



Syllabus

ART 625 Problems: Painting I: Figurative Form and Society
Fort Hays State University
College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
Department of Art and Design
Justin Price

1. COURSE INFORMATION

1.1. Credit Hours	3 credits
1.2. Semester and Year	Fall 2026
1.3. Course Prerequisites	ART 220, and at least one of ART 321, ART 420, ART 445
1.4. Location of Class	CAD 219
1.5. Class Time	MW, 1:30-4:20

2. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

2.1. Instructor Contact Information

- Name: Justin Price
- Title: Assistant Professor
- Office Location: Schmidt Foundation Center for Art and Design, Room 215
- Office Hours: Mon/Wed 11AM-1PM, Tue/Thurs 12PM-1PM or by appointment
- Email Address: jbprice2@fhsu.edu
- Phone Number: 785-628-5919

2.2 Contact Procedure and Policy:

Email is the best contact method. I will return correspondence within 24 hours, if not sooner.

2.3. About the Instructor:

- Education and Teaching Background:
- MFA, Painting, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- BFA, Fine Art, Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA

- Research Areas of Interests:

Painting and drawing with an emphasis on the embodied practice of artmaking and its relationship to individual and societal experiences regarding the nature of being. <https://www.justinpriceart.com>



3. TEXTBOOK AND COURSE MATERIALS

3.1. Required Textbook(s): none

3.2. Supplementary Book(s) and Article(s): any reading will be available via Blackboard

Article links are available on Blackboard.

3.3. Computer Requirements: Please refer to the [TigerTech webpage](#) to check the requirements. If you have any technical issues, contact FHSU TigerTech 785-628-3478, notify to the instructor.

4. COURSE DESCRIPTION

4.1. Course Description:

This course focuses on exploring the fundamental conceptual and logistical challenges in developing a proficient, personal, and critically aware art practice in the discipline of painting. We will be examining these relationships through the lens of figurative form and society. This semester will be broken up into 2 sections. First, understanding the notion of a painting as not simply a picture, but rather, an object that exists in space much like we do. The figure/ground relationship will be a jumping off point to establishing formal, conceptual parameters in the work. Second, we will investigate how this relationship allows the painter to speak about relationships between the individual and society through dynamics existing between different agents and institutions in the art context and outside of the academic environment. The relationship between artist and artwork, the relationship between artwork and audience, and the insertion of these relationships into the surrounding cultural, socio-economic networks and contexts.

4.2. Regular and Substantive Interaction:

I will be in regular contact with you about the course, both as a group and on an individual basis. In-person communication in the classroom setting is the main way you will receive feedback for all your work. If you ever have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to reach out to discuss anything, both in-person and via email. You are always welcome to schedule time during office hours as well.

4.3. Recommendations for Success:

Attend every class and invest time outside of class totaling a minimum of 3 extra clock hours of work toward assignment production. Be active in discussions and critical analysis and be open to suggestions for improvement. Develop a working group of student peers in the class. This will help to keep you accountable to the



coursework and your work ethic as well as initiating a support network. Maintain consistent communication with the instructor.

5. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

5.1. Course Learning Outcomes/Objectives:

- Develop student's autonomy in carrying out personal decisions throughout the conception, production, and presentation process of your art activity
- Create skilled and proficient bodies of work and exhibitions in the field of painting
- Be able to articulate in oral and written form a position for our art practice in the context of the surrounding art world's current and most common dynamics. This includes effective communication and articulation of the ideas and motivations behind your work.
- Expand knowledge of oil painting techniques
- Awareness of historical and contemporary art issues as it relates to painting

5.2. Prerequisites:

Drawing I and Drawing II

6. TEACHING, LEARNING METHODS, AND COURSE STRUCTURE

6.1. Delivery Method:

In person

6.2. Instructional Approach:

Each topic exercise and assignment will be introduced with a lecture and there will be various demonstrations throughout the semester.

6.3. Course Structure:

Course work will be devoted to lectures, presentations, demonstrations, discussions, feedback sessions, critiques, and work time. One day a week will be fully dedicated to studio work while part of the other day will often address other activities. Your study and practice workload will be divided between in-class and out-of-class work time. Out-of-class work time is imperative to complete this course. You can expect to be working on multiple series of works, mainly two large bodies of work. I want you to expect to think through problems in paint with multiple variations and outcomes. This is not a time to be precious with your artmaking, but rather, work with abandon and see if you arrive at somewhere, you had never intended. I will help you through these processes



8. ASSESSMENT METHODS AND GRADING SCALE

There are 4000 points for this course. The grade you earn for this course depends on the total number of points you earn throughout the semester. The following is the grading criteria for this semester:

- CRAFT: Quality of execution (craftsmanship) and quantity of production.
 - THINKING: Imagination, conceptual depth and/or exploration of ideas.
 - IMPROVEMENT: response to feedback and utilization of new tools and skills learned during the course.
 - PARTICIPATION: Ambition, responsibility, integrity and participation.
- Overall attitude toward the class dynamic and care for safety & maintenance of the studio.

The assessment methods and grading scale are as follows:

Assessment Methods	How Many	Unit Points	Total Unit Points	Percentage
Attendance/Participation	16	50	800	20
Research Journal	1	800	800	20
1 st Body of Work	1	1200	1200	30
2 nd Body of Work	1	1200	1200	30
Total Points			4000	100%

900 – 1,000 = A (90.00% and above)
800 – 899.99 = B (80.00%–89.99%)
700 – 799.99 = C (70.00%–79.99%)
600 – 699.99 = D (60.00%–69.99%)
<600.00 = U (below 60.00%)

9. STUDENT ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES

- 9.1 [FHSU Blackboard Student Tutorials](#)
- 9.2 [Student Accessibility Services](#)
- 9.3 [Health and Wellness Services](#)
- 9.4 [Career Development](#)
- 9.5 [Technology Services](#)
- 9.6 [Tebo Library Research Help and Tutorials](#)
- 9.7 [Academic Tutoring](#)
- 9.8 [Writing Center](#)



10. COURSE POLICIES

10.1. Class Attendance:

Attendance is required for all classes. Excused absences include those with a doctor's note or notification through Student & Wellness Service, a death in the family (reported to the Office of Student Affairs), or participation in an off-campus, officially approved group activity. Students must inform the instructor if absences occur. **More than three absences lower final grade; six absences result in failure.** Arriving on time is mandatory, 3 late arrivals will equal one absence. Because this is a studio class, arriving on time means being set up with all your equipment and being ready to go at the time class starts.

10.2. Class Participation:

Participation in group critiques and discussions is mandatory. Complete all in-class and at-home assignments, even if absent and present them by the due date.

10.3. Assignment Due Date:

All project deadlines are final. Late submissions will drop one letter grade per class period. Absences do not excuse missed deadlines.

10.4. Procedures for Assignment Submission:

All assignments and feedback will take place in-person on the due date. You do not need to upload photos of your work to Blackboard. If you are sick or cannot make it to class for whatever reason on the day of assignment due date, you may upload the assignment to Blackboard or email me photos of it before the class period begins and it will not be counted late. You will still be counted absent though.

10.5. Other Course Policies:

Each student is responsible to clean up their workspace at the end of class and return the room to normal.

11. UNIVERSITY POLICIES

11.1. [Academic Honesty](#)

11.2. [Attendance](#)

11.3. [Withdrawal](#)

11.4. [Title IX Policy](#)

12. ADDITIONAL ITEMS REQUIRED BY COLLEGE, DEPARTMENT, OR PROGRAM

There is no Student Fee associated with this class that covers the materials we will be using during the semester. You are responsible for purchasing a personal sketchbook at



least 9"x12" and any other painting or mixed media materials you will need. I always recommend choosing a sketchbook that feels inviting, that you see yourself investing time and effort in. Touch the paper, consider its binding and other physical qualities. I have always found sketchbooks that I purchased with more thought and care were the ones that I filled most thoroughly and have resulted in being a continued resource for my own work going forward.

Additionally, you will need to bring your own paper towels or recycled rags (old t-shirts, towels, etc.) for paint cleanup.