**SYLLABUS ART 494 Advanced Studio Seminar**

**Fall 2023, T & Th, 12:10pm-2:50pm and Field Trip to Japan**

**Instructor: Seiko Atsuta Purdue**

### Office Hours: Mondays 11:00-1:00

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**Linked with ART360 and AH337 through GLP**

**Course Description:** This is acritique-driven interdisciplinary studio course combined with a field trip to Japan. It is focused on self-directed studio practice: students will maintain structuring deadlines, their quantity and quality of work, and resources to stimulate their research and critical thinking. 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 main events are art-making (studio practice), 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. The field trip to Japan introduces students to both traditional and contemporary Japanese culture in Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima & Miyajima, and Naoshima. Students will visit historical sites, galleries, artists’ studios, markets, museums, and department stores. They will also practice natural dyeing in Kyoto. The students’ final projects should be relevant to their experiences in Japan using their media.

**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. ***Show and Tell*** **(10 points),** 9/28&10/3

You are going to introduce yourself by showing your works. This is a great opportunity to get to know the peer group. You can show a few pieces of your actual works and some images. A PowerPoint presentation or website is fine to use. Please plan to use about 5 minutes to tell us about your art; other people will give you some feedback.

1. **Proposal (20 points),** Due: 10/ 5

You will submit an initial proposal describing what you aim to achieve in your projects, stating your objective for each of three critique/presentation dates.

The Senior exhibition is one of the goals but you may be showing a part of your entire project. You need to plan to accomplish your project for the Senior exhibition. The first critique should include the work you plan to exhibit for the Senior show and the second critique will be during the Senior show. The third one can be either presenting your artwork (for a critique) or a PowerPoint presentation. Please use the **proposal form** and include some images. After consulting withthe instructor and obtaining approval, the proposal will function as a contract between the student and instructor. The proposal can be revised and resubmitted.

1. **Studio Work & Research (80 points)**

You will work on projects outside of class time, 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. You need to find a way to develop your art project at school (please ask the instructor for the particular space) or at home.

Your research topics and relevant artists influences are great to talk about in your artist statement, critiques and presentations. Please find good resources using the Western Library databases and other research sources.

1. **Critiques (20 points)** 10/24 & 10/26, 12/7&12

We will have two critiques and we use 2 days for each critique. For the first critique you can show the work in progress or the finished work if you planned to finish a piece (or more) as a part of the series by then. The second critique is the finished work for the Japan course exhibition.

1. **Japan trip** (100 points):The Japan trip will be Nov.1-Nov.21. 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.
2. **Exhibition (20 points):** The Japan course exhibition (The first week of Winter 2024) in the B Gallery is one of the big opportunities to show your work. Please be prepared for what you are going to show. We will plan the work allocation in the gallery space and make a poster. We can have a reception following some rules. Organizing an exhibition is a collaborative project; many tasks and responsibilities will be involved. We will discuss how to work as a group for hanging, reception, and dismantling. Please write up what your contribution to the exhibition was.
3. **Artist Statement (10 points)** Due: (for Japan trip show)

You will write a new artist statement. The statement encompasses your creative practice -- not only the projects completed in 494. You will use a peer interview process to draft the statement. Each student will submit multiple drafts as needed, making revisions until a final version is approved.

**Recommended museums and galleries:** Whatcom Museum, Make Shift, Allied Arts, Museum of Northwest, Pacific Northwest Quilt & Fiber Art museum, Seattle Museum, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle Asian Museum, Frye Art Museum, Bellevue art Museum, Vancouver Art Gallery, Greg Kucera Gallery

**Recommended book :** [Art/Work - Revised & Updated: Everything You Need to Know (and Do) As You Pursue Your Art Career](https://www.amazon.com/Art-Work-Revised-Updated-Everything/dp/1501146165/ref=sr_1_1?crid=LEWCQBTA4GS0&keywords=art%2Fwork+everything+you+need+to+know&qid=1648497156&s=books&sprefix=art%2Fwork%2Cstripbooks%2C132&sr=1-1) by Bhandari and Melber

**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](mailto: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.

Grading criteria for Art works:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Successful relationship of forms: (20%) | Concept and Originality:  (20%) | Presentation  and craftsmanship:  (20%) | Artist statement:  (20%) | Participation (attendance and voice):  (20%) | Total points:  (100%)  Project 1 Grade: |

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:**

**9/28 TH** Class Introduction, Syllabus (schedule, proposal, assignments, studio space, Japan Trip), Show and Tell (Bring Power Point and one artwork)

**10/ 3 T** Show and Tell (Bring Power Point and one artwork)

**10/ 5 TH Due: proposal,** Scheduling Individual meetings

How to use library resources for your research (Western Library)

**10/10 T** Individual meeting

**10/12 TH** Viewing film

**10/17 T Info session for packing and traveling**

**10/19 TH** Artist statement

**10/24 T**  **Critique 1**

**10/26 TH** **Critique 1**

**10/31 T No class**

**11/1 W** Leave for Japan (21 daysJapan trip)

**11/21 T** Return to the US

**11/23 TH Thanksgiving Break**

**11/28 T No class,** Final project

**11/30 TH No class,** Final project

**12/ 5 T** **No class** Final project,

**12/ 7 TH** **Critique 2: Final Project (12:10-pm)**

**12/12 T** **Critique 2: Final Project (1-3pm)**

Course Evaluation & Cleaning