

SENIOR EXHIBITION PREPARATION

FALL 2025

ART 4066 – 3 units

Instructor: Karah Lain, MFA / klain@pointloma.edu

Meeting times: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:20-3:40PM

Office hours: Starkey B 108A, Wednesdays 9AM-1PM, Fridays by appointment

Final exam time: Wednesday, December 17, 1:30AM-4PM

Location: Keller 101

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the preparatory work necessary to complete the senior capstone art exhibition or art history research project. To this end, emphasis is placed on exploring the materials, methods, processes, personal influences, and artistic influences that go into developing a personally rich, conceptually sound, and technically proficient studio or research practice.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will be challenged to...

1. Critically analyze their own **material choices** and the material choices of other contemporary artists, to develop intentionally with the materials that they use to support their visual ideas.
2. Critically analyze their own **studio processes** and the studio processes of other contemporary artists, to develop intentionally with the processes that they use to support their visual ideas.
3. Develop **confidence, commitment, and curiosity** in their studio practice as essential tools in developing an effective body of contemporary, creative work.
4. Apply a growing awareness of their **personal and artistic influences** to

strengthen the development of their creative work.

5. Use **critical thinking skills** to critique the work of their classmates, themselves, and those in the broader art world(s).
6. Gain a working knowledge of the standards and skills that make up the **professional practice** of being an artist in the contemporary world.
7. Critically **discuss issues in contemporary art** with their classmates in small and large groups, with openness, honesty, and an active curiosity.

METHODS

Instruction will be given through: readings on contemporary art, group discussions, one-on-one discussion with the instructor, videos on professional artists, studio work time, class critiques, group and individual studio visits, studio visits with outside experts, and a field trip to see contemporary art exhibitions either locally, or in New York City over Fall break.

STUDIO POLICIES

For this class, you will be given access to your own studio space in Cabrillo.

Before being issued a key to the studios, all students must complete the studio policies contract and a check-in/check-out form, which are included on pages 6-7 of this syllabus.

Studios are assigned at the discretion of the Department of Art + Design and use can be revoked.

ASSIGNMENTS

A detailed assignment breakdown, including late work policies and grading criteria, is included on page 5 of this syllabus.

GRADE SCALE

A=93-100	C=73-76
A-=92-90	C-=70-72
B+=87-89	D+=67-69
B=83-86	D=63-66
B-=80-82	D-=60-62
C+=77-79	F=0-59

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at all class sessions is required. Attendance in class means that you are prepared for class with all necessary materials, and actively engaged in class content during the entire class time.

- Missing **four classes** will result in your final grade being reduced by one letter grade.
- Missing **five classes** will result in your grade being reduced by two letter grades.
- Missing **six classes** will result in failure of the class.

- Coming to class late three times is equivalent to one absence.
- Leaving class early is equivalent to either an absence or a tardy at the professor's discretion.

If you need to miss class because you are sick or have an emergency, please communicate this with me via email.

For chronic illness scenarios, students may contact the Educational Access Center (EAC) for a consultation. Note that the Wellness Center does not provide notes to students for illness.

LATE WORK POLICY

A detailed breakdown of the late work policies for all class assignments is listed on page 5 of this syllabus.

If you feel that you need a deadline extension on an assignment, **please email me to request an assignment extension contract**. You must request this extension contract at least 24 hours before the assignment is due.

Two contracts may be requested per semester, unless you have a special accommodation from the Educational Access Center. Contracts cannot be requested for critique deadlines.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

(ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. The EAC makes accommodations available to professors at the student's request.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any special accommodations.

PLNU RECORDING NOTIFICATION

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the

professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an "F" grade.

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of

any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that

assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND DISCRIMINATION

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors at pointloma.edu/title-ix.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/bias

Assignment:	Description:	Estimated time commitment per week:	Grading criteria (all full rubrics are on canvas):	Late work policy:	Percentage of overall grade:
Reflective writing	<p>There will be three short writing prompts assigned throughout the semester, focusing on materials, processes, creative influences, and creative goals.</p> <p>These reflections are also meant to prepare students for the cumulative thesis paper that they will write in the Spring semester as part of their senior capstone project.</p>	1-2 hours per week	Focus, clarity, mechanics, and grammar	10% deduction for each day late	15%
Studio visits	<p>Studio visits with the professor are meant to promote accountability, provide support, and generally give students an opportunity to discuss strengths and weaknesses in-depth with the professor one-on-one throughout the semester.</p> <p>Students should come to each studio visit ready to discuss finished and in-progress work. It is highly recommended that students write out a bullet point list of topics they want to discuss prior to the visit.</p> <p>Students will also be required to have one 30min-1hour studio visit with another PLNU faculty member or art professional.</p>	About 30-45 minutes per class section (4 studio visits total)	Completion	Cannot make up missed studio visits	15%
Studio Journals	<p>Studio journals will be used to document the student's creative progress in the studio throughout each week.</p> <p>Studio journals can take the form of a notebook or a binder (cannot be digital for this class). Any written reflections can be typed, printed, and glued/inserted into the journal or hand-written neatly.</p> <p>Studio journals will be assigned each week and always due on the following Sunday night at midnight.</p>	1-2 hours each week	Completion according to the instructions	10% deduction for each day late	30%
Critiques	<p>There will be three critiques throughout the semester in which students will present finished work for the class to discuss. Work presented should reflect progress made towards developing the body of work that students plan to exhibit in their senior exhibition.</p> <p>Critiqued work should reflect 7-10 hours of time working in the studio each week.</p>	7-10 hours each week	Technique, expression, commitment, craftsmanship, and presentation	20% initial deduction if work is not presented for critique, then 10% deduction for each day late after that	40%

STUDIO POLICIES

- Actively use your studio. If you habitually do not use the space, it will be re-assigned to someone who will.
- Do not allow others to use your space when you are not there.
- Lock the doors if you are the last to leave.
- Report suspicious activity, or hazardous situations immediately to Karah, Lael, or Public Safety. If there is an emergency, call 911.
- Be courteous and supportive of your studio mates. If personal issues arise, alert Karah or Lael.
- You cannot live in or spend the night in your studio.
- No (additional) soft furniture allowed in the studio.
- Toxic solvents, spray paints and aerosols cannot be used in the studio. Use them in Keller's rear courtyard.
- Do not store flammables in the studio complex. Use the flammables cabinets in Keller 102 or 109.
- While eating in your studio is allowed, be mindful to clean up after yourself, and do not store food in the studio area.
- It is your responsibility to empty your own trash. Dumpsters are provided right behind the building.
- You are required to move out of your studio two weeks after your exhibition unless otherwise noted.
- Keys must be returned to Lael, not passed on to the next studio occupant. This is for your safety.
- All items moved into the studio complex must be removed when you move out, including furniture.

I agree to abide by the studio requirements listed above. I understand that failure to comply with these guidelines may result in loss of access to my studio space.

Student signature:

Date:

STUDIO CONDITION FORM

Name:

Assigned key:

Date:

Studio number:

This form is intended to document and compare conditions at check-in and check-out of the studio. Please describe the studio space in detail for each category. The space should be returned to original check-in standards at check-out.

	Describe the condition at check-in:	Check one
Walls:		<input type="radio"/> EXCELLENT <input type="radio"/> GOOD <input type="radio"/> OKAY <input type="radio"/> POOR <input type="radio"/> VERY POOR
Furniture:		<input type="radio"/> EXCELLENT <input type="radio"/> GOOD <input type="radio"/> OKAY <input type="radio"/> POOR <input type="radio"/> VERY POOR
Floor:		<input type="radio"/> EXCELLENT <input type="radio"/> GOOD <input type="radio"/> OKAY <input type="radio"/> POOR <input type="radio"/> VERY POOR

Professor signature of approval:

I agree to return everything in the studio to its original condition upon check-out. I understand that failure to do so will result in a fine and/or withholding of final grades needed for graduation.

Student signature:

Date:

SCHEDULE
(Subject to change as needed)

WEEK	AGENDA
1 Sep 2-5	<p>Wednesday: Introduction to the class syllabus and policies Introduction lecture Choose studios Complete check-in sheets</p> <p><i>Be ready to start working in studios next Wed</i> <i>WK 1 Journal: "The Studio" by Jerry Saltz</i></p>
2 Sep 8-12	<p>Monday: Report back on studio week Report back on "The Studio" article Lecture: Materials Watch materials videos and discuss</p> <p>Wednesday: Work day in the studio Check in with Karah</p> <p><i>WK 2 Journal: Gorky's granddaughter videos</i></p>
3 Sep 15-20	<p>Monday: Report back on studio week Report back on Gorky's granddaughter</p> <p>Wednesday: Work day Studio visits</p> <p><i>WK 3 Journal: Listening for rules</i></p>
4 Sep 22-26	<p>Monday: Report back on studio week Lecture — Creative processes Creative process activity</p> <p>Wednesday: Work day Studio visits</p> <p><i>WK 4 Journal: Critiquing the critique</i></p>
5 Sep 29-Oct 3	<p>Monday: Report back on studio week Discuss the critique</p> <p>Wednesday:</p>

	<p>Work day Studio visits</p> <p><i>No journal</i></p>
6 Oct 6-10	<p>Monday: CRITIQUE 1 pt 1</p> <p>Wednesday: CRTIQUE 1 pt 2</p> <p>Reflection due on Sunday</p> <p><i>WK 6 Journal: Steal Like an Artist</i></p>
7 Oct 13-17	<p>Monday: Report back on studio week Discuss SLAA Creative research activity</p> <p>Wednesday: Work day</p> <p><i>WK 7 Journal: Several Short Sentence on Writing</i></p>
8 Oct 20-24	<p>Monday: Report back on studio week Report back on Several Short Sentences reading Discuss influences and study Top ten activity during class – shared google slide</p> <p>Wednesday: No class – Field trip weekend</p> <p>Thurs - Friday: Fall break trip to NYC</p> <p><i>WK 8 Journal: Museum/field trip journal</i></p>
9 Oct 2-31	<p>Monday: Studio day</p> <p>Wednesday: Report back on trip Share out artworks and presentation methods found from trip</p> <p><i>WK 9 Journal: Identity reflection</i></p>
10 Nov 3-7	<p>Monday: Share out on studio week Share out on identity reflection Lecture and discussion: identity and art</p>

	<p>Wednesday: Work day</p> <p><i>No journal</i></p>
11 Nov 10-14	<p>Monday: CRITIQUE 2 pt 1</p> <p>Wednesday: CRITIQUE 2 pt 2</p> <p>Reflections due on Sunday</p> <p><i>No journal</i></p>
12 Nov 17-21	<p>Monday: Choosing and communicating with an audience reflection</p> <p>Wednesday: Work day Studio visits</p> <p><i>WK 12 Journal: On Confidence</i></p>
13 Nov 24-28	<p>Monday: Report back on studio week Lecture — Choosing a mission / WHY make art? Value mapping in class</p> <p>Wed-Friday: No class</p> <p><i>No journal</i></p>
14 Dec 1-5	<p>Monday: Report back on studio week Lecture — Measuring success 5 questions reflection</p> <p>Wednesday: Work day Studio visits</p> <p><i>No journal</i></p>
15 Dec 8-12	<p>Monday: Studio day</p> <p>Wednesday: Studio day or critique</p>

	Essays due at presentation time
16 FINALS	CRITIQUE 3 Wednesday, December 17, 1:30AM-4PM