Spring 2020 Draft Syllabus

Reflect, Revise...Repeat!
It’s true there’s no exact recipe for success as an artist, but there are effective methods for producing your best work. Whether you’re a poet, a painter, or any kind of artist in between, your work will benefit from a rigorous cycle of experimentation, reflection, and revision. In this Sophomore Seminar, students will work to develop their analytic, communication, and organizational skills in order to unlock their full potential as creative practitioners.

Learning Goals:
Develop written and verbal communication skills (Talk & Write about your work)
Establish an iterative creative practice
Articulate values, set goals for the future

Activities/Projects:
Writing mission/vision/values statement, Writing an artist statement, Group critiques with verbal and written feedback, Self-reflection writing, Small group brainstorming/planning, Revising artwork, Visiting artists & studio visits, Long-term and short-term goal setting

Activities/Projects:
Reflect: Write a mission/vision/values statement
Week 1
  ● Write a mission/vision/values statement. (Workshop with instructor help)
  ● Homework- Create or present a work that embodies those principles (Due in 2 weeks)
    ○ Document the work for “Documentation of Practice” assignment
    ○ answer questions 1-3

Week 2
  ● Set long term & short term goals using SMART goals model
  ● Create a curricular map, share plans in small groups
  ● Homework- DIY Futures essay
  ● Tour/presentation from SITE Galleries & OxBow

Week 3 & 4
  ● Present works to the class, receive written and verbal feedback
  ● Homework- Process feedback in journal

Revise: Remake the presented work
Week 5
  ● Meet in small groups to brainstorm next steps for the work
● Identify action-items, create a timeline & checklist for experimentation and execution (Worksheet demo)
● Homework- Revise the work (due in two weeks)
   ○ Document the work for “Documentation of Practice” assignment & answer question 4

Week 6
● Studio visit or Visiting Artist
● Reading

Week 7 & 8
● Present revised work, receive verbal & written feedback
● Homework- Reflect on feedback in journal

Week 9
Repeat: Produce 2-4 works based on the feedback
● Meet in pairs to discuss in-depth plans for revision and next steps
● Discussion & Workshop: Understanding the context behind your work
● Homework: Begin creating 2-4 works based on the feedback from your last critique (Due in 2 weeks)
   ○ Document work
   ○ Write descriptions for the work

Week 10
● Revisit answers from Documentation of Practice

Texts:
Art/Work - Revised & Updated: Everything You Need to Know (and Do) As You Pursue Your Art Career;
Eight Days a Week, Lanka Tattersall on Sigmar Polke
Thinking of a Master Plan: Kerry James Marshall and the Museum, by Helen Molesworth