

University of Texas at El Paso  
Art 3337: Professional Practices in Art Education  
Syllabus Spring 2018\*

---

**Course Information**

Course Title: Special Topics: Professional Practices in Art Education  
Course prefix and number: ART 3337  
Meeting Time: Mondays 4:30- 7:20  
Location: Fox Fine Arts Building, Room A463

**Instructor Information**

Course Instructor: Dr. Heather Kaplan  
Email: hgkaplan@utep.edu  
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1:30 – 2:30pm and by appointment  
Office location: Fox Fine Arts Building, Room A455A

**Instructor Introduction**

I am a researcher, artist, and art educator. I hold a BFA in art with concentration in ceramics, a BS and MS in art education from the Pennsylvania State University, and a Ph. D in art education from the Ohio State University. I have taught in schools, museums, and community education, and my teaching experience spans from toddlers to senior citizens.

**Course Description**

This course is intended as the professional capstone class for the art education students. During this class students will create a professional resume, cover letter, website, four arts integrated lesson plans, and practice interviewing.

**Course Prerequisites**

Students must be junior level or above for course admission.

**Course Goals and Objectives**

1. To cultivate an appreciation of and promote advocacy for art education and visual culture in schools and other cultural institutions
2. To develop visual communication skills using visual and verbal language
3. To conceive and create visual arts curriculum through basic lesson planning strategies
4. To explore artistic, dialogic, democratic, and inquiry-based methods of creating and learning in the visual arts

**Course Outcomes**

1. Students will be able to identify and compare various art and cultural curriculums
2. Students will exhibit proficiency in visual languages through verbal and visual competency.
3. Students will create implementable and original visual arts lesson plans
4. Students will discuss, explore, and create original works and ideas relevant to the visual arts.

## General Course Requirements

### **Modeling professionalism:**

You are expected to maintain professional conduct at all times in the class and out in the schools and community. This includes being on time to class meetings and site visits as well as appointments. Respect for all members of the class is expected. Please allow for individual differences and opinions.

### **Attendance:**

Regular class attendance is expected. For each absence after the second (2) absence your grade will be lowered one letter grade (A to B). Three (3) incidents of tardiness or leaving class early equals one absence.

### **Cleanup and Participation:**

Cleanup and active participation are important parts of any studio or art-based environment. As such, it is an expectation that you will contribute to the overall cleanliness of the class and will be stewards of your environment and community. Furthermore, as a member of the community, the responsibility of stewardship extends to the wellbeing of all members and includes caring for the space and people in it. You will be expected to participate and share your work while contributing to an atmosphere where others may share and participate in turn. Should these issues become problematic, the instructor reserves the right to deduct a letter grade from the final grade calculation for non-compliance in clean up and/or participation.

### **Missed Assignments:**

It is the responsibility of the student to be in class in order to complete course work. Should you miss class it is your responsibility to complete the work missed or to propose and complete a similar assignment. Please research what other students completed while you were absent before approaching the professor with questions or proposals. The instructor must approve any proposed makeup assignment. Please consider making an appointment outside of class time to discuss missed work.

### **Late Assignments:**

Late assignments are only eligible to receive 50% of the total possible assignment points. Blackboard assignments are considered late when they are submitted after the blackboard due date. In class assignments are considered late when they are submitted after the in-class due date. If you sign-up to present an in-class assignment and are unable to complete the assignment that day there may be opportunity to present at a later date; however, you will be subject to the 50% point possible late policy.

### **Working During and Preparedness for Class:**

You will be expected to come prepared for class (bringing all necessary supplies, projects, and readings) and be ready to work. On workdays you will be engaged and working for the entire class. If you come unprepared to work or do not work during the entire time allotted 10-25% of the points possible for the project will be deducted.

### **Email:**

For this course, email is used as a primary means of communicating with students. Email is sent to UTEP accounts. It is the student's responsibility to check email or forward emails to an account that he or she checks regularly. Please DO NOT email assignments, they will not be accepted.

### **Reading:**

There is a text for the class and all other readings are available on blackboard. Please purchase the text online from a bookseller like Amazon or Barnes and Noble or one of your choosing.

### **Course Text:**

**Title: "I Won't Learn From You" and Other Thoughts on Creative Maladjustment**

**Author: Herbert Kohl**

**ISBN-10: 1565840968**

**ISBN-13: 978-1565840966**

### **Blackboard:**

The UTEP blackboard website is an integral part of this class. The blackboard site is the only method for submitting written course work. The instructor will not accept written assignments via email or hardcopy. Do not submit your work in this manner unless explicitly asked to by the instructor. Blackboard will be where you are able to download course materials and will be where you are expected to upload written assignments. Written assignments not turned in on blackboard will not be considered turned in.

### **Grade Distribution:**

#### **Integrated lesson plans**

**4 x 5=20pts**

You will write four arts integrated lesson plans, one for each general education subject (English, math, social studies, and science). Each (initial) individual lesson plan is worth 5pts. You will include at least two revised integrated lesson plans to your website. Additionally, you will upload all four lesson plans to the blackboard website.

#### **Professional Observation**

**10pts**

You will enter the schools and observe an art teacher paying special attention to their professionalism and teaching philosophy. You will write a paper about these observations and understandings. Plan on both observing and interviewing the teacher. In order to enter the schools and complete your observation you will need to obtain district clearance to enter the schools. The ability to adhere to district requirements and apply for clearance is

part of your grade and will be a step toward student teaching - consider observing in the district you'd like to student teach in.

### **Teaching philosophy**

**10pts**

You will consider and write a teaching philosophy. We will discuss teaching philosophies in class and you will complete preparatory exercises designed to help you write your teaching philosophy. The final teaching philosophy should be submitted to blackboard.

### **Resume**

**10pts**

You will construct a professional resume intended for employment in the schools. We will review resume writing in class and you will submit drafts and will make revisions. The final revised resume should be included on the final website.

### **Cover letter**

**10pts**

You will construct a cover letter intended for use when applying to jobs in the schools. We will review cover letter writing in class and you will submit drafts and will make revisions. The final revised resume should be submitted to blackboard.

### **Interview**

**10pts**

You will complete a mock education interview in front of the class and you will schedule and complete an interview with campus career services. We will discuss interviewing and will generate a rubric for strong interview skills based on these discussions. You will be interviewed in front of a group of peers. Your grade will come part from completion of the career center interview and part from the completion of the class interview.

### **Website**

**30pts**

You will create a professional art education website that can be shared with educational hiring professionals. Much of the website will be created in class, pages as well as content will be created in class. The website might require additional work outside of class. The completed website will serve as the final project for the course. The website should include: a home page, resume and resume page, portfolio of your work, portfolio of student work, sample lesson plans (two of which will be arts integrated lesson plans generated in this class), and contact information. The website should be well-designed, professional in appearance and content, there should be no misspelled words and all text should be proofread. You will be graded on content as well as design and professionalism.

---

**TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE**

**100pts**

### **Grading Scale:**

A = 100 – 90

B = 89 – 80

C = 79 – 70

D = 69 – 60

F = 59 and below

### Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty Statement

Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> for further information

### Disability Statement

I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please contact me personally within the first two weeks of class to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Disabled Student Services Office within the first two weeks of classes. The Disabled Student Services Office is located in room 106 of the East Union Building and can also be reached in the following ways:

Web: <http://www.utep.edu/dsso>

Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY

Fax: (915) 747-8712

E-Mail: [dss@utep.edu](mailto:dss@utep.edu)

\*Please note that this syllabus is subject to change. Please pay attention for changes and contact the instructor with questions. By choosing to enroll in this class, you agree to the conditions of this syllabus.