questions
Week 12	Guest Speaker 4 + 5	Guest Speaker 4 + 5 questions
Week 13	Guest Speaker 6	Guest Speaker 6 questions Visiting Artist Assignment
Week 14	Guest Speaker 7	Guest Speaker 7 questions Final Portfolio
Week 15	Goals + Wrap Up	Goals 2 Course Evaluations

Class Attendance

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

Students are required to attend every class meeting. Attendance includes arriving on time and with all materials necessary to actively participate in that date's discussion, lecture, or presentation. Students arriving without assigned materials may be counted absent on that date. Three unexcused late arrivals may be recorded as one absence. At the discretion of the instructor, students who have more than three unexcused absences may receive a failing grade for the course. Additionally, a student's grade may be effected if they have unexcused absences or do not present work on their designated critique day. Excused absences require documentation such as a doctor's note. In the case of an absence, students are asked to communicate this via email and in advance of class unless extenuating circumstances prohibit doing so. Make up work will be made available for all students who have excused absences.

Health and Safety

Each student must complete a Health and Safety Student Waiver for this course. These forms will be turned in to the School of Art office. <http://saahhealthandsafety.weebly.com/>

Accommodations for students with disabilities

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center: <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Class Demeanor Policy

Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

Academic Honesty

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Online Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Campus Resources // Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.

Campus Resources // Academic Resources

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E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.](#)