SYLLABUS  ART 494 Advanced Studio Seminar
Fall 2020, T & Th, 12pm-2:50pm

Instructor: Seiko Atsuta Purdue
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Linked with ART360 and AH371 through GLP

Course Description: This is a critique-driven interdisciplinary studio course combined with a field trip to Japan. Students will complete a cohesive sequence of independent projects including relevant research. One big project should be connected to Japan based on students’ interests and experience on-site. The first project is a collaboration with Kyoto Seika University.

The main events are presentations, critiques, the Japan trip, and the exhibition. Other requirements will be artist statements, readings, and viewing exhibitions/films that will help develop your studio practice. This is a self-directed studio practice: students will maintain structuring deadlines, their quantity and quality of work, and resources to stimulate their research and critical thinking. The field trip to Japan introduces students to both traditional and contemporary Japanese culture in Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Miyajima. Students will visit historical sites, galleries, artists’ studios, markets, museums, and department stores. They will also participate in natural dyeing and a calligraphy workshop. The students’ final projects should be relevant to their experiences in Japan.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- To develop a self-directed body of work that includes reading, note-taking, visual research, preparatory studies, and completed pieces.
- To increase your self-discipline to sustain regular studio sessions each week, building a foundation for studio practice beyond graduation.
- To experiment with methods and techniques to expand your skills, increase your formal understanding, and discover new ideas for projects.
- To pursue individual research interests and use research and writing as a means toward developing creative work.
- To increase knowledge about global contemporary art and its most pressing questions and issues in order to make your work more relevant to contemporary practice.
- To practice professional documentation of your studio projects.
- To provide you with the experience of living outside your own culture.
- To expose you to a wide variety of Japanese art and culture, from the tea ceremony to Harajuku street fashion.
- To have hands-on experience with Japanese art-making processes
- To give you the opportunity to explore your own individual interests in Japanese visual culture
- To introduce a Japanese university art program (by visiting Kyoto Seika University).
Course requirements and Grades: total 400 points

1. **Artist Presentations (20 points):** You will introduce your art using PowerPoint (5-6 min) and one real work. If you like you can use the Pechakucha format (20 images, 20 sec./image). Your accomplished works have to be well documented and presented with some information (process and concept). You need to include idea sketches for the first project “communication” and introduce the idea at the end.

2. **Proposal (30 points):** You will submit initial proposals describing what you aim to achieve in your projects: Project 1, an exhibiting piece in Kyoto; Project 2, your own work; and Project 3, the main project (Japan theme) after the trip. Please send a proposal for Project 1 by Oct. 2, then state your objective for the other two works. Your final project after the trip should be shown in the B-Gallery exhibition in winter quarter. Projects 1, 2, and 3 can be related or separate works, although a cohesive theme is recommended. I would like you to develop Project 3 as the biggest project since your experience in Japan needs to be integrated. The proposal can be revised and resubmitted. It will be the basis for self-evaluations due on Canvas after each critique and for the instructor’s evaluations.

3. **Projects (220 points):** You will work on projects outside of class time in the studios of the Art Building, keeping a record of your studio work sessions, establishing a routine of 10-12 hours per week, starting with the first week of classes. Unlike other studio courses, class time will not be used primarily for studio work sessions. Please make sure which lab space you will use for your studio space. You need to ask the instructor of the lab for permission and rules (including lab fees) that are required for use of the lab space. Each project needs a short artist statement. You will receive a grade after each project.

   a. **Project 1: collaboration with Kyoto Seika University (60 points, Critique Oct. 20)** We are going to have an exhibition at Kara-S in Kyoto, November 10-12. It is a collaboration with Kyoto Seika University. The theme is “ and you can use any textile media. You may want to use “katazome” or “shibori” that you will learn in ART360. The size is about 9”x12”. For a 3D project, 2”-6” thickness is ideal. Please develop your concepts and sketches first and make your piece by Oct. 20. You will make a title and write a short artist statement. You will need to think about hanging and packing methods because you will bring your work with you and hang it as a group project.
b. **Project 2 (60 points, Critique Oct. 22):** You will develop body of work using your media. This can be an opportunity to explore connections between past projects and the future project (project 3). Since we will view the ecological theme exhibitions, you may want to respond to that.

c. **Project 3 (100 points, Critique Dec. 8): The work to show in the B-gallery** You will need to make art after the Japan trip using any media. The work has to be developed from your experiences in Japan. Finding own topic to make art can be ongoing task until you come back but you should pick one (or two) topic(s) before you leave for Japan. We will have a couple of meetings on the progress of your ideas during the trip. You may focus on a specific aspect of your physical, spiritual, or psychological experience in Japan. It can be based on a certain location, land marks, fashion, architecture, and art exhibitions / artists that influenced you. You may plan to collect certain data or materials to use for artmaking. If you want to use sounds or images for your work you should prepare for that. (Please don’t bring too big equipment). Since this final project is combined with ART360 you can develop textile art as well. The Japan trip exhibition will be in winter quarter. This is one of the opportunities to show your work in the B-gallery. Please be prepared to show your Project 3 professionally. We will plan the work allocation in the B-Gallery, make a poster, and have a reception. You need to provide the title and artist statement of the artwork, a sketchbook, your tie-dye fabric (from the Ohara Kobo) and collections including the documentation. We will have a slide show in the gallery space. (Seiko will reserve the exhibition date).

4. **Japan trip** (100 points): The Japan trip will be Oct. 23-Nov.17. Please see the itinerary and develop some interests through the other two courses (ART360, AH 371) and other resources. Looking at the exhibitions in the museums that we will visit in Japan is highly recommended. During the trip you need to collect various ideas, documentation, and free items such as advertisements (chirashi). You will also work on the journal every day. Please think of a theme/topic that you can integrate into your artmaking. Traveling in a group will require cooperation, teamwork, and sensitivity to others. Therefore, you will be expected to be part of the class group more fully than in a normal class.

**Reasonable accommodation** for persons with documented disabilities should be established within the first week of the class and arranged through Disability Resources for Students: 650-3083 (phone), drs@wwu.edu, Student Health Center: 650-3400, University Police: 650-3555

**Course Fees:** Some show expenses will be covered by the GLP course fee.
Grade:
The grades of the Projects are based on a combination of studio work, artist statement, critique & participation, and B Gallery Exhibition preparation. Different criteria will be used for different projects as detailed in the assignment handouts.

Project 1 (exhibiting work in Kyoto): total 60 points
Project 2 (Your thematic work): total 60 points
Project 3 (Your thematic work after the trip): total 100 points

Example of Project 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Successful relationship of forms: (20%)</th>
<th>Concept and Originality: (20%)</th>
<th>Presentation and craftsmanship: (20%)</th>
<th>Artist statement: (20%)</th>
<th>Participation (attendance and voice): (20%)</th>
<th>Total points: (100%)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Project 1 Grade:</td>
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Final course grades will be assessed according to the following departmental scale:
A=94-100%, A-=90-93%, B+=88-89%, B=84-87%, B-=80-83%, C+=78-79%, C=74-77%, C-=70-73%, D=60-69%, F=59% and below.
A: Outstanding work. Highest level of quality and effort contributed.
A-: Excellent work. Extra effort contributed.
B+: Good Work.
B: Average work. Adequately does required work.
B-: Average work. Contributes less effort than is expected.
C: Poor

Student Expectations: Success in Art 494 will require a high degree of personal motivation on the part of the student. It will not be possible to meet the requirements of the class without significant out-of-class time in the studio. Attendance at ALL class meetings and the Japan trip are expected. Lectures and critiques will not be repeated for absent or tardy students. Because it is important for you to receive feedback, you will need to be vocal for your classmates. You all will depend on each other to be successful. Please respect each other and get along with the peer group. If you miss five class periods you will receive a grade of “Z” for non-attendance. Late projects will have a grade level deducted from them for each day they are late. If you are sick please call and leave a message. **2 unexcused absences may constitute one grade drop.** Come fully prepared to the next class. Missing a critique is the equivalent of missing an exam.
Schedule:

9/24 TH  Class Introduction, individual Introduction, Syllabus: schedule, proposal, assignments, studio space, Japan Trip
         Discuss ideas for Project 1, Viewing a film
9/29 T   Artist Presentation (Bring Power Point and one artwork)
10/1 TH   Due: proposal (describe Project 1,2,3), Scheduling meetings
         How to use library resources for your research (Western Library)
10/6 T   Individual meeting
10/8 T   Speaker
10/13 T  Info session for packing and traveling
10/15 TH  Artist statement
10/20 T  Critique: Project 1
10/22 TH  Critique: Project 2 (Individual project)
10/27 T  No class
10/28 W  Leave for Japan
         20 days Japan trip
11/17 T  Return to the US
11/19 TH  Final Project (No class meeting)
11/24 T  Final Project (No class meeting)
11/26 TH  Thanksgiving Break
12/1 T   Class meeting
12/3 TH  Individual meeting
12/8 T   Final Critique: Project 3, Course Evaluation
         Final Cleaning

*This is a tentative schedule.*