

Visual Foundations Seminar

Course: FOU 101 (3 credits)

Meets: T/Th 12:30- 1:45 Star Store room 144

Required for all CVPA studio art first-year students.

Instructor: Ellen Mueller

Contact: emueller1@umassd.edu

Office Hours: 1:45-3:45pm Tue/Thu at Star Store 345, or by appointment

This course is a forum to present contemporary themes in the arts. It will focus on conceptual and formal themes in order to explore influences that define contemporary art. Students will develop a keener comprehension of issues in contemporary art, explore majors within CVPA, and be introduced to the intellectual community of CVPA and the University. Students will practice writing, critical thinking, collaborative learning, research, and social/civic responsibilities. This course is designed for first semester art majors. Ultimately, this class is designed to help you make an informed decision about your course of study, help you begin to formulate how to think about art, and help you begin to think about how you fit within the larger context of art.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Identify and discuss issues in contemporary art as it relates to their studio practice.
- Investigate majors with in CVPA and possible career options
- Recognize and utilize the intellectual community of the College of Visual and Performing Arts and resources of the University at large.

Students will:

- Read current articles on art theory, studio practitioners, and other topics in the arts
- practice writing by reviewing art events in the community, analyze/respond to readings, and conducting research on movements/practitioners with in the field
- employ critical thinking through analysis of contemporary art topics, readings, and reflection
- engage in collaborative learning
- participate in social and civic responsibilities/activities.

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