

Special Topics
Neon Sculpture
ART 3307
Syllabus in the time of COVID

Instructor: Angel Cabrales, M.F.A.

Office: 259 Fox Fine Arts Bldg.
Office hours will be appointment only via Zoom

Email: Jcabrales@utep.edu

Make sure you have access to BlackBoard, the instructor will not be responsible for any missed information related to the class.

Email sent through other means different than the University email will not be attended. (i.e. Facebook or personal email)

Meeting Time: Tuesday/Thursday 4:30 PM – 7:20 PM
257 Fox Fine Arts Bldg

I am here to help you navigate this course successfully.

- Ask questions regularly.
- Consult about course content.
- **Review graded assignments and exams with me.**

I can be reached through email, and by appointment.

Course Description:

Neon Sculpture is an introduction to the history and contemporary uses of neon in sculpture as well as the initiation of sculptural concepts in relation to light-based works with neon lights. Student instruction includes the introduction to the noble gases, tube bending, studio safety, transformer wiring and the bombarding process.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

A course in Neon Sculpture is designed to:

- Be an introduction to new avenues of the artistic process and refinement of process.
- Learn and experiment with new methodologies in light-based work and incorporate them into the artistic process and style.
- Instill the habit of safe use of materials, tools, and equipment.
- Cultivate a working knowledge of historical and contemporary neon art within the students work.
- Enable the students to address the development and meaning of his/her work in critical terms.
- Expand the student's creative process and overlap performance, sculpture and video into a new artistic expression.

What skills will this class teach me?

By the end of this semester, you will:

- Have learned developed and expanded your Sculptural style and techniques with a main focus in light based works with neon.
- Have a better ability in problem-solving/critical thinking to bring your sculptural ideas to fruition.
- Give special attention to the development of a conceptual intent, aesthetics, and technical skills in order to achieve and expand your artistic objective.
- Apply this knowledge to the criticism of a work of art.

Educational Objectives

This class course will help you to achieve the following objectives:

- Think critically and creatively, learning to apply different systems of analysis.
- Engage with a variety of others in thoughtful and well-crafted communication.
- Cultivate self-awareness, balance and an openness to change.

Course Structure:

By this point, you should have an inclination toward the sculptural methods you prefer. This class emphasizes combining those methods with new techniques using neon light to express your vision not only through sculpture but through the artist statement. Specific assignments will be given to students that are designed to develop light-based sculptural concepts and continue the development in your artistic philosophy. Students can expect help and guidance, although part of the purpose for the course is to develop independence and self-confidence in their work. Due to the current conditions from the pandemic, class time will be the only time available for studio use. Students will be required to work from home during the week.

SPECIAL NOTE

- Discussion with the instructor, classmates, as well, as other sources is expected throughout the production of the projects.
- Participation in class discussions, class critiques (working or final) or assigned material, is required.
- Video classes will be given on announced dates in the calendar, be aware that students must be visible on screen throughout the class time and classes will be recorded.
- This course is dependent on time; students will be expected to make full use of the scheduled class time. It will be necessary to do some of their work outside of the scheduled class time.
- Students will be expected to have the necessary materials at the start of class. Class time will not be allowed to acquire materials for an assignment unless we arrange to do so as a class.
- A notebook/sketchbook of the materials covered in the class will be kept by all students. You must have these items on hand for every class session. This sketch book will be used for your conceptual designs.

SUPPLEMENTAL ASSIGNMENTS:

A series of video, power point or slide presentations, as well as readings will be assigned in addition to the studio projects. The guidelines for these assignments will be given separately.

Student Assessment:

Student progress in this class is assessed through **three (3)** art assignments (including project writings of intent), critique, participation, and a portfolio review which includes an artist statement (**This is your final**).

EVALUATION:

The grade dispensed for each project will be based on several factors involved in the course of its production. Such factors might include:

- The commitment to craftsmanship
- Time management
- Work ethic
- Attendance
- Participation in lectures and critiques

Grades:

A (90-100): Exceptional level of production, ambition, and problem resolution; commitment to tasks and active group participation.

B (80-89): Above average level of production and ambition; noteworthy, if not consistent, commitment and class participation.

C (70-79): Completion of assigned projects with the least amount of effort and minimum dedication; and sparse class participation.

D (60-69): Below the required level of completion of tasks, performance and participation.

F (59 and below): A failure to meet the minimum expectations of the course.

****SPECIAL NOTE****

Grades for work will not be accepted unless the development of the sculpture has been viewed prior to final group critique.

Final grades will be determined by the following percentages

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| • Projects | 60% |
| • Participation | 20% |
| • Portfolio Review | 20% |

IMPORTANT!

Failure to complete **ANY** of the assignments without a valid and documented excuse will automatically result in a grade of **ZERO** and will have a great impact on your over-all grade.

NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE GRANTED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is an integral part of this course, as time is a factor in creating work as well as the availability of me and other students who will provide information and input. Studio time missed when working toward a project will be detrimental to students work and due to the pandemic protocols will not be able to be made up. Attendance will only be taken with a sign-up sheet at the beginning of class and will be picked up within the first 10 minutes of class. Signing in thereafter will result in a tardy, three tardies will equal one day of absence. If a student is absent from class for more than five days they will be dropped from the class with a "W" if it is before the drop date and an "F" if it is after. Failure to arrive to class prepared will also be taken as a tardy. When a student misses a class, it is the responsibility of the student to find out what was missed. I will inform the student during class as best as possible without affecting my responsibilities to the rest of the class. The student is accountable for information gathered from classmates, no matter how accurate. This will also apply for any video classes we will be having.

LATE WORK:

Work that is not submitted on day of critique will decrease one letter grade per class period following the original due date. If, due to mitigating circumstances, an absence occurs and prevents the completion of work, it is the responsibility of the student to contact me and arrange a new due date by the next class meeting.

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:

Students are responsible for adhering to the School's policy on scholastic dishonesty as stated in the Student's Rights in the online Student Handbook. Any student engaging in scholastic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary penalties, which may include the possibility of failure in the course and or expulsion from the university.

AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT (Disabilities Accommodation):

Disabilities: If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

Web: www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY

Fax: (915) 747-8712

E-Mail: cass@utep.edu

HEALTH AND SAFETY

When Faculty, Staff and Students are Required to Stay Home

All faculty, staff and students are required to STAY HOME if they:

- (1) test positive COVID-19
- (2) are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 or
- (3) were exposed to any individual who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last two weeks.

The CDC defines an "exposed person" as anyone who has had close contact (less than 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual must also have occurred within a specific window: 2 days *before* the COVID-19 positive individual's first positive test and *until* that same individual meets the criteria for discontinuing home isolation.

When Faculty, Staff and Students Must Self-Report

All faculty, staff and students must REPORT if they:

- (1) test positive COVID-19,
- (2) are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19, or
- (3) were exposed to any individual who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last two weeks.

The CDC defines an "exposed person" as anyone who has had close contact (less than 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual must also have occurred within a specific window: 2 days *before* the COVID-19 positive individual's first positive test and *until* that same individual meets the criteria for discontinuing home isolation.

How to Self-Report

To make sure reports are tracked accurately, self-reports must be made to screening.utep.edu. Self-reporting will allow the University to provide guidance on how to prevent exposure to others, and provide the criteria and procedures required for returning to campus when appropriate. Information will be safeguarded and used only for supporting you and determining exposure of other faculty, staff and students.

What to Do Before Coming to Campus

The web link, screening.utep.edu, which can be saved to a home screen on Apple or Android devices, includes daily screening questions.

All faculty, staff and students will use this link each day before coming to the UTEP campus. Upon completion of the daily screening questions, the page will tell them whether they are clear to proceed to campus or not. Using this tool will automatically send an email to your supervisor letting them know that you are or are not coming to work. If you report COVID-19 symptoms, the system also automatically reports to UTEP Environment, Health & Safety who will reach out to you directly with further instructions.

Faculty, staff and student should comply with these instructions and any subsequent guidance that may be provided by Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S), Human Resources, the Dean of Students, or other university officials.

What to do when on Campus

Each of us helps to build our collective commitment to use best health practices all the time.

Getting the basics right is the most important thing each of us can do to protect ourselves and each other.

It is everyone's responsibility to help keep our campus safe by following best practices when on campus, especially faculty, staff, and student leaders who are important role models. All faculty, staff, and students are required to

- Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present
- Maintain a minimum separation of six (6) feet between yourself and others, when possible, and arrange spaces to make this possible in almost all circumstances
- Adhere to room/space limitations on number of occupants
- Wash hands frequently

Regarding COVID-19 Accommodations:

Students who use the screening application to report a positive COVID test, exposure or symptoms will not be allowed on campus and may need accommodations. If this occurs, you should contact your instructor as soon as possible so necessary accommodations can be made. If necessary please contact the Dean of Students' Office and the Center for Accommodation and Support Services (CASS), to help provide reasonable accommodations.

Compliance

Because everyone's cooperation is needed to help prevent the spread of disease, repeated refusal to comply with this policy will be referred to the appropriate University official (Provost

for faculty, Human Resources for staff, and Dean of Students for students) and may result in disciplinary action.

Face to Face Hybrid Course Addendum:

Student Responsibilities

- Wear a mask at all times
- Maintain 6 feet of separation at all times, including when conferencing with other students
- Follow signage indicating specific entry and exit doors and pathways
- Do not cluster in groups and keep hallways open
- Wash hands and/or apply hand sanitizer prior to entering classroom and after leaving a classroom. Do not touch your face until you can wash hands.
- Use an alcohol wipe, provided outside of classrooms, to sanitize the area where you will be sitting.
- Follow faculty protocols for leaving and re-entering the classroom during the lecture.

COVID-19 Accommodations:

Students who are considered high risk according to CDC guidelines and/or those who live with individuals who are considered high risk may contact CASS to discuss temporary accommodations for on-campus courses and activities.

SAFETY PROCEDURES and SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Safety is of the utmost importance in this class, you are expected to wear your mask at all times, as well as the proper safety attire when working in the studio. **(masks must cover mouth and nose at all times, loose bandanas, masks with valves, neck gaiters and face shields without a mask are not allowed)** Social Distancing protocols are in effect at all times. Everyone must stay a minimum of six feet from each other at all times. If you do not comply with these rules, you will be sent home and may not return until you have the proper equipment. Everyone is expected to share in the order and cleanliness of the classroom. You are expected to cleanup your personal work area when you arrive and after leaving the classroom with the sanitized wipes provided at the classroom entrance. An understanding of your own and your fellow classmates' personal space is essential to everyone's well-being. Please be respectful of other classmates' belongings. Because we will be wearing masks at all times, no snacks or drinks of any kind will be allowed.

Students will be using a variety of tools in this class, safety, I repeat, is of the utmost importance, it is vital that students be present for all tool demonstrations. If a student does not have their safety equipment the student will not be allowed to use the tools and will be sent home to retrieve their equipment.

All students **must** have the following safety equipment to work:

Face mask (masks must cover mouth and nose at all times, loose bandanas, masks with valves, neck gaiters and face shields without a mask are not allowed)

Safety Glasses

Work gloves

Welding Gloves

Good boots, sandals will not protect your feet! You will be sent home if you are not wearing the proper foot attire.

Hearing protection, music head phones do not count

Dust mask/ Respirator

A long sleeve shirt that you don't mind getting dirty

Jeans that you don't mind getting dirty

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY

On June 13, 2015, Governor Greg Abbott signed into law a bill (S.B. 11) allowing license holders to carry concealed handguns on public university campuses in the state of Texas. The legislation, which goes into effect August 1, 2016, provides an opportunity for individual campuses to develop rules, policies and practices associated with the law's implementation. Included in the law is the opportunity for campuses to identify gun-free exclusion areas where concealed carry will not be allowed. As stated in the law, the University President has the authorization to enact "reasonable rules and regulations" for excluding concealed handguns from areas on-campus but the rules may not either "generally prohibit" or "have the effect of generally prohibiting" license holders from carrying concealed handguns on campus. The exclusion zones have been approved as exclusion areas by UTEP's President. Other rooms and venues on-campus could become exclusion zones due to activities taking place such as national testing, a formal hearing, collegiate athletic events, on-campus voting locations organized by government agencies, or special events produced by external agents. In these cases appropriate signage will be displayed at the entrance to the venue or room. Rationale for UTEP's exclusion areas can be found in the Campus Concealed Carry Task Force Report. The Sculpture room is a gun-free exclusion area. No guns are allowed in the room or work areas. If you do have a CHL and have a weapon, please leave your gun in your locker or your car.

Go to the following link for the entire list of exclusion areas on campus

<http://sa.utep.edu/campuscarry/exclusion-zones/>

MATERIALS LIST:

Students will be supplied a complete bending kit and a Hot Head torch so that they may bend tubes at home. Materials will be provided to produce a maximum of 3 finished tubes of up to 4

feet in length (12 feet total footage). Students must purchase their own transformers, as well as ply wood, steel mesh and hinges to build your own portable pattern holder. As sculpture materials vary due to the idea, aside from the neon, the following is a rudimentary list of needed materials, students may have to purchase other materials to bring their ideas to fruition.

Pencils, Sharpie, Sketch book, combination square, measuring tape, Utility Knife and/or Xacto knife, Tool box or bucket, Duct tape, masking tape, consumables such as sandpaper, nail screws, Enamel paints or spray paint, stain, varnish, etc. as needed.

NOTE

Students will be responsible for supplying all materials for all assignments.

SUPPLY STORES:

• **Area Iron & Steel Works Inc.**

4605 Osborne Dr.
915-833-9494

• **Aarmor Metals & Supply Inc.**

9925 Carnegie Ave.
915-594-8263

• **Northern Tool & Equipment**

6990 Gateway Blvd E, El Paso, TX 79915
(915) 613-1348

• **Tractor Supply Co.**

6869 South Desert Blvd Ste. 500
(915)-877-5397

• **Lowe's**

430 E. Redd Rd
915-581-4401

• **Home Depot**

7545 N. Mesa St.
915-585-2319

• **Building Specialties (L&W Supply)**

905 Hawkins Blvd.
915-779-5753

•Bity Mold Supply

www.brickintheyard.com

521 Sterling Dr.

Richardson, TX 75081

1-888-676-2489

214-575-5600

Please Note:

This is a trying time and I will be doing my best to ensure the best outcome for the semester but adaptation will be needed throughout the semester and as such the instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus at any time, if necessary.

Sign the contract below

Please sign and return this form to me via email

SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR Neon Sculpture ART 3307

I _____ (print your name here),
Student ID# _____ acknowledge that I have read the course syllabus.

I understand the course structure, grading and attendance policies, the safety protocols, as well as the risk factor rating. I hereby agree to the syllabus and its provisions. I understand the need to wear mask at all times and will comply with the safety rules of social distancing. It is understood that poor attendance will have a serious and detrimental effect on my grade at the instructor's discretion.

By taking this course, I agree not to commit acts of academic dishonesty including plagiarism, cheating, forgery, and failing to cite sources.

I understand that any act of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of "F" in the course and a written report sent to the Office of the Provost and the chair of the UTEP Department of Art.

I further understand that Mr. Cabrales and the chair of the Visual Art Department will pursue disciplinary actions against me with the University should I commit any act of academic dishonesty.

I understand that failing to complete any of the exams or assignments will result in a grade of "F" in the course, regardless of the points I have accumulated.

Student e-mail address (print)

Signature

Date