

## Spring 2026 Sculpture I, 2302 001 CRN#: 20572

Fox Fine Arts, Room A257

Monday/Wednesday 4:30pm – 7:20pm

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### Course Description

This course will focus on the basic processes and techniques necessary for creating sculptures. Student's work will be concentrating on craftsmanship and the formal/technical aspects of creating three-dimensional art. Students will learn the fundamentals of woodworking, resin casting, and metalworking through class discussions, lectures, and sculpting. This course will prepare students with a variety of techniques/processes that they can later evolve and expand on throughout their careers. Upon finishing this, course students will understand basic sculptural construction in woodworking, mold making, resin casting, and MIG welding. Students will have developed a formal/critical eye for craftsmanship, intent, and execution in sculpture through the elements and principles of art. Students may choose to advance their knowledge and abilities by enrolling in advanced sculpture courses.\*

\*In the event of UTEP campus shutdown, Sculpture I 2302 will be taught online through Blackboard, Microsoft Teams, and email. Class assignments will change to better fit with working from home.

### COVID-19 and Safety

In the event that face-2-face instruction/open-campus is delayed or cancelled, SCUL I will continue online through Blackboard, email, and Microsoft Teams. Class projects will change to better suit at home learning. The woodworking assignment will switch to a fibers-based assignment and the welding assignment will instead be a collage/puppet/mask project. The resin casting assignment will remain the same.

### Course Requirements

This introduction to sculpture course will consist of three major assignments and additional exercises. It will also include research, sketching/drafting, reading, writing, presentations, and a final portfolio. Technical and formal requirements will be listed for each assignment, and discussed as a class prior to their beginning. These requirements must be met and expanded upon for each assignment.

- Arriving for class on time with materials.
- Have outside classwork completed.
- Completion of assignment requirements.
- Respecting the studio, tools, and other classmates.
- Exerting an effort in the completion of each assignment.
- Contribute positively to the learning environment.
- Safe operations of studio tools and equipment.
- Have fun, be creative, explore. Push yourself to make something truly impressive.

Students will not be allowed to work while another sculpture class is using the studio, unless they have received approval from that class's professor. This course focuses on craftsmanship, intent, and form. Concepts are encouraged but not required. Implementing concepts will increase your success in this course and may provide extra credit. However, the professor will determine the success of these concepts. A concept in art is a thought provoking ideas that promotes discussions. Concepts may be implemented through style, representation, subject matter, and/or material. Students will never be penalized for not implementing a concept into their work. Students are to focus on craftsmanship and execution first. In this Sculpture 1 course concept will not surpass form and craftsmanship. If a student choses to

continue in sculpture, they will learn more tools and techniques and incorporate concept into their sculptures. The professor will not grade unfinished or substandard artwork. (In sculpture, materiality is a great way to insert concepts. Research semiotics in art to learn more about how to use materiality.)

Each class period will consist of individualized instruction. The professor will discuss daily/weekly goals and expectations personally with each student. Many periods will include lectures and demonstrations. It is mandatory that students arrive on time on these days. These days will be on the course calendar and dictated by the professor. Critique days are mandatory. Students will present their work through thoughtful and critical discussion. They will receive feedback that they can implement in their future work. The class will evaluate each student's artwork to find their strengths and areas of improvement.

## Grading

Final grades will be based on the following:

150 Total Points for Projects, Assignments, Deadlines, Design

50 Total Points for Critique Participation, Self - Assessment

50 Total Points for Conduct, Class Work, Effort, Attitude, Preparation, Progression

50 Final Portfolio

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300 Total Points

Note: A student's final total number of points will change based on their attendance & performance. Tardies, unexcused absences and late work will affect their total grade. Three tardies = one absence. Students are allowed three unexcused absences. Every absence after three will result of half a letter grade deduction from the student's final grade.

Grades and assignments are calculated as the following:

90 - 100% A – Excellent quality work

80 - 89% B – Above average work

70 - 79% C – Average work

60 – 69% D – Below average work

Below – 60% F – Unsatisfactory work, failure

## Attendance

- Be in class and ready to work by 4:30pm Monday/Wednesday.
- Each student is allowed three absences without penalty. Email the professor about being absent.
- Each absence after the first three will result in half a letter grade deduction from the student's final grade.
- Not showing up for class equals an absence.
- Not having your materials ready for workdays is an absence.
- Not working during class equals an absence.
- Arriving to class under the influence of drugs or alcohol is an absence and the student's removal from class.
- It is the student's responsibility to drop the course if they do not intend to complete projects or complete the class.
- 3 Tardies equal 1 absence. Arriving late or leaving early will result in a tardy.
- A student may be excused from class with a doctor's note or viable reasons. Talk to the professor first. Notify them to receive exemption.
- Attendance is mandatory on critique and process demonstration days. Do not be late for these days. A student's tardiness will affect the entire class. Class will not begin until everyone is present.
- Attendance is mandatory on the final day.

## Projects & Assignments

There will be three projects in this course. Each project is designed to have students make sculptures in a different way than the previous. The woodworking project and assignments will teach students the importance of joinery, drafting, precision, and patience. The resin casting project will teach them how to hand-build, mold making, and casting. Lastly, students will learn the importance of the weight/balance, flexibility, and strength in the steel project. Students will need to prepare for each assignment outside of class. These preparations include:

- Project research, related artists/sculptures.
- Multiple drafts and sketches from serious thumbnails.
- Having materials and tools with you on workdays.

Students will be docked points and may receive a tardy or an absence if you do not meet these requirements at the beginning of class.

## Portfolio

The final portfolio project will consist of three written assignments and photographs of their completed artworks. Each completed project will be documented with a written statement describing the piece and four professional photographs. Students will take their own photographs. Three photographs from different angles and one close-up. More information on this portfolio project will be presented to students later.

## Late Work

There are three projects and various assignments for this course. Students will have four to five weeks to complete each assignment. Students will be required to work outside of class. Students who do not participate in studio lab hours will be deducted points from their projects. If a student does not finish their project/assignment by its listed deadline than every day late will result in the deduction of ½ a letter grade from that project/assignment's final grade.

## Course Policy

- Attendance, participation, and appropriate class conduct will all count towards a student's class work/conduct points. If they do not meet the requirements for proper conduct and class participation, they will be docked points. Students will participate in all discussions, workshops, critiques, and daily class work. Participation and productivity are essential in developing a healthy and energetic creative career.
- Students will be required to attend studio monitor hours outside of class periods. Lab monitors will keep record of who participates during these monitored hours.
- Firearms are not permitted in the sculpture studios due to hazardous and explosive gases.
- No abuse of any kind will be tolerated. Any abuse will result in the student's removal from class via Campus Police and an immediate absence and possible withdrawal from the class.
- Do not come to class sick, go to the doctor. Email your professor immediately of your absence.
- No guests are allowed in the studio during class. This includes family, friends, and love ones. Additionally, guests are not permitted during monitored lab hours. You may offer a tour or show guest your artwork.
- The student is sole responsible for their classwork. Students will be severely docked points if anyone other than themselves is making their artwork for/with them.
- No headphones are allowed while using certain powered equipment. These tools will be identified.
- During open lab hours, students will respect and listen to the Teaching Assistants and Work-Studies. These advance students are here to help and make sure students are working safely. When they instruct a student on a tool or

process, it is for their benefit. If a student is not following studio rules and/or not listening to the Teaching Assistant's or Work-Study's instruction they will be asked to leave and the Campus Police Department will be notified.

- Do not use any tools or equipment without the professor or WS/TA's instruction/notification.
- Never work alone in the studio make sure the WS/TA is present.
- Report any damaged or broken tool immediately to the professor or WS/TA.
- Students will always wear their PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). Students will follow all required PPE enforced by the professor and WS/TA. If a student does not then they will be forced to leave.
  - Safety glasses, closed toed shoes, appropriate clothing, pants, dust masks, ear protection, gloves, welding jackets, face shields/hoods, tie back long hair, and removes loose clothing, jewelry, and bags.
- Students will clean up after themselves. They will not leave any equipment dirty for the next worker. The class will clean the studios at the end of each class period.
- Students will respect the tools and equipment. These machines are powerful and hazardous. Students will pay attention to what you are doing. Make sure they are wearing the proper PPE for that tool/equipment. They will pay attention to how the tool operates. If it does not feel right, sound right, smell right or work right students, will stop using it immediately and notify the professor or TA/WS.
- Students will never use a tool/equipment until they have been shown how to. Students will not experiment with these tools without professor supervision. Know how to use them safely and efficiently before using them.
- Respect the studio and everything in it. This includes tools/equipment, sculptures, materials, and other students. Be aware of your surroundings, be safe. Stored materials belong to other students. Only use the materials that you have purchased and/or have brought in yourself. Any theft in the studio will be reported to Campus PD.

## Critiques

Critiques are the equivalent of a test in this course. Participation and attendance are mandatory. On critique days students will exhibit their works. After a short viewing period, the class will begin the critique. Students will introduce their works first to the class. Then the class will engage in critical discussion with the student about their work. These discussions are focused on developing skills in articulating thoughts and ideas. They promote critical thinking that students will use throughout their creative careers. Self-analysis and self-evaluation of your work will develop your personal style and aesthetic. These critique days are considered professional practice and incomplete work will not be critiqued.

## Incompletes, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail

Incompletes, 'I' grades will be considered for students who complete satisfactory work or have serious situations beyond their control that affect their participation in class. Students who receive an incomplete will be allotted additional time to complete their assignments at the end of the semester. All incomplete grades are distributed at the discretion of the professor and Department Chair.

Withdrawing from the course is the responsibility of the student. The professor may withdraw a student if that student does not follow the rules or is uncooperative to the learning environment. Withdrawals must be submitted prior to the final drop date of the semester for it not to affect their GPA.

This class does not use pass/fail. Students will receive a letter grade for your effort, participation, and quality of work. Graduate credit is not available for this course. Students may audit the course after discussing it with the professor.

## UTEP Policy Statement

Disabilities: The professor will make reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to physical and learning disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to discuss their needs within the first two weeks of the course.

Students who seek accommodations will also need to document their request at CASS (Center for Accommodations and Support Services). This request must be completed within the first two weeks of this course or accommodations may not be applied.

Pregnancy & Parenting: Students can request accommodations for pregnancy & parenting. If a student believes they could benefit from these accommodations they are you contact CASS.

The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS)

Union East Bldg. Room 106

[cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu)

(915) 747-5148

Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism is unacceptable and will result in the student's removal from the course. Plagiarism is the use of information without giving credit to the source of that information. All artwork, designs, and written material must be properly credited according to UTEP, DoArt, and professor's policy. Students will never submit work of another artist as their own. Additionally, students will never submit work made in another class. If a student is found to be cheating/plagiarizing, they will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) subject to disciplinary action per UTEP catalog policy.

<https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/standards/>

\*The professor for the course holds the right and ability to alter this syllabus at any point throughout the semester.

## The Rubin Center

The Rubin Center for the Visual Arts is UTEP's contemporary art gallery; each semester, the Rubin features exhibitions of contemporary art by artists from around the world. The Rubin also hosts family days, visiting artist workshops, public programs, and the annual student exhibition and biennial faculty exhibition. Every Rubin Center program and exhibition is free and open to the public. The Rubin is located between Fox Fine Arts and the Sun Bowl. Updates about exhibitions and programs can be found on the website: [www.utep.edu/rubin](http://www.utep.edu/rubin) or on the center's Instagram page @el.rubincenter.

Paid student internships at the Rubin Center are posted on the university's Handshake page.

Hours are: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 am to 5 pm

Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm

Saturday, 11 am to 3 pm (except on home football game days)