

## **Introductory Studio in Visual Art I**

Contemporary Arts 160

Section: D100

Term: 2009 Fall

Instructor: Elspeth Pratt  
email epratt@sfu.ca

Discussion Topics: FPA 160 is a studio-based course that provides a practical and theoretical foundation for the contemporary visual arts. The course is organized through a series of projects concentrating on the fundamental aspects of the visual art process and the nature of materials. The projects guide the student through experimentation in a range of mediums in both two and three dimensions. Each project is a logical development from the one preceding it. The course text and in-class discussions focus on developing the students ability to discuss art works with a critical awareness of issues of representation. The work of a variety of contemporary artists is introduced through in-class presentations. As an integral part of their creative activity, students are expected to contribute to class discussions and critiques of each project through engaged, informed and constructive criticism. In addition, students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with contemporary art through assigned readings and visits to galleries, museums and other exhibition sites.

Grading: Active participation in the classroom is of utmost importance. Although class assignments are important and must be completed, the entire course is a process that unfolds during the term. Evaluation of studio work is based on the level of engagement, and response to challenges and assignments as articulated by the instructor, rather than an emphasis on a final artistic project.

Students will be graded on the timely completion of all assignments; active participation in class discussions, critiques and studio work; and the demonstration of risk-taking, creativity and progress in their art practice.

Required Texts: *Believing is Seeing & Creating the Culture of Art*, Mary Anne Staniszewski, 1st edition 1995, Penguin Books

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies: The course materials fee covers most of the materials required to resolve each project. The Department supplies most equipment, but some small items will be the responsibility of the student.

Prerequisite/Corequisite:

Notes: A course materials fee is required

This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in 2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.