

Monotype

Visual Arts ---, Section ---, ---

Fall 20___, ___

Mon & Weds 1:00 – 3:50 pm

Room:

Instructor: Katie Simpson

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Course Description:

This course will explore the fundamentals of Monotype, which is in essence the closest printmaking to painting. It often involves making direct marks onto some kind of matrix (or plate) that is then transferred onto paper. Mono means one, and each print is an individual. One can make Monoprints using the same plate, as this is repeated (but differs in each, so is still individual), and this can combine many processes. Projects in this class will present students with a wide range of techniques including reducing ink from a surface in different ways, multiple plate printing, printing on a variety of surfaces, combining techniques, and using interesting tools. We will cover basics of monotype in depth, then combine and explore deeper. Monotype will be discussed in relation to the history of printmaking and its relevance in contemporary art making practices. Students will examine the interrelated nature of form, process, expression, and meaning. No printmaking experience is required.

Lab Fee: \$

Prereq: Art 10100 or 10200.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Understanding and use of safe and hazard-free materials, tools, and equipment.
2. Develop approaches to creative expression that include risk taking, originality, and problem solving.
3. Demonstrate the ability to critique the work of others in oral and written form.
4. Demonstrate the ability to prepare artworks for exhibition or portfolio.
5. Develop personal creative expression with printmaking media.

The Printshop:

The shop is a community studio shared by many people. While working here act respectfully, responsibly and be considerate of others. Your safety and the safety of everyone who uses the printshop is important. Be kind to the presses! Sharp or big objects will likely ruin the blankets or the presses themselves (coins, pens, cans, electronics, beads, knives, cats, rocks, etc.), please consult with the instructor if you think your matrix might be too thick. Try hand printing if you have to, do not put pokey or gross stuff through the presses.

We will work with safe oil based inks, & normally just use vegetable and a nontoxic household cleaner to clean up, but we use some solvents, which are toxic & you need to wear gloves while cleaning up to protect your hands. When you are here you are responsible for cleaning up all of the space that you use. Clean up takes half an hour, so plan all print time accordingly. Clean all surfaces well, as leaving the shop a mess will be noted and *will* reflect on your grade. You will need to bring paper towels and rags from home. You will also need to take advantage of monitor hours, which are posted. It is required that you come in to the printshop to do homework.

Expectations:

You are required to attend and be on time to every class meeting. If you miss 2 or more classes, *including workdays*, your grade will drop. Check attendance and grading policies. Demonstrations will begin when class begins. To complete assignments you will need to work outside of class time. Use the shop as often as you can.

Grading Policy:

Students will be evaluated and graded based on work ethic and improvement in technique over the semester, involvement in group discussions and participation in critiques. Participation is 50% of your grade (attendance, being on time, effort, participating in class and in critiques, cleaning up well every time). Projects are 50% of your grade (turning your projects in on time, critiques, great final portfolio). I am not an 'easy grader' - but that said, if you work hard, do your homework, be here, participate in the classroom community, and turn everything in on time and you'll do great. (A = Above & Beyond, B = Good, C = Work Harder, D = D'oh!, F = Fail).

Test Schedule: Unannounced quizzes may be scheduled as needed.

Academic Integrity:

The university has a published policy on academic integrity that may be found at <http://www1.ccnycuny.edu/current/integrity.cfm>

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend every class session of each course in which they are enrolled and to be on time. An instructor has the right to drop a student from a course for excessive absence. Students are advised to determine the instructor's policy at the first class session. They should note that an instructor may treat lateness as equivalent to absence. (No distinction is made between excused and unexcused absences.) Each instructor retains the right to establish his or her own policy, but students should be guided by the following general College policy: In courses designated as clinical, performance, laboratory or field work courses, the limit on absences is established by the individual instructor. For all other courses, the number of hours absent may not exceed twice the number of contact hours the course meets per week. When a student is dropped for excessive absence, the Registrar will enter the grade of WU. For this class: Three unexcused tardies or early departures equal one unexcused absence. Tardy, early exit, more than 10 minutes = 2 tardies. More than 30 minutes late or departing early by more than 30 minutes = 1 unexcused absence. When you are absent, tardy or leave early you are responsible for all information you missed. Check descriptions of daily class content and make up what you can, contact other students and prof to get notes and ask about assignments. If you miss quizzes or critiques, you will not get credit for them. They cannot be made up.

Courtesy Policy:

Eating, drinking, or use of unauthorized electronics is not allowed in the classroom. No joke.

Disability Statement:

In compliance with University policy and equal access laws, appropriate academic accommodations are offered for students with disabilities. Students must register with The AccessAbility Center for reasonable academic accommodations. The AccessAbility Center is located in the ----. Under The Americans with Disability Act, an individual with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. If you have any such issues, I encourage you to visit the AccessAbility Center to determine which services may be appropriate for you.

Reading List:

Handouts provided in class, some online reading will be assigned in class and by email. No book is required. Some suggested reading:

The Complete Printmaker, Printmaking, History, and Process: Ross, Saff, and Sacilotto

Interesting print related readings can be found at: <http://thatsinkedup.blogspot.com/>

http://art.utk.edu/printmaking/resources/print_bibliography.html, <http://printeresting.com>

Material List:

- Apron or old clothes (a big tshirt works)
- Paper Towels, Cloth Rags (old clothes, sheets, etc)
- Latex or Rubber Gloves
- Sketchbook for notes (whatevs but take notes, don't forget).
- Masking tape - you will need a whole roll for yourself.
- Tools for removing and applying ink (old brushes, q tips, pencils, stylus, etc)
- Your regular drawing or artstuffs toolbox: (erasers, pencils, masking or artists tape, ruler, exacto knife, scissors, pens)
- Plates: Acrylic (plexi), Cardboard, Wood, Linoleum Blocks, Matboard Scraps.
- Ink: We have most of the ink here but you will probably want a fun color at some point, so may need to buy something later in the term.
- Paper
Don't run out of paper, it will make you sad. We have some paper for sale in the printshop, but you'll want more. Get a little extra and experiment to see what you like. Variety is nice... try a smooth surface, 250 or 300 gsm (150 lb), paper that's good for intaglio will be great (Intaglio paper like Rives BFK is dreamy & cheap at Lenz in SC, get like 10-12 sheets). Also you will need paper for stencils, tracing paper, newsprint, acetate (mylar, clearlay), and a big sheet of blotter paper too – you'll want your own.
- Portfolio (you can get or make one at midterm, it needs to be solid and fit all of your prints, including the biggest ones)
- Water based media, watercolor pencils & crayons,
- X-acto knife with extra blades
- Linoleum cutting tool with multiple tips (Speedball brand works well).
- Barren or flat wooden rice spoon
- Brayer, rubber (**soft**, 2" – 6")
- Kitchen gloves or pack of latex gloves
- Paper towels

Class Schedule:

Week 1: *Introduction*

Mon 8/21 Welcome! Hellos. Tools and Methods Demo. Supplies and Schedule. Go over syllabus. Print terms. Expectations. Think about Composition, Surface, Structure, Space, Color, Imagery. Each assignment will require you to make a suite of at least 5 prints. This means you'll have to print more than 5 so you'll have something to chose from (I suggest 8-10)

Weds 8/23 1st Assignment and lecture about artists.

Start 1st Assignment – *Self Portrait* (doesn't have to be an image of you) using plexi sheets, transferring image by drawing. Print at least 5.

Homework: Make sure to have all supplies for next class – tools, paper, tape, linoleum, etc.

Think about your next assignment

Week 2: *Reduction*

Press Introduction and Demonstration, Introduce Next Assignment

Mon 8/28 Finish 1st assignment - Crit for 1st assignment (casual, present one print).

2nd Assignment – Reduction: Remove ink from surface then print. Practice on newsprint.

Theme: *Family*. What does your family mean to you?

Homework: You can draw something for this assignment or bring in a drawing you've already done. *Original art by you only*. You will need to bring the drawing into class next time so we can get this started in class. Don't forget that you will need to reverse the words and images so your print comes out right-ways. The drawing will need to fit within the size of your block.

Weds 8/30 Work on 2nd Assignment, Reduction

Week 3: *Getting Organized*.

Mon 9/4 (Labor Day – No Class)

Weds 9/6 Crit for 2nd assignment.

Demonstrations: Fun with Tools, Signing and trimming prints to make them look professional; Review how to use the press. Getting Organized. Talk about keeping prints nice for end of term portfolio.

Week 4: *Planning*

Mon 9/11 Planning a suite of 5 similar prints using a mixture of techniques and more than one layer, using your plexi matrix. Try using stencils, moving your ink around with random objects, hand printing one layer, making textures with leaves, fabric, crumpled paper, etc. Practice on Newsprint until you get a good idea about what you want to do, then practice on wet and dry good paper. Plan colors and order of layers. How will things (colors, lines) overlap? Be purposeful about all elements and try things until you find a solution.

Demonstration: Registration.

Theme: *Place*. What is your favorite place? Where is it and why do you feel strongly about it?

Weds 9/13 Finish process experiments, workday for suite of prints. Print the layers and let dry between.

Week 5: *Experimentation*

Mon 9/18 Keep working on the 3rd assignment. You should be done experimenting now and beginning printing. Make extra and keep trying to make the prints similar.

Weds 9/20 Crit for 3rd Assignment. Introduce 4th assignment: Suite of 5 monotypes using at least one layer of Collograph.

Demonstration: Collage of flat things like cardboard, leaves, and fabric on a cardboard plate. Layers sealed with gloss medium, 10 or 15 layers.

Homework: Gathering materials for collographs.

Week 6: *Collograph*

Mon 9/25 Work on Collograph

Weds 9/27 Crit for Collograph. Introduce next assignment. Suite of 5 Watercolor monotypes.

Theme: Dreams.

Demonstration: Watercolor Monotype

Homework: Image generation and planning for Watercolor Monotype

Week 7: *Watercolor Monotypes*

Mon 10/2 Demonstration, Workday. Begin practicing and planning your watercolor prints.

You'll be making marks/images on the same piece of plexiglass you've been using – so today

you'll make sure you've got a plan and begin printing. Edition 5 similar prints. Use waterbased media. Soak and blot your paper so you can print in the press.

Assignment Theme: *The Future* – Make 5 prints about what your plans are for the future.

Goal setting using imagery or ideas about where you'd like to be, and what you plan on doing in 5 years.

Weds 10/4 Partial Workday – finish prints. Crit for Watercolor Prints.

Introduce Midterm assignment – use 2 or more of the processes learned so far to create a suite of 5 similar prints.

Homework: Plan your mixed process prints. Make sure you've got all materials and images planned for the midterm project.

Week 8: *Midterm*

Mon 10/9 Mixed Process Experimentation.

This assignment must incorporate something besides printmaking, be installed in an interesting way, or have some kind of application besides traditional wall hung paper prints.

Weds 10/11 Work on experimental prints.

Homework: Make sure to have one piece of linoleum to bring to class. Any size around 5x7 and 6x8 is great. I will have a small amount of tools in class, but if you have any relief print tools please bring them too. You can also bring a potato, an apple, some rope, leaves, etc.

Week 9: *Relief Print*

Mon 10/16 Demonstration: Linocut

Cut your piece of lino today and for homework. Finish cutting soon so you can print these on Wednesday. The parts you remove from the lino will not print, remember to reverse your words and any images you want to print 'rightways'.

Weds 10/18 Linocut continued. Try printing these blocks in layers with other kinds of things, and in different colors. Use watercolor and drawing to make each print different, at least 5 in this edition.

Homework: Bring a super flat surface to try printing on. Fabric, very planed wood, different kinds of paper, anything that's super flat may work (try different things).

Week 10: *Printing on Alternative Surfaces*

Mon 10/23 Experimentation. What kinds of surfaces can you print on? Wood? Fabric? Paper made into different things like sculpture, books, scrolls, etc. Think about how you will present these prints; what will you do to . Edition of at least 5 so you can try different possibilities.

Weds 10/25 Alternative surface experimentations continued.

Week 11:

Mon 10/30 Critique for Alternative surface prints.

Demonstration and Presentation: Alternative printmaking.

Homework: Final Project Proposal. Write a paragraph about what you'd like to do for your final project, this is up to you. Turn in this paragraph at the beginning of class on the 6th.

Describe how you will make this/these prints and what it will be about. It can be installed in a non-traditional way, be printed on a different paper (or fabric), be collaged into or with, be presented alongside something else, be multiple prints, be a book, be a scroll... this is up to you and I will help you figure out how to do it. Images must be generated by you (*not* pop culture or another artist). Each print should have at least 3 colors unless you have a good reason and explain it clearly in your proposal.

Weds 11/1 *Final Project Discussion.*

Assignment: See description above. Final project is up to you but you need to decide and stick with the choice you make as much as you can. Decide and plan early so I can help.

Work Day. Start working on your final project. Draw, cut/prep paper, mix ink, etc.
Homework: Finish Proposal for Final Project. Image generation for final project.

Week 12: *Open Work for Final Project*.

Mon 11/6 Proposal for Final Project due today at the beginning of class. Individual project meetings.

Weds 11/8 Work Day. Individual project meetings continue.

Week 13: *Open Work for Final Project*

Mon 11/13 Work Day for Final Project

Weds 11/15 Work on and Print Collaborative Class Print. Reductive layer 1st, then

Week 14: *Week of Thanksgiving, Open Work for Final Project*.

Mon 11/20 Work on Final Project

Weds 11/22 Work on Final Project

Week 15: *Portfolios, Open Work for Final Project*.

Mon 11/27 Choose your best print from each assignment of the semester, trim, sign and prepare them for your final portfolio. At least one print from each assignment.

Weds 11/29 Work on Portfolio, Work on Final Project

Week 16: *Final Projects Work Week*

Mon 12/4 Turn in Portfolio by the end of class. Open Work Day.

Demonstration: Photographing prints and work on paper.

Weds 12/6 Final stretch for final project.

Week 17: *Finals Week*

Mon 12/11 Your portfolios will be returned.

Weds 12/13 Final Critique and Term Review.

“Mastery is nine times patience.” -Ursula LeGuin