More Than Words, ART 303, J-Term 2018

Instructor: Rebecca Davis
Class blog: https://art303morethanwords.tumblr.com/
Digital Syllabus: https://www.beckydavisart.com/more-than-words
Telephone: 706-905-7415 (Please text)
Email: becky_davis@my.uri.edu
Class Days/Time: Starting 1/3, M-F, 10am-1pm
Classroom: Fine Arts 101A

Course Description
Storytelling is a powerful tool for artists of all types. This studio course will examine various methods used by postmodern and contemporary artists. It will feature a number of creative exercises leading up to a final project based on an original or adapted narrative, as well as guest lectures from working artists and museum/gallery visits.

Course Goals
Complete a brief outline of narrative art over time and creative exercises that effectively translate narrative elements using three different disciplines
Develop skills for critically analyzing art

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, each student will be able to:
Identify Reasons to tell a story
characteristics of Postmodern storytelling
elements of effective narratives
specific strategies used to convey narrative used by various artistic disciplines
Complete
A work of art using an original narrative
A work of art using an adapted narrative
Plan, organization and creation of final project that effectively communicates a story using a medium discussed in class
Required Texts/Readings
• *There is No Such Think As Narrative Art* by Paul Barolsky
• *Neo-Narration: Stories of Art* by Mike Brennan
• *Storylines: Contemporary Art at the Guggenheim*
  [http://exhibitions.guggenheim.org/storylines/](http://exhibitions.guggenheim.org/storylines/)

Other equipment / material requirements
Sketchbook/Journal
Pencils
Your choice of 3 of the following media:
• Drawing media (oil or chalk pastels, colored pencils, graphite, charcoal)
• Painting media (acrylic, oil, watercolor, gouache, paper, panel, canvas)
• Video/Sound media (video camera, sound recorder, smart phone, editing software)
• Photography media (camera, editing software, printer)
• Sculpture media (cardboard, wood, plaster, etc.)
• Writing/Performance media

Assignments & Grading Policy
Project #1: Narrative adaptation project
Project #2: 1 story, 3 ways project
Project #3: Your Story

Exercise #1: Anatomy of a Narrative artwork
Exercise #2: 1 Story, 3 Ways project proposal
Exercise #3: Storylines Artwork Analysis
Exercise #4: Your Story Project proposal
Exercise #5: Self-Assessment

50% Concept Development – in regards to Projects #1-#3
25% Narrative Quality - in regards to Projects #1-#3 and Exercises #1-#3
25% Participation & Effort – includes Critique participation, Attendance, and Participation in Class Discussions
Grading Scale

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
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<td>A-</td>
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INSTRUCTOR POLICIES

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS
Any student with a documented disability is welcome to contact me as early in the semester as possible so that we may arrange reasonable accommodations. As part of this process, please be in touch with Disability Services for Students Office at 302 Memorial Union, Phone 401-874-2098.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR
Students are expected to treat faculty and fellow classmates with dignity and respect. Students are responsible for being familiar with and adhering to the published “Student Code of Conduct” which can be accessed in the University Student Handbook (http://web.uri.edu/studentconduct/student-handbook/). If you must come in late, please do not disrupt the class. Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, or any electronic devices.

ATTENDANCE
Students are expected to attend class and class activities. Occasionally, students may miss class activities due to illness, severe weather, or sanctioned University events. If ill, students should not attend class and should seek medical attention especially if they have a communicable disease such as influence (flu). Students should not attend class when the University announces classes are cancelled due to severe weather. Also, it is the policy of the University of Rhode Island to accord students, on an individual basis, the opportunity to observe their traditional religious holidays. Students desiring to observe a holiday of special importance must inform each instructor and discuss options for missed classes or examinations. See Sections 8.51.11 – 8.51.14 of the University Manual for policy regarding make-up of missed class or examinations.

Classroom Protocol
All exercises are to be completed by each student individually and posted on the Art 303 website before class on the due date, unless otherwise stated. Students, however, may choose to work collaboratively or individually on all projects.
Course Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Due Dates, Deadlines</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 1    | 1/3  | Review syllabus  
      | Why do we tell stories? - Introduction to Narrative Art  
      | Brief history of narrative art  
      | Discuss reading:  
      |   • *There is No Such Thing As Narrative Art* by Paul Barolsky  
      | Introduction to Project #1: narrative adaptation project  
      | Studio time  
      | 1/4  | Postmodern Storytelling - Characteristics and examples  
      | Studio time  
      | Project #1: narrative adaptation project due  
      | Critique  
      | 1/5  | Narrative tools for each discipline – Drawing/Painting, Sculpture, and Photography  
      | Exercise #1: Anatomy of a Narrative artwork  
      | Discuss reading:  
      |   • *Neo-Narration: Stories of Art* by Mike Brennan  
      | Introduction to Project #2: 1 story, 3 ways project  
      | Studio time  
<pre><code>  | Exercise #2: 1 Story, 3 Ways project proposal due |
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</tr>
</thead>
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| 2    | 1/8  | Narrative tools for each discipline –Time-based media, Text, and Performance  
Studio time  
Discuss reading:  
  - Storylines: Contemporary Art at the Guggenheim  
  1/9   | Guest Artist  
Studio time  
Exercise #3: Storylines Artwork Analysis  
1/10  | Guest Artist  
Studio time  
Project #2: 1 story, 3 ways project due  
Critique  
Introduction to Project #3: Your Story  
Exercise #4: Your Story Project proposal due  
Studio time  
1/11  | RISD Museum visit  
1/12  | 3       | 1/16  | Guest Artist  
Studio time  
1/17  | Studio time/MFA Boston visit  
1/18  | Studio time  
Exercise #5: Self-Assessment  
Class wrap and final questions  
1/19  | Project #3: Your Story due, Critique