emily carr
university of art + design

Course Outline

Course Title	Art + Text Studio			
Course mnemonic	VAST 305	Day/Time	N/A (weeks begin on Wednesdays)	
Section number	S090	Start Date	January 2013	
Credits	6	Term End Date	April 2013	
Hours per week	6	Location	Online	
Prerequisites	Completion of 2nd Year			
Instructor	Kyla Mallett	Fax	604-844-3801	
Office number	Mitchell 300	Email	kmallett@ecuad.ca	
Office telephone	N/A	Office hours	Wed 9-10am (online /by appointment)	

Website Catalogue Description | www.ecuad.ca

The purpose of this studio course is to offer a practice based learning environment with an Art & Text focus. It will provide a context and framework for students to learn about, and explore how text operates within contemporary visual culture, and within their own art practices. A core learning outcome is to examine current practices that engage with text in a number of ways; from text-as-image, to artworks that use the book form, to works that include text and employ alternative structures of distribution (libraries, online database projects, hypertext experiments, etc.) to sound and writing-based art practices. By working on independent text-based art projects, students will actively engage with text within their individual art practices, while considering the current discourse and production within the field.

Course Content (for this specific offering of this course)

This course provides a foundational context and framework in which students will learn about, and explore how text operates within contemporary visual art, and within their own art practices. With an equal focus concept(s) and material concerns, it provides a platform for working through text-based art practices within a 'studio' (albeit virtual) environment. Students will look at a variety of contemporary art & text practices through readings and presentations, and will create their own text-based artworks to present to the class for critique and discussion.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Provide a foundational context and framework that combines an historical and studio perspective in Art & Text practices
2. Learn about a range of contemporary Art & Text practices and explore how text operates within contemporary visual art
3. Provide a platform for working through Art & Text practices within a studio environment and develop the potential role of text within the student's individual art practice
4. Continue the ongoing development of skills in critique and generative discussion

Resource materials

Readings and on-line research resources will be recommended and/or provided to students.

All students enrolled in the course MUST have access to the proper technical equipment. Without access to all of the following items, you will not be able to complete assignments, or to engage in the course: An up-to-date computer, that you can access for a MINIMUM of 6 hours per week, with internet access (high speed is strongl recommended); The following software: Microsoft Word or another editing program, Powerpoint, Firefox (you can download for free); Access to a scanner and/or a digital camera that is compatible with your computer (this means you would be able to hook the camera up to your computer and upload the images right onto your computer.) If you are in Vancouver you are able to access a scanner in one of the computer labs, and possibly a digital camera

from AV. A high quality camera on a smartphone could also work - you just need to make sure you can adequately document your work to upload to the course site for critiques etc. Adobe Photoshop (CS3, CS4, CS5 or CS6) or another photo editing program is also strongly recommended to process your images.

Evaluation Criteria

Attendance	Mandatory
Participation	25%
Projects, Research and Presentations	75%
Total	**100%**

Evaluation Criteria definitions

Participation: 25%
You will be graded for participation in large part on the quantity and quality of your forum posts, so please be attentive to this aspect of the course. You will also be graded on the level of interaction you exhibit in the online environment.

Please keep in mind I can see everything you do online - from the number of times you view a resource, to the times you have logged in, posted to a forum, and so forth. You are expected to post regularly every week to the appropriate Forum (depending on the week's activities). You should address any questions or discussion topics I give you for the week, as well as any other issues, problems, realizations, or topics you wish to discuss with the group. You can always post additional discussions in the Discussion Forum, questions in the Question Forum, artwork/writing/other work in the Gallery Forum (for display or feedback), or announcements in the News Forum.

It is important that you all put aside the time to do the work required for this course, as well as discuss, post and participate. I should also inform you that while I will often let the discussions flow without my intervention, I can always see what each student is doing and what type of activity they have had on the site - it is a little bit "Big Brother", but it is one of the ways I will measure your participation.

Projects and Presentations: 75% (total)

All other Assignments will be introduced along the way, each with their own grading criteria. **Please note that the completion of ALL assignments is compulsory in order to pass this course.** Late assignments are not accepted without a valid, documented excuse presented to the instructor in advance.

Course Policies

Attendance Policy: You are required to attend all classes, meaning you must ensure you are present online every week, and that you view and complete the proper activities and resources each week. 'Absence' will affect your grade for the course.

Email Policy:
All students are required to use their ECU email addresses, and to be reachable throughout the week by this address. If you would like to have your mail sent to another address, you must set the forwarding up yourself. Please check your email every one-two days to ensure you receive any course-related correspondence.

I am reachable by my ECU email address: kmallett@ecuad.ca. Although I check my email regularly, and will often reply quickly to emails, please expect to have your email responded to within about 48 hours, excluding weekends. If it is an emergency, please indicate this in the subject line and we will attempt to respond as soon as possible.

Syllabus
Please see course website for weekly topics and assignments.

General Notes (policies and procedures)

- The instructor may modify the material or schedule specified in this outline. Any required changes will be announced in class.
- Late assignments or projects may be penalized as specified in the course outline.
- It is plagiarism to present someone else's work or ideas as one's own. Plagiarism may result in failure on an assignment, of the course, and, if repeated, expulsion from the university. Assistance with the ethical practices of attribution and documentation is available from the Writing Centre or online at www.ecuad.ca/wc
- A student must provide a doctor's note to Student Services for any illness which causes the student to miss assignments, tests, projects, exams, etcetera, or for absences of more than two classes. At the discretion of the instructor, the student may complete the work for a prorated grade.
- Students will demonstrate that they understand and practice the safe use of tools and other equipment, materials, and processes used in their course projects. They will conduct themselves in a responsible manner that does not endanger themselves or others, and will adhere to the area procedures regarding authorized operation of equipment, handling of materials, and use of space.
- Students with special needs or disabilities that might affect their experience or performance in class are advised to inform their instructor and/or contact the Disabilities Services Coordinator, located in Student Services, for assistance.
- Professional counseling/therapy is available at no charge to students who have concerns of a personal nature. Information shared is held in strict confidence. To make an appointment, call 604-630-4555 or email counselling@ecuad.ca or come in to Student Services.
- The Writing Centre is a service that Emily Carr provides to all students, staff and faculty from every program area who would like to improve their reading, writing, critical thinking, and research skills. This is a free, voluntary and confidential service. Writing Centre instructors can help you at every stage of your writing, from developing ideas to final revision. This applies to any kind of writing, from a three line artist's statement to a twenty page academic paper. Please sign up for a ½ hour appointment on the door (room 435 SB). Telephone: 604-629-4511; Coordinator: Karolle Wall.
- Email is an official means of communication with Emily Carr students by the faculty, administration and other service providers on campus. Email routing will be confined to the university's internal communication network, and delivered to an officially assigned and verifiable University Email Address. All users are bound by the provisions of Emily Carr Policy 415: Code of Conduct for Appropriate Use of Information Technology Facilities and Services (outlined on Emily Carr website and Emily's A to Z). Instructors will outline and detail the expected extent and parameters of email use in this course in the first class, and clarify the timeframe for checking and responding to emails.

STUDIO GRADING CRITERIA

ECU employs a letter grade system for marking. For each grade there is a percentage equivalency and a brief descriptive term. The instructor will use an expanded version of the marking criteria - the descriptive definitions are as follows:

A+ (95-100%)   distinguished achievement
(Please note this grade is very rarely assigned)
        The work:
        -challenges the current boundaries of the field
        -shows evidence of an exceptional level of contextual awareness
        -shows full command of chosen materials or technology
        -presents a remarkable example of progress and development

A   (90-94%)   outstanding achievement
A- (85-89%)   excellent achievement
(These grades are assigned sparingly, for the most outstanding work)
        The work:
        -shows awareness of the current boundaries of the field
        -shows thorough contextual awareness
        -shows confident use of chosen materials or technology
        -presents an excellent to outstanding example of progress and development

B+ (80-84%)   very good achievement
B   (75-79%)   commendable achievement
B- (70-74%)   good achievement
The work:
        -is consistently within the current boundaries of the field
        -reveals commendable awareness of context for evaluation
        -shows a reasonable ability with chosen materials or technology
        -presents a good to very good example of progress and development

C+ (65-69%)   competent
C   (60-64%)   satisfactory
        The work:
        -readily accepts known boundaries of the field
        -reveals partial contextual awareness
        -shows limited ability with material and technology
        -is intermittent in its progress during the term

C- (56-59%)   pass
D (50-55%)   marginal pass
The work;
        -provides very limited understanding of limits of the field
        -has unsubstantial contextual awareness
        -has low level of competence with materials and technology
        -very limited development of work within the term