

Course Enhancement Rationale

Course Dept/Number: ART 498: Course Name: Senior Seminar

Instructor: Total Credits: 4 Gen Ed Cr: Yes or (X No)

Indicate which enhancement(s) will be used for this course by checking the appropriate box.

Enhancement	COMAR Requirements
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increased course content and/or collateral readings	Additional 45 hours per semester of supervised, documented learning.
<input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Research and Information Literacy	Additional 45 hours per semester of supervised, documented learning and/or supervised instruction and documented learning through appropriate technology mediums.
<input type="checkbox"/> Technology	Supervised instruction and documented learning through appropriate technology mediums.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Higher Level Critical Thinking Exercises	Additional 45 hours per semester of supervised, documented learning and/or supervised instruction and documented learning through appropriate technology mediums.
<input type="checkbox"/> Service Learning/Civic Engagement	Additional 45 hours per semester of supervised, documented learning.
<input type="checkbox"/> International Education/Cultural Enrichment	Additional 45 hours per semester of supervised, documented learning.
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional hour(s) in class	Additional 15 hours per semester of supervised, documented learning. (Complete only questions #1 below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional hour(s) in lab or studio	Additional 30 hours per semester of supervised, documented learning.

1. Describe the enhancement(s) for this course. Discuss how this enhanced course will differ from the current 3 credit course. Especially address what makes it a more rigorous, focused and engaging learning experience.

The Senior Seminar, Art 498, is an intensive course, which requires extensive out of class assignments in order to organize and produce two group exhibitions. The level of undergraduate research is estimated at well over 120 hours per semester (all outside of class times). When counting the time needed to finish artwork for the exhibitions students might easily devote fifty hours to one work of art, and BFA students are required to produce a body of artwork that has consistency and adherence to a thesis statement. Thus, the amount of out of class work required, along with the completion of two group exhibitions should qualify this course for four-credits.

In order to better reach the outcomes of assessment regarding the "knowledge of influences" and "content of meaning," additional assignments will be added as enhancements in the form of collateral readings to develop critical thinking. An additional 15 hours will be spent on reading and analyzing identified websites, articles, a guest speaker's lecture, and handouts. Short essays (2-3 pages and 3 per semester) will be assigned asking students to relate readings to the content of their artwork. Six artist's videos will be shown, and students will write additional papers on these videos that asks them to critically evaluate their own work and relate it to issues raised in the videos and or the readings.

2. Discuss what the faculty member will do to provide appropriate guidance and feedback for the enhancement activity.

The faculty member will read and grade assignments and direct students to see their academic advisor and/or a senior professor in their studio track in order to further their understanding of the contextual meaning and identity of their thesis art work. This senior capstone course has 40 students in the spring semesters. Such high enrollment in a capstone course demands that departmental faculty help coordinate individual student progress while the instructor of the course serves as organizer and presenter for the course, as well as grading the written assignments.

3. Discuss the estimated time expected for students (and faculty) to complete the enhancement (COMAR requires approximately 45 hours per 1 credit):

15 hours of collateral readings with writing assignments about how students relate the material to their thesis exhibition.

20 hours of writing about 6 videos of artist interviews with writing assignments on content and how the student's artwork might be influenced by other artists.

10 hours of relating the assigned readings and videos to students' own artworks in regards to constructing their artist statements and changing/editing their work in response to the assignments.

4. Discuss how the enhancement will be assessed.

Responses and collateral readings for the six artist videos in particular, will be added for the enhancement of Art 498. This also requires having each student research contemporary artists' works and their aesthetic backgrounds.

The criteria for assessment of student's writing and their artist statement will be the following:

- (1) How students understand each artist's aesthetic development.
- (2) How students engage in interactive, evolving, and thoughtful dialogue regarding the artist's visual applications.
- (3) How students successfully generate a cognitive view in their work with an emphasis on quantitative thinking, historical consciousness, and aesthetic judgment.

Student will also have a faculty committee consisting of instructor, student's advisor, and a professor from the area of their track. This committee will review the outcomes of student's exhibition & written statement about their artwork. The criteria for assessment will be (1) visual composition (2) knowledge of influences (3) content of meaning (4) visual presentation of exhibition. A summary sheet of this evaluation is filed in the department office.