

CRN: 28268

Art 360-01: Gallery Management spring 2008

Class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 – 1:45 pm or as determined by exhibitions.

Instructor: Hamlett Dobbins x 3442; 901.454.0579 home; 901.219.1943 cell
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Office Hours: by appointment

Texts for the course: While there are no textbooks for the course, there will be readings from a variety of sources. These sources include: *Foci: Interviews with Ten International Curators* by Carolee Thea. Isbn is 0-9704071-5-7 and *CURATING NOW: IMAGINATIVE PRACTICE / PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY* edited by Paula Marincola, *Air Guitar* by David Hickey, *Off Limits: 40 Art Angel Projects*, and *Phonebook: An Annual Directory for Alternative Spaces* edited by Caroline Picard.

Course Objectives and Description

Art 360 is a one semester class designed to teach students the basics of running a gallery as well as examining theoretical issues including but not limited to: the mission of a gallery, understanding a gallery's audience, and the role of exhibition spaces in a community.

Working with the gallery director students will be involved in: crating, shipping, publicizing, printing, preparing and designing of exhibits, proper handling of works of art, hanging, lighting, labels, receptions, security, etc. for all exhibits during the school year.

This semester there are two professional exhibits and two student shows at Clough-Hanson Gallery with the possibility of installing work. Students will assist the gallery director in the layout of the professional artist exhibits, and will jury the Juried Student exhibit.

Requirements

Grades will be determined by the following:

- a) Quality and effectiveness of each student's work in preparation for exhibitions. Students will work with the instructor on the installation of the work as well as preparations that lead up to the opening reception. All members of the class are expected to help with the installation of the exhibitions while each student will be expected to prepare and work at three of the four gallery receptions. Which students will work which exhibitions will be arranged prior to the event to provide an even distribution of responsibilities. Responsibilities include making wall labels, preparing receptions and cleaning up after the receptions.
- b) Participation in group discussions based on regular readings as well as quality of written assignments including exhibition proposals, an exhibition essay, written review of other exhibitions as well as other writings. Students will be required to write an 800-word review for two exhibitions over the course of the semester. Students will also be asked to lead class discussions based on the readings for the course.
- c) Attendance at regular class meetings as well as opening receptions, lectures and special events. Some events might take place outside of the class; but group activities will conform to the college standard of hours per semester. **After three absences your final class grade will be lowered one grade with each additional absence. If you are more than five minutes late three times it counts as an absence. Since the majority of our classes are field trips to be done in a 75 minute class period, being late really slows us down.**

- d) Exhibition reviews will be graded as junior / senior level compositions. A review's clarity, vocabulary and fluidity will be among the considerations for grading. Reviews below 775 words and above 850 words will not be accepted.
- e) Students must attend at least **three** lectures during the semester.

Final grade breakdown:

--Exhibition Reviews	20% (10% ea.)
--Work done in preparation for CHG exhibitions and receptions:	10%
--Midterm presentation of exhibition	20%
--Lectures, participation in discussions related to course readings and class field trips:	20%
--Final exhibition organized by the student, including press release, essay, and the exhibition itself (see description below):	30%

Schedule for Gallery Management for Spring 2008

01.10	intro to the course. Talk about previous students' shows/galleries.
01.15	how to install work, talk about how shows are done here at Rhodes College. Describe reviews assignment, students given "Dealing" essay by Dave Hickey, essays from <i>Phonebook</i> and <i>Off Limits</i> . 40 Art Angel Projects will be on reserve in library.
01.17	Finish Installation of the Jon Rappleye exhibition,
01.17 @ 7 pm	Jon Rappleye Lecture in Blount
01.18 from 5:00-8:30	Jon Rappleye Exhibition reception
01.22	Talk about alternative exhibitions. Discuss <i>Dealing</i> & <i>Phonebook</i> essays.
01.24	Midterm demonstration (<i>Remote Viewing</i>) see / discuss Artangels projects.
01.29	gallery visit (AMUM)
01.31	U of M grad studio visits
02.05	Perry Nicole
02.07	First Review Due , MCA Grad Studio visit.
02.12	Practice installing work (meet at Material 2553 Broad Avenue.)
02.14	Gallery visit (David Lusk Gallery)
02.19	Gallery Visit (L Ross Gallery)
02.21	Help with install on Joey Fauerso Show
02.21 @ 7 pm	Joey Fauerso Lecture in Blount Auditorium
02.22 from 5:00-8:30	Joey Fauerso Exhibition Reception
02.26	Midterm presentations
02.28	Midterm presentations
03.01 through 03.09	Spring break
03.11	Gallery visit with Robert Bain at Joysmith Gallery
03.13	Meeting with John Weeden
03.18	Cynthia Thompson comes in to talk about her experiences curating.
03.19 through 03.23	Easter Break
03.25	reading discussion (FOCI)

03.27	Second Review Due , reading discussion
03.27	Artforum writer/curator James Yood Lecture in Blount.
03.28 Time TBA	small group meeting with Moss Lecturer James Yood
04.01	Jury Student Exhibition
04.03	Install Juried Student Exhibition
04.04 from 5:00-8:30	Reception for Juried Student Exhibition
04.08	Reading Discussion (<i>FOCI & Curating Now</i>)
04.10	Reading Discussion (<i>Curating Now</i>)
04.15	Reading Discussion (<i>Curating Now</i>)
04.17	Gallery Visit (Metal Museum)
04.18 from 4:30-8:30	Opening reception for Senior Thesis Exhibition
04.23	Gallery visit (Lisa Kurts Gallery)
04.24	Gallery Visit (Brooks Museum)
04.29 @ 8:30 am	Final Exam time (post mortem on student shows)

Midterm project:

Each student will select and present a lecture on a **significant** group show of their choosing. The presentation should be 20 minutes and should outline the objectives of the curator, include images from the exhibition, and address critical response to the exhibitions. Suggested exhibitions include: *Museum as Muse: Artists Reflect* organized by Kynaston McShine for MOMA; *Black Male* organized by Thelma Golden for the Whitney Museum of American Art; *Drawing Now* organized by Laura Hoptman for MOMA; *Objects of Desire: The Modern Still-life* organized by Margrit Rowell for MOMA; *Last Picture Show: Artists Using Photography* organized by the Walker Art Center, *Ecstasy: In and About Altered States* organized by Paul Schimmel for LAMOCA, *Shooting the Family* organized by iCI, etc. Midterms will be presented to the class on February 26th and 28th. Students **must** have topic for presentation cleared with the instructor prior to preparation.

Resources you might use to help you in your thinking about choosing group shows:

- Look through the art magazines in the library, they have tons of articles on or reviews that you might look at to think about. Talk to your professors; ask them about their favorite or most influential group show they ever saw (most will remember).
- The online archives for Art in General (www.artingeneral.org), Exit Art (www.exitart.org), Apex Art (www.apexart.org), the Whitney Museum of American Art in NYC (www.whitney.org), Independent Curators International (www.ici-exhibitions.org), as well as exhibition catalogs from the library or the instructor's collection.

Parameters for the Student Organized Exhibition:

Each student in the Spring 2008 Gallery Management Class is expected to curate an exhibition in the world. During the early portion of the course we will discuss various methods of organizing exhibitions. In the first half of the semester the class will discuss thoughts for organizing particular exhibition. During that time the group will discuss possible artists and venues for exhibit. Students are encouraged to be creative in choosing their space. The student's home / apartment and restaurants/cafés should **not** be used unless the exhibition is inextricably tied to the space. In choosing the artists, the space where the work is to be exhibited should fit with the work or the theme of the show (if there is more than one artist). While the student should consider artists from the community, artists working as instructors at Rhodes College are **not** eligible for consideration. Relatives and members of the curator's immediate or extended family are also **not** eligible for consideration. However, artists who

are students at the school are eligible. Students are **not** to include themselves or other members of the Gallery Management class in the exhibition. In addition to the professionalism of the exhibition itself, the students will be graded on the quality and timeliness of their press release (to be sent out to the local media) as well as their accompanying essay. Rough drafts of the essays should be handed in to the instructor at least four days prior to the exhibition premier. Exhibitions must have an opening reception but do not necessarily need to have gallery hours or a minimum length of duration beyond two hours. (In other words it is acceptable for the work to be installed for only one day). The exhibition essay should be at least 600 words.

Exhibitions should be scheduled for during the month of April anytime before April 20th. Please make sure that if your opening happens on either the 4th or the 18th the shows should be open until 9 pm so we can make it to see the show following the Juried Show / Senior Thesis Exhibition which should wrap up by 8:30). If at all possible, students should stagger exhibitions this way the folks who want to see all the shows won't have to drive to all of them in one night.

It is essential that the artist be there for the exhibition reception. Please insist. Students will be graded on the installation of the work so it should be clear to the artist that the installation needs to be a collaborative effort. I wouldn't recommend for the student to install the work by themselves, work *with* the artist.

A special note on the Honor Code:

It is important to remember that the usual rules for written papers apply to the reviews for this class. Whenever you use another person's ideas or words, you must acknowledge that they belong to that person. When you decide to quote someone directly, you should use quotation marks and note the exact source, including author's name, title of book or article, place of publication, date, and page number. Whenever you paraphrase another person's original ideas, you must also acknowledge this in the same way. This is also applicable to any information found in press releases for exhibitions.

On page 15 of the online version of the student handbook (http://www.rhodes.edu/images/content/CampusLife/Honor_Constitution.pdf) it states that "Plagiarism is an act of academic dishonesty. A student must not adopt or reproduce ideas, words, or statements of another person without appropriate acknowledgment."

If you are for some reason unclear about plagiarism, please do not hesitate to see me *before* you turn in the paper.