course description:

It is the purpose of the advanced course to explore METAL, ADORNMENT, FUNCTION, & the BODY as creative material in art. With an emphasis on formal, technical, and conceptual problems, students will aim to develop their own personal direction and philosophy for Metalsmithing through independent research, thinking, and making. Historic and contemporary precedents and issues of Metalsmithing are presented and investigated during class discussions, critiques, readings, and self-directed research. We will use those examples as well as other creative work or relevant topics as inspirational points of departure and reference. A multitude of perspectives will encourage student’s evaluation of their own and their peer’s work to be informed and insightful. Emphasis is placed on the development of a personal conceptual direction in conjunction with formal and technical problem solving. In the advanced course students are expected to improve, build upon, and continue the development of their hand skills, technique, and understanding of processes. With the individual level of each student in mind, technical excellence is always expected.

FORMING. The course will help students gain an understanding of metal’s plasticity, ductility, and elasticity. Students will be introduced to specific metal forming techniques such as synclastic/anticlastic, die-forming, and fold-forming, as well as more detailed metal manipulation through chasing and repousse. We will also implement new laser cutting and engraving technology to assist in traditional forming processes, as well as production processes. Through hands-on instruction students will learn to apply the proper techniques to strengthen and improve technical ability. Students will also be challenged to apply the framework of our semester’s theme in innovative, non-traditional, and/or conceptual larger projects.

course goals/objectives & outcomes:

See attached Advanced Metals 2 through 7 goals/objectives & outcomes (page 6).

course requirements:

The course will be comprised of major creative assignments, technical assignments/samples, research, sketching, reading, and writing, as well as two quizzes to gauge your understanding. Technical, formal, and conceptual requirements will be given via project prompts, power point presentations, demonstrations, and discussion.

Your responsibilities as a student are to make an honest effort to master the assignments and challenges that are presented to you, to contribute positively to the learning experience of the class by being an active participant in all class activities, and to be respectful of the studio, the tools, and all others around you.

This studio course will require significant work-time outside of class, at times. In addition to the 6 hours of face-to-face course time each week, students should anticipate spending about 6 hours outside of class per week to satisfactorily complete this class. A serious student will discover that minimum involvement in the class is not sufficient to provide a quality performance. The 6 hours per week in class are to be used at the instructor’s discretion. In-class work time is structured to provide individualized instruction and assistance with the design/build process. You will gain the most insight and feedback on your work during this time if you challenge yourself outside of class to make progress. In-class studio time is limited, so it is extremely important that you are organized and disciplined to best prepare for effective use of your time, both in and out of class.
As your instructor it is my goal to instill in you a passion for the overall creative process and the desire to understand, practice, and showcase the skills you learn.
course policies:
Attendance, punctuality, participation, and appropriate class conduct are considered performance criteria for this class. Failure to perform to required standards will result in strong grade penalties and can cause failure of this course.

participation:
- Participation in all discussions, demonstrations, critiques, and class days is expected and required for this course.
- Development and execution of class projects must be done utilizing all class meetings. Projects executed solely outside of class will not be accepted.
- Participation and productivity are essential to the individual student, as well as the class group dynamic. The more the student does, sees, and questions, the faster skills and understanding will increase. Productivity, in the form of successes and failures, is the only way the student can visually demonstrate the knowledge acquired.

critiques: Participation and attendance on critique days is required. They are a critical element of this class and should be considered as important as exams in a lecture course. Critiques are a focused and structured opportunity to articulate thoughts and ideas about your work, as well as your peer’s. They should help students consider and practice critical thinking and observation in relation to the techniques and concepts challenged by the projects, as well as in larger contexts of wearable/functional art, contemporary art, history, and culture. They should also be considered an exercise in professionalism; be on time, be engaged, be respectful, and present your work thoughtfully. Group and individual critiques rely on completed work and full student participation; unresolved work may not be critiqued.

attendance:
- ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED & PROMPTNESS IS EXPECTED. I take attendance each class.
- Each student is permitted 3 absences during the semester without penalty. Students with more than 3 absences should consider dropping the course and retaking it at a time when the student can commit to the course.
- Art Department Policy: Each absence after 3 will result in the final course grade lowered by 1 full letter grade. Absences after the first 3 may be excused at the instructor’s discretion, only if the first 3 absences are excused.
- Excused absences are defined as documented serious illness, childcare emergencies, death in the immediate family, or university sanctioned events. Scheduled appointments, transportation problems, and job demands are not excused absences.
- Students will receive one-third an absence for arriving late or leaving early (3 times late/leave early = 1 absence). Coming to class late or leaving early is not only unprofessional & disruptive to the learning environment, but announcements, pertinent information, and demos may be presented at the beginning of class so it is critical to be on time, even early! It is your responsibility to remain up to date with tardies/absences. I have the attendance sheet available to review each class.
- Come to class prepared, have your materials, and be ready to work or participate. Unpreparedness will be regarded as absent. Please arrange all appointments (doctor, work related, etc.) around this class.
- Information missed due to being late or absent is the sole responsibility of the student.
- Attendance on critique day is mandatory. Outside of documented illness or emergency, any student who misses a critique/due date will receive a grade of ‘F’ on that project.
- No extra credit is available to offset attendance problems.

conduct:
- Behavior: Professional and respectful behavior is expected at all times. If there is an issue preventing you from performing to this expectation in class, during studio time, or even online, you will first be given a warning, and if it continues you will be removed from the course.
- Sick Policy: Under NO circumstance should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting symptoms related to the flu, COVID-19, or other contagious illnesses. If you are feeling ill, contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations regarding your coursework. Our health & safety is priority #1.
- Guests: No visitors are permitted in the studio during class time, or outside of class.
- Children: For safety reasons, children are not permitted at any time to be in the studios.
- Cell Phones: Please turn off, or completely silence, your phones during class time. The use of cell phones (calling, texting, social media, etc.) is prohibited during class. If this becomes a reoccurring problem, I will ask you to leave and you’ll be counted absent.
- Laptops/Tablets/Smart devices: Please keep these in your backpacks, on the shelf, in your locker during class. The use of them is prohibited during class time, unless there is an assignment requirement. Again, if this becomes a reoccurring problem, I will ask you to leave and you’ll be counted absent.
incompletes, withdrawals, pass/fail

Incompletes, ‘I’, grades will be considered for students completing satisfactory or better work and having serious legitimate situations beyond their control requiring additional time to complete the course requirements. All ‘I’ grades are at discretion of the instructor & approval of the Department Chair.

Withdrawals from the course is the full responsibility of the student. Withdrawals must be completed on or before final date to drop with a ‘W’. If deadline is missed a grade will be issued for performance in the course.

Pass/fail, audit, or graduate credit options not available.

University Policy Statements

disabilities statement

Disabilities: I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations & Student Services within the first two weeks of classes. CASS Office, Union East Bldg., Rm 106
www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/ 915.747.5148 / cass@utep.edu

academic dishonesty statement

Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student or possessing unauthorized materials during a test/quiz. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the word/ideas of another as one’s own. All work must be the original work of the student. Any quotations, paraphrases, or direct appropriation of imagery or ideas from borrowed sources must be properly cited to comply with applicable citation guidelines and copyright law, including AI tools. 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, including previous metal courses. All suspected violations will be reported and subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. Refer to https://www.utep.edu/hoop/section-2/student-conduct-and-discipline.html

Music: Listening to personal music is only permitted during in-class work time and on headphones at a reasonable volume. This is so you are able to work safely, and you’re not shut off from engaging with the class. Watching movies, TV shows, videos, etc. on phones/tablets/laptops during class hours is not allowed. I will ask you to turn it off.

Open Lab Hours/Access: The studio will be open outside of regular class hours to students currently enrolled in a Metals class under monitor supervision Monday-Saturday. As an advanced student, you must sign in and out of open lab hours each time you come & follow proper opening and closing procedures if you are first or last to be there. Only an advanced student or the instructor may open/close down the studio. See the studio doors for the semester lab hour schedule. Police Identification access is reserved for advanced students only. Be prepared with your student ID when calling for access to the lab outside of normal hours: M-F, before 8 am or after 6 pm; at any time on Sat/Sun.

Studio & Personal Safety: All safety procedures will be explained to you throughout the semester, and every consideration has been taken to create a safe environment for you to work in. Be proactive regarding your health & safety.

Do not use any tool or equipment that has not been demonstrated to you by the class instructor.

- Use equipment and materials with proper instruction and supervision. Do not work when you’re tired.
- Please report immediately (to myself, TA, or work-study student) any tool or equipment in need of repair.
- No eating inside the studio. Beverages must be brought in a fully closed container and kept in your backpack/on studio shelf only. Use the patio or hall to eat or when taking extended drink breaks.
- Always wear appropriate attire and footwear while working in the studio. Safety glasses, protective clothing, dust masks, aprons, gloves, or any specifics mentioned by the instructor. Students must wear close toe shoes at all time in the studio, pull back/pin up long hair, remove loose jewelry/headphones, avoid loose clothing, and clothing that reveals too much skin. If not in compliance, you will be asked to leave to get the proper attire.

- Students should never work alone if possible. If you or another student has an emergency or serious accident, or you feel unsafe for any reason, you should call the UTEP police immediately (747.5611).
As an advanced student your toolbox should include ALL of the following:

✦ 6” Half-round #2 cut file with handle
✦ Jewelers saw frame, 4” or 5”
✦ Plier set: chain, round, flat nose
✦ Side cutter (sometimes included with plier sets) for cutting solder
✦ Set of 6 assorted needle files, cut #2
✦ 6” steel tweezers with sharp non-serrated tip
✦ 6” metal ruler
✦ Assorted drill bits: #60, 55, 52 are good to have
✦ Ring clamp
✦ Silver solder: Hard, Medium, and Easy (at least 1ft. each)
✦ Solder pick
✦ One jar non-fluoride paste flux for silver soldering
✦ One small, soft paint brush – for flux
✦ T-pins: Perkins sells them by the dozen
✦ Wet/Dry Silica Carbide abrasive paper (black color): #'s 220, 320, 400, 600
✦ Steel Wool: Grade #0000, fine
✦ Saw blades: various sizes - #2/0, #4/0 are good to have
✦ Beeswax, old candle, or soap – for saw blade/drill bit lubrication
✦ Center punch
✦ Scribe
✦ Scissors & X-acto knife with replacement blades
✦ Masking tape & Rubber Cement
✦ Fine point & regular sharpie marker
✦ Sketchbook, tracing paper, pencil, eraser
✦ 3-ring binder
✦ Safety glasses
✦ Hand towel, rag, or old t-shirt
✦ Small/Medium art supply/tool box
✦ Metal/Wire as needed for assignments
✦ Expect to replace expendables: sandpapers, blades, etc.

Optional items that are handy:

✦ Caliper
✦ Square
✦ Miter vise
✦ Dividers
✦ Shape templates

Materials and supplies will be needed throughout the semester and you will be given advance notice to procure what is necessary for projects, samples, assignments, etc. As an advanced student is a good habit to procure a stock of a variety of metals (sheet, wire) to have on hand when needed.

Tool Loan
If needed, the Metals Program has some additional tool loan kits available for checkout to use during the semester. It is the student’s responsibility to maintain the good care of these tools, keep track of them, and to return them at the end of the semester in good condition. Any lost/damaged tools will need to be replaced by the last class day at the student’s expense. Failure to do so will result in an ‘Incomplete’ for final grade submission, until returned/replaced.

✦ 6” Half-round #2 cut file with handle
✦ Jewelers saw frame, 4” or 5”

Studio/Lab UTEP Course Fee:
General studio expendables; general studio tool wear and replacement; sparex/pickling solution – post-soldering cleaning acid; gases used for soldering; materials/tools for student use

studio communal tools, supplies, & studio intent:
If ever using a communal tool or supply, please help maintain access to them by ALWAYS putting things back in the appropriate place when you are finished with them. Please do not take studio tools home with you.

local suppliers:

○ Perkins Jewelry Supply / 1124 E Yandell Dr. **10% student discount with ID
Open: Monday – Friday 10 am to 5 pm. Closed weekends. 915.533.6565
○ Armor Metals / 9925 Carnegie * larger sheet metal
○ Hobby Lobby, Michael’s, Hal’s Hobby Warehouse, Home Depot, Lowes, Ace Hardware

online suppliers:


recommended (not required) books/resources:

○ Hydraulic Die Forming for Jewelers & Metalsmiths by Susan Kingsley
○ Chasing & Repoussé: Methods Ancient & Modern by Nancy Megan Corwin
○ UTEP Library – There is an AMAZING selection of jewelry/metals books available!
○ Online: www.artjewelryforum.org – large resource for contemporary jewelry books, articles, interviews, reviews, opportunities, etc.
○ www.snagmetalsmith.org – Society of North American Goldsmiths

membership:

○ SNAG - $58/year student membership (includes digital & print Metalsmith subscription). THE organization for the field: Stay connected, learn of opportunities, network, conference discount, etc. *Discount when 4 or more students sign up.
MTLS II, 2313, CRN 10756
This course will continue the exploration and perfection of techniques and processes encountered in Metals 2303, while expanding to include more complex and technically demanding skills. Although technical skills will be stressed, the focus of this course will be the integration of the technical, formal, and conceptual research. Prerequisite MTLS 2303 and ARTF 1304.
Course Goals & Objectives:
- Development of an advanced level of visual literacy
- Development of an individual direction in studio problem solving
- Greater understanding of current trends in the field of Metalsmithing
- Continued development of work ethic and commitment needed to succeed in achieving the above stated goals
Course Outcomes:
- Experience in pursuing an individual direction in creative problem solving
- Distinguish safe and appropriate procedures and practices utilized in the studio
- Expanded technical knowledge of tools, processes, and terminology
- Awareness of historical and contemporary aspects of the field
- Thoughtful and professional evaluative skills through participation in group critique and discussion
- Experience in pursuing an individual direction in creative problem solving
- Development of time management skills necessary to plan and complete long-term projects

MTLS III, 3303, CRN 11114
This course will expand on the technical knowledge and skills acquired in Metals 2313. More emphasis placed upon the refinement of a personal vision. Prerequisite MTLS 2313. Students seeking prerequisite waiver must contact the instructor.
Course Goals & Objectives:
- Continued development of an advanced level of visual literacy
- Refinement of an individual direction in studio problem solving
- Greater understanding of current trends in the field of Metalsmithing
- Continued development of work ethic and commitment needed to succeed in achieving the above stated goals
- Understanding of conceptual and formal issues of importance to the field of Metalsmithing
Course Outcomes:
- A more defined individual direction in creative problem solving and personal vision
- Sophisticated technical knowledge of tools, processes, terminology, skill, and concept
- Awareness of historical and contemporary aspects of the field
- Thoughtful and professional evaluative skills through participation in group critique and discussion
- Development of time management skills necessary to plan and complete long-term projects

MTLS IV, 3313, CRN 11115
This course will expand on the technical knowledge and skills acquired in Metals 3303. More emphasis placed upon the refinement of a personal vision. Prerequisite MTLS 3303. Students seeking prerequisite waiver must contact the instructor.
Course Goals & Objectives:
- Continued development and mastery of a more difficult level of technical skill
- Developed critical thinking skills that help to evaluate personal and peer’s work
- Greater understanding of current trends in the field of Metalsmithing
- Continued development of work ethic and commitment needed to succeed in achieving the above stated goals
- Understanding of conceptual and formal issues of importance to the field of Metalsmithing
Course Outcomes:
- A more defined individual direction in creative problem solving and personal vision
- Good time management and a strong work ethic
- Sophisticated technical knowledge of tools, processes, terminology, skill, and concept
- Making work that addresses current issues in the Metalsmithing field
- Understanding of historical and contemporary aspects of the field
- Thoughtful and professional evaluative skills through participation in group critique and discussion
- Development of time management skills necessary to plan and complete long-term projects

MTLS V, 3323, CRN 11116
This course will expand on the technical knowledge and skills acquired in Metals 3313. More emphasis placed upon the refinement of a personal vision. Prerequisite MTLS 3313. Students seeking prerequisite waiver must contact the instructor.
Course Goals & Objectives:
- Exhibits technical ease in their work and begins to express a consistent visual statement in work
- Developed critical thinking skills that help to evaluate personal and peer’s work
- Greater understanding of current trends in the field of Metalsmithing
- Continued development of work ethic and commitment needed to succeed in achieving the above stated goals
- Understanding of conceptual and formal issues of importance to the field of Metalsmithing
Course Outcomes:
- A defined individual direction in creative problem solving and personal vision
- Good time management and a strong work ethic
- Sophisticated technical knowledge of tools, processes, terminology, skill, and concept
- Making work that addresses current issues in the Metalsmithing field
- Understanding of historical and contemporary aspects of the field
- Thoughtful and professional evaluative skills through participation in group critique and discussion
- Development of time management skills necessary to plan and complete long-term projects

MTLS VI, 4303, CRN 11117
This course will expand on the technical knowledge and skills acquired in Metals 3323. More emphasis placed upon the refinement of a personal vision. Prerequisite MTLS 3323. Students seeking prerequisite waiver must contact the instructor.
Course Goals & Objectives:
- Exhibits technical ease in their work and shows consistency and growth in personal visual statement
- Strong critical thinking skills that help to evaluate personal and peer’s work
- Greater understanding of current trends in the field of Metalsmithing
- Continued development of work ethic and commitment needed to succeed in achieving the above stated goals
- Understanding of conceptual and formal issues of importance to the field of Metalsmithing
Course Outcomes:
- A defined individual direction in creative problem solving and personal vision
- Good time management and a strong work ethic
- Sophisticated technical knowledge of tools, processes, terminology, skill, and concept
- Making work that addresses current issues in the Metalsmithing field
- Understanding of historical and contemporary aspects of the field
- Thoughtful and professional evaluative skills through participation in group critique and discussion
- Development of time management skills necessary to plan and complete long-term projects

MTLS VII, 4313, CRN 11118
This course will expand on the technical knowledge and skills acquired in Metals 4303. More emphasis placed upon the refinement of a personal vision. Prerequisite MTLS 4303. Students seeking prerequisite waiver must contact the instructor.
Course Goals & Objectives:
- Through development of a personal vision, it is expected that students will become independent and self-directed in their art-making.
- Continued development and understanding of the goals & objectives stated in MTLS 4303.
Course Outcomes:
- In addition to the outcomes stated in MTLS 4303, students are expected to prepare for the production of a consistent and tightly focused group of work that shows technical & concept driven competency. Strong technical skills and material understanding must be apparent in the completed works.
ADDITIONAL CAMPUS RESOURCES:

COVID-19 HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION
Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible via email. Additional COVID-19 information, including testing availability, can be found here: https://www.utep.edu/ehs/covid/

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT
The UTEP Help Desk is available to assist with technological needs of students: general troubleshooting, software resources, wifi hotspots, and possible laptop checkouts.

FOOD PANTRY
The UTEP Food Pantry offers support and assistance to students dealing with food insecurity. Food insecurity refers to having limited food available, including a reduction in the quality, safety or variety of food or ability to acquire food in a socially acceptable manner. Researchers have suggested that food insecurity is an issue that an estimated half of all college students struggle with. At UTEP, we recognize that food insecurity is an obstacle to student success and think it’s crucial that students’ basic needs are being met. The food pantry is located in Memorial Gym and is open to all currently enrolled students with a student ID. https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/foodpantry/

MENTAL HEALTH
Counseling and Psychological Services provides a variety of services at UTEP that support students’ ability to benefit from their experience: career counseling, psycho-educational workshops, individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, and professional training experiences. https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/counsel/

Miners Talk Crisis Line: 915-747-5302
Togetherall: Online mental health support, anonymous & 24/7. Register here.

STUDENT AFFAIRS
For more resources UTEP offers for students to meet their goals, see student affairs for additional links at https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/
Advanced Metals Syllabus Acknowledgement & Course Contract Acceptance

Please sign below if you acknowledge that you have received and read the syllabus. That you have had the opportunity to ask questions for clarification. That you understand and agree to the policies and criteria described and understand that if anything is subject to change you will be notified.

Name (print clearly):

________________________________________

Signature:

CONTACT INFORMATION

What name you prefer to be called (nickname) / preferred pronouns:

________________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________________

UTE Email: ___________________________________________

Can I include your phone and email on a class distribution list?
YES or NO

What are you excited to learn this semester in Metals?

Do you have any expectations?

Is there something particular you want to learn how to create?