

## **Course Information**

Printmaking I

PRNT 2305, CRN 21947, Section 001, SPRING 2024

Class Hours: TR 9:00 am - 11:50 am, Rooms FFA A151 and A264

## **Instructor Contact Information**

Instructor: Nabil Gonzalez

E-mail: nggonzalez@utep.edu

Office: A261 Fox Fine Art Bldg

Office Hours: M-TR 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. Best by appointment.

## **Instructor Introduction**

Nabil Gonzalez is your instructor for this course. She holds an Associate of Arts degree from El Paso Community College, a double BFA degree in Graphic Design and Printmaking from the University of Texas at El Paso, and an MFA degree in Printmaking from the Rhode Island School of Design. As a studio artist, Nabil's work has been focused on social and political views affecting the borderland as well as the exploration of identity, repetition, and erasure. Her work has been shown throughout the United States, Mexico, Colombia, and China. Her artist books and prints are included in museum collections in the United States.

## **Course Description**

Printmaking 1 is an introductory course focusing on the basics of relief, screen, intaglio, and lithographic printmaking techniques, the terminology, and a brief history of these processes. Strong concepts along with a personal exploration of images are a necessary component to good prints. Research and sketches for both technical and conceptual development are required. The course requires a minimum of six hours in the studio per week along with outside studio work and preparation. Students taking this course can expect a brief overview of the history of each of the processes and demonstrations of the technical options for creating and printing an image with the various materials. Students will then be instructed in the printing of their works. The course will consist of lectures and demonstrations along with workdays for printing and image development. Individual critiques will be held regularly. Your work and attendance are required at each critique along with your participation. Some critiques may be held on in-progress prints or drawings, whereas other critiques will focus on finished single or multiple assignments.

## **Course Prerequisite Information**

Prerequisites: ARTF 1301, ARTF 1302, and ARTF 1304. ARTF 1304 may be taken concurrently with this course PRNT 2305. The design and drawing courses listed above are a necessary foundation for creating two-dimensional images and offer students numerous experiences in the techniques and concepts behind image making necessary for making quality prints. Students who do not have these prerequisites will need to complete them before enrolling in this course.

## **Course Goal and Objectives**

The objective of this course is to familiarize students with basic printmaking processes: planographic, relief, intaglio, and screen while simultaneously working on their own personal image development. Students will also be introduced to the vocabulary associated with each of these processes and the

creation of an edition of prints. A final objective of this course is to introduce students to the artists who have historically used these processes to create multiples.

### **Course Outcomes**

At the end of the course, students will possess the skills to create an edition of prints in each of these major areas and will be able to identify some artists who historically have used the various media to create images.

*Specifically, students can expect to be able:*

- to image and print using serigraphy techniques
- to image, process, ink, and print an aluminum lithographic plate
- to image, etch, ink, and print an intaglio image from copper plates
- to carve, ink, and print a relief print from a wood or plastic matrix

### **Course Requirements**

You are expected to bring ideas, sketchbook drawings, and the necessary printmaking materials to each class.

### **Course Evaluation**

You will not be graded on individual works but rather on two reviews of your semester's work and two tests will be given during the semester. Portfolio and test grades represent 80% (40% first portfolio and test and 40% second portfolio and test, ) of your final grade. The remaining 20% with adjustments made for class attendance and participation.

Portfolios are graded on the following formula:

**A** = 90 to 100%

**B** = 80 to 89%

**C** = 70 to 79%

**D** = 60 to 69%

**F** = 59% or below.

The portfolios will consist of assigned problems along with your personal explorations into image/technique/concepts.

Print portfolio grades will be based on:

1. Quality, effort, and aesthetic judgment apparent in the print and its presentation.
2. The technical skill apparent in the print (and its editioning when required).
3. The on-time completion of work both finished and in progress.
4. Your participation and contributions in critiques.
5. Class attendance and participation.
6. Your effort to keep the studios clean.

### **Course Policies**

Attendance: Your regular attendance is required and roll will be taken each class period. It is important that you attend each class and bring materials to work with. Ideas discussed in lectures, demonstrations, slides, and critiques are impossible to make up. Grades will be lowered by excessive absences. 4

absences - one letter grade lower (ex. A to B), 5 absences - two letter grades lower (A to C or B to D), and so on. Two tardies = one absence.

**NO TEXTING! NO SOCIAL MEDIA! Please SILENT your cell phones before entering class.** If, because of an emergency situation, you must have your phone on, inform the instructor, put the phone on vibrate, and sit near an exit. Quietly exit the class to answer the emergency call.

### **Incomplete, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail**

Incomplete or "I" grades will be considered for students completing satisfactory or better work and having serious legitimate situations beyond their control requiring additional time to complete the course requirements. All "I" grades are at the discretion of the instructor and the approval of the Department Chairperson.

I will not drop you from the course. Student holds the full responsibility for withdrawing from this course if that procedure is elected. Withdrawals must be completed on or before the final drop date to drop a course with a W. Students missing this deadline will be issued a grade for their performance in the course. If you miss five or more classes you should consider dropping the course.

Due to the hazardous and expensive nature of many of the tools and supplies, students found misusing them will be withdrawn from the course. The print rooms are not a suitable environment in which to have visiting friends, family, small children, etc. Please make every effort to keep this a safe and workable environment for all.

### **Lab Hours**

The printmaking labs will be open for enrolled students to use during the times posted on the doors of rooms 151 and 264. Labs will not be opened for students needing access to drawers, supplies, or equipment outside of their class or lab hours. Lab and class hours are often crowded so please be responsible with your space needs and store unnecessary tools, paper, backpacks, etc, under the tables or in your drawer to maximize workspace.

- No visitors allowed.
- A thorough clean-up must be completed by the lab closing time.
- Work on all presses must stop 20 minutes prior to the lab closing time.
- All work on the dry mount press, graining sink, acid room, exposure units, washout sinks, etc. must be completed 10 minutes prior to the lab closing time.
- Work on computers must stop and the computers shut down 10 minutes prior to the lab closing time.
- Students must vacate the labs by the lab closing time.
- Students found incapable of following these guidelines will lose their lab privileges.

### **Supplies, Materials, and Personal Equipment**

Materials should be brought to each class session - class time is not to be used to buy materials.

## General

*\*\*Most supplies here you already have, no need to purchase new*

- Sketchbook for notes and drawings
- X-acto knife #11 Blades/utility knife
- Razor Blade Scraper
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Black Sharpie Markers
- Box of disposable rubber gloves
- (2) 18"x24" newsprint pad or 500 sheet ream 18"x24" of newsprint from DickBlick
- Masking tape or blue painter's tape
- Brushes (assortment of sizes and quality)
- 24" Metal Ruler
- Nonskid liner
- Scotch clear packaging tape is a must!! 2" wide
- Hand Cleaner (dish soap or orange base hand cleaner)
- Rubber plastic spatulas (baking kind)
- Simple Green
- Roll of paper towels for clean up (blue shop paper towels work great)
- 1 quart of Mineral Spirits

## Papers

- (20 -25) Legion Stonehenge Paper - 22" x 30", White 90 lb
- (6-8) Rives BFK - 19" x 26", 175 gsm, Cream-White
- Strathmore Drawing pad 18"x24" 80 lb. 24 sheets

## Intaglio

- 1- 9x12 Copper sheet, 18 gauge (will be provided)
- Scraper, burnisher, and drypoint needle (will be provided on loan)
- 1 bag of #0000 steel wool
- 1 Black (matte) enamel spray paint
- 1 Black (gloss) enamel spray paint
- (1) 1 1/2" putty knives (metal flexible kind)
- 1 can of Akua Intaglio Ink - Carbon Black, 237 ml (will be provided)
- 1 Small Baby oil bottle
- Acetate or Duralar sheet .005" 25"x40" for registration
- 1 to 2 1" or 1 1/2" paint brush or sponge brush
- Scotch clear packaging tape is a must!! 2" wide
- 1 quart of paint thinner
- 1 quart of denatured alcohol
- 1 quart of mineral spirits
- (6-8) Rives BFK - 19" x 26", 175 gsm, Cream-White

## Relief

- Speedball Lino Cut Set No.1 (will be provided)
- 1 12"x12" linoleum unmounted (available at Dick Blick)
- Nonskid liner

- o 1 can of Akua Intaglio Ink - Carbon Black, 237 ml (will be provided)
- o 1 Speedball soft rubber brayer 3"
- o Acetate or Duralar sheet .005" 25"x40" for registration
- o Various sizes Sharpie markers (black)
- o Legion Stonehenge Paper - 22" x 30", White 90 lb

#### Waterless Lithography

- o .005 thick aluminum lithographic plate (will be provided)
- o 2- Staedtler Omnicrom 108-9 black water base pencils (Available at Art Center or Amazon pk of 12)
- o 2 Speedball soft rubber brayers 3"
- o 1 roll of Viva brand soft paper towels
- o Scotch packaging tape 2" wide
- o 1 quart of mineral spirits
- o 1 quart of acetone
- o Legion Stonehenge Paper - 22" x 30", White 90 lb

#### Serigraphy

- o Screen 23" x 31" nylon yellow mesh screen (will be provided on loan)
- o Scotch clear packaging tape is a must!! 2" wide
- o Strathmore Drawing pad 18"x24" 80 lb. 24 sheets (white or cream)
- o Speedball black screen ink (will be provided)
- o Baby oil
- o Acetate or Duralar sheet .005" 25"x40" for registration
- o Rubber plastic spatulas (baking kind)
- o 1 Ulano Stencil Remover No. 4 - Quart
- o Various sizes Uni Posca Paint Markers or Oil-Based Sharpie Markers (Black)

#### Local resources

Art Center  
3101 E Yandell Dr  
El Paso, TX 79903

#### Optional supplies

Pointed objects such as dentist tools, sewing needles, nails, metal hair picks, etc. An assortment of sandpaper grits. Toolbox. Burins and/or roulettes.

#### Tools for Loan

*Etching set with a scraper, burnisher, and drypoint needle. Silkscreen.* If you borrow the tools you are required to return them in good condition or buy replacements.

*Other materials may be needed.*

*The Art Department cannot supply individual consumable materials outside of your lab fee coverage.*

#### **Printmaking Studio Safety Information**

**In case of an emergency call the Campus Police at 747-5611 or dial 911**

## PRINTMAKING LABS / STUDIO SAFETY

The nature of the processes involved in this course you will come in contact with several potentially harmful substances and equipment. Before working in the print labs you should be familiar with the possible hazards and take precautionary measures to avoid injury. Avoid eating or drinking in the labs as this makes it easier for you to ingest unhealthy materials.

If any equipment appears to be broken or functioning improperly do not use it and report it to the instructor as soon as possible. Put a sign on the damaged equipment warning others.

Do not use equipment you have not been trained to use properly.

Be proactive regarding your health

- Wear Protective Gloves: when using any powder, liquid, solvent or ink other than pure water.
- Wear Protective Eyewear: when dealing with any chemical liquids, solvents or acids that may splash into your eyes.
- Wear A Dust Mask: when working with dusts, powders or when sanding metals.
- Wear a Respirator: when working with acids or harmful chemicals

**NO FOOD or DRINK** - chemicals are always present in the air or on the work surfaces in these rooms. It is unsafe to consume any type of food or drink in any of the printmaking classrooms/ labs. You will be asked to leave any food or drink in a covered container by the entry door and to consume any food or beverage outside the printmaking rooms.



**NO VISITORS** - The print labs are not a safe environment for any visitors.

Please be alert and above all use common sense with all materials and equipment.

**ACIDS** - Avoid getting acids on your skin or clothing- wear protective goggles and gloves.

Should acid get in the eyes use the water safety eye rinse in the acid room and seek medical attention. The safety shower should be used if you get acid spilled on your body and again seek medical attention. Avoid breathing the acid vapors and make sure the two ventilation fans are running when entering the acid room. The acid baths are labeled according to the type of metal to be etched in them. Never mix or attempt to refill or transfer these acids yourself, always ask the instructor or the studio assistant. Acids should always remain covered except for lowering and removing your etching plate. Avoid breathing the vapors of any acid or fumes produced from etching.

In lithography, full-strength nitric and phosphoric acids are used to etch stones and aluminum plates. These acids are kept in glass bottles secured within a wooden box and should not be

moved. Always wear protective goggles and gloves when handling these acids. Acid should be removed from these bottles only with an eyedropper and any excess acid should be placed back into the appropriate bottle. TAPEM is also used in lithography as an aluminum plate etch and contains small amounts of phosphoric and tannic acids. Any full-strength acid that comes in contact with your body or clothing should be flushed immediately and repeatedly with water and seek medical attention.

**ELECTRIC HOT PLATE** - The hot plates in the etching room should be used only for the heating of the etching plates. The temperature on the electric hot plate should never exceed 300 degrees. Flammable materials and solvents should not be used near the hot plates and paper that is placed on these hot plates must be removed promptly to prevent fire. The hot plate will be turned off at the end of class.

**DRY MOUNT PRESS**- The outside and interior of the dry mount press are extremely hot. The dry mount should never be set to more than 250 degrees. Flammable materials and solvents should not be used near the dry mount press and prints placed inside should be removed within **2-10 minutes**. The dry mount press will be turned off at the end of class.

**PRESSES** - All presses; including etching, lithography, letterpress, and bookbinding, are dangerous and should only be used if you have been instructed how to properly operate the equipment. Long hair or loose clothing should be tied back to avoid being caught in the rollers or gears. Hands should be kept clear of the presses and their beds while moving, the only hand needed on the press is the one to turn the crank. Excessive pressure on any of the presses is unnecessary and will cause them to crank hard and create a dangerous situation. Maximum pressure will not make a better print!!!! The etching presses have calibrated sets on either side and should be adjusted to the type of printing matrix and felts you are using. Never force a plate or stone through the presses, if the tension feels too tight reverse the crank and readjust the tension. A material or object other than those the press has been designed for should never be passed through the press.

**ROSIN** - Powdered rosin is used in etching and lithography. The dust from this rosin can be harmful to the lungs. When using powdered rosin do so in a well-ventilated area and use a dust mask and/or a respirator if necessary.

**BABY POWDER** - Powdered talc is used in lithography and needs the same precautions as rosin.

**SOLVENTS** – Mineral spirits, denatured alcohol, kerosene, lacquer thinner, lithotine, naphtha, turpentine, etc. should all be used in moderation and with rubber gloves and the appropriate ventilation. Use these chemical solvents in the vented hood area in room 151B or outside in the courtyard to prevent fumes from entering the common work area. To clean inks or plates in the other rooms the use of vegetable oil and or Simple Green cleaner is highly recommended. Keep flammable solvents away from hot plates and avoid breathing vapors. To minimize the use of solvents it is strongly advised that all students clean oil-based ink slabs initially with a razor blade or scraper to remove all excess ink. Then only a small amount of solvent or Simple Green cleaner will be necessary to remove the remaining ink film.

**LITHOGRAPHY STONES** - The lithography stones are extremely heavy. Please only carry what you can easily lift and transport comfortably. Never carry a wet litho stone or attempt to move a stone with wet hands. The blue hydraulic transport table is available in room 264 to assist in the transporting of these stones.

**PIGMENTS & INKS** - Lithography, screen, relief, and etching inks along with the powdered pigments to make etching ink should be kept off the skin as much as possible. Avoid breathing the dust of the powdered pigment. When mixing your own ink or using any powdered pigment a respirator or suitable dust mask is necessary. Avoid breathing the vapors of any ink or ink modifier.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC EMULSIONS & CHEMICALS** - All photographic sensitive screen printing emulsions contain dichromates, which are dangerous and should only be used with protective gloves. All traditional photography chemicals, including developer, stop bath, fix, toner and bleach should not be allowed to come in contact with the skin and should only be used in the approved areas and with the necessary precautions. Large vats of photographic chemicals pose vapor risks and should only be used with adequate ventilation. Avoid excessively breathing the vapors of any photographic chemical.

**In case of an emergency call the Campus Police at 747-5611 or dial 911**

### **Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty Statement**

Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> for further information.

### **COVID-19 Precautions /Accommodations**

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible via email. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to [covidaction@utep.edu](mailto:covidaction@utep.edu), so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors.

### **Accommodations Policy**

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services, and activities with documented disabilities to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Students who become pregnant or have parenting responsibilities may also request reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship for the University. The UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) will process requests for accommodations based on a disability, pregnancy, or parenting. Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, email them at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.



## List of Suppliers for Printmaking

### General Items:

- Graphic Chemical & Ink Co. – printmaking supplies [www.graphicchemical.com](http://www.graphicchemical.com)
- Utrecht Art Supplies – printmaking supplies - [www.utrechtart.com/](http://www.utrechtart.com/)
- Rembrandt Graphic Arts – printmaking supplies [www.rembrandtgraphicarts.com](http://www.rembrandtgraphicarts.com)
- Renaissance Graphic Arts – printmaking supplies [www.printmakingmaterials.com](http://www.printmakingmaterials.com)
- Takach Press – lithography supplies & presses [www.takachpress.com](http://www.takachpress.com)
- Dick Blick - general art & printmaking supplies - [www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com)

### Printmaking Paper:

- Graphic Chemical & Ink Co. – good price on blotters [www.graphicchemical.com](http://www.graphicchemical.com)
- Hiromi Paper – the BEST selection and service on Asian papers [www.hiromipaper.com](http://www.hiromipaper.com)
- Paper Connection - [www.paperconnection.com](http://www.paperconnection.com)
- Kinsella Paper – paper - [www.kinsellaartpapers.com](http://www.kinsellaartpapers.com)
- Takach Paper Co. – paper [www.takachpaper.com](http://www.takachpaper.com)
- Dick Blick – thin papers often arrive damaged at corners - [www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com)

### Relief Supplies

- McClain's – extensive woodblock print supplies & Asian papers [www.imclains.com](http://www.imclains.com)
- Edward C. Lyons –good woodcut tools selection - [www.eclyons.com](http://www.eclyons.com)
- Graphic Chemical & Ink Co. –broad relief supply - [www.graphicchemical.com](http://www.graphicchemical.com)
- Dick Blick - general relief supplies - [www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com)

### Serigraphy:

- [www.reecesupply.com](http://www.reecesupply.com)
- [www.silkscreeningsupplies.com](http://www.silkscreeningsupplies.com)
- [www.screenprintsupply.com](http://www.screenprintsupply.com)
- [www.victoryfactory.com](http://www.victoryfactory.com)