Course Description: An exploration of various sculptural approaches in which the student works in a variety of media including additive and subtractive techniques.

Text, References, and Supplies:

Recommended Text: SHAPING SPACE: The Dynamics of Three-Dimensional Design, by Zelanski and Fisher

Reference Material for projects and assignments may be found in the ceramics/sculpture studio reference library in Room 182 AFA, the Midland College Learning Resource Center, the Midland County Public Library, and on the Internet.

Supplies: A Sculpture Supply List is provided at the first class meeting.

Course Goals/ Objectives:

This course is designed to teach the student:
1. the basic sculptural approaches in a variety of media including additive and subtractive techniques;
2. the principles of composition and design in 3-dimensional art;
3. the exercise of creative expression in a variety of sculptural media;
4. how to research, critically analyze, and discuss historical and contemporary sculpture;
5. the professional presentation of finished sculpture in a gallery setting.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will:
1. demonstrate finished products in a variety of sculptural media, including additive and subtractive techniques;
2. demonstrate application and discussion of the principles of composition and design as applied to sculptural media;
3. critically analyze and discuss the intellectual as well as the dimensional concepts of sculpture;
4. demonstrate safe and proper use of sculpture tools and equipment in the creation of sculpture;
5. demonstrate individual research and discussion of historical/contemporary sculpture in a written research paper and an oral presentation of the research;
6. demonstrate professionalism in the preparation, presentation, discussion, and exhibition of finished sculpture by exhibiting work in the Student Art Show in McCormick gallery.

Student Contributions and Class Policies:

Class Activities and Assignments include reading assignments, lecture, demonstrations, video, group activities, critical analysis and discussion, individual research and interpretation, a research paper, and oral presentation of research.
Attendance is extremely important in this course. Information and demonstrations are presented in a sequential and cumulative manner. Students missing necessary information present a safety hazard in the sculpture studio. Those missing steps in the preliminary process of different sculpture media will find it almost impossible to catch up with the class as it moves on to the next steps and different media. The process of sculpture is time consuming and this course requires a commitment of time and effort. Missing class, arriving late for class, and leaving early will definitely result in a lowered grade. Three unexcused absences will automatically result in a grade drop of one letter grade, with each additional unexcused absence dropping the grade by an additional letter grade. Unexcused absence for a Project Critique will result in a grade of zero for that project. All absences are considered unexcused unless accompanied by written note in the following situations: illness with a doctor’s note, school-sponsored activity with a sponsor’s note (including athletics), and death in the immediate family. It is the student’s responsibility to get in touch with the instructor regarding absences and make-up work.

Sculpture Class Policies:
Midland College does not provide studio space, raw materials, tools, and equipment for personal projects such as production work made for sale. Studio clay, glazes, tools, and equipment are not to be taken out of the studio for work at home. Work made at the college may be fired at the college, but Midland College does not provide a supply and firing service for home studio production work.

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Studio Safety, Housekeeping, and Courtesy: Consideration for others and their work as well as good cleanup is a must for keeping a pleasant and safe working environment for all. All students working in Rooms 182 and 184 are responsible for reading and abiding by the safety, housekeeping, and courtesy guidelines set forth in the CERAMICS & SCULPTURE STUDIO POLICIES attached to this syllabus. Improper use of Midland College studio equipment will result in suspension from class. Improper use is defined as actions which are destructive to equipment, dangerous to people, and those which deviate from the taught and proper procedures.

Cell phone use is prohibited in the classrooms, in the kiln closet between Room 182 (ceramics/sculpture) and Room 180 (painting), and in the Art Wing hallway. Restrict cell phone usage to the kiln yard or outside of the building.

Honor other students’ work time and space. Many students find constant conversation very distracting to their work. Please be sensitive to this. Keep voices down in the hallway and the kiln closet, and be considerate of those working around you by avoiding excessive talking, loud conversations, and loud music.

Smoking is prohibited in all buildings on campus as well as the kiln yard. Do not stand or sit just outside the art wing entry doors to smoke. Designated smoking areas are located at outdoor ashtrays installed a short distance away from building entrances/exits. A bench is provided near the designated smoking area at the north entrance to the art wing.
Evaluation of Students:
In place of written exams there are major project assignments for the semester. On the due date for each project there is a formal group critique in which the student presents the work due and discusses the application and understanding of the technical and aesthetic aspects involved. One of the projects includes the oral presentation of a written research paper. Grading for each project is based on the student’s oral presentation of the work as well as on the quality and creativity of the work. Project assignments are due on the assigned critique due date, as outlined in the Sculpture I Project Assignments handout. Students are responsible for keeping track of critique due dates. **Unexcused absence for a Project Critique will result in a grade of “0” for that project. Unfinished work presented for a Project Critique will be considered late and will drop a letter grade per class meeting until it is completed.** The average of the critique grades will count 80% of the final grade, and class participation (attendance, class activities, cleanup, etc.) will count 20% of the final grade. Numerical grades, in percentages, equate to letter grades as follows: 90-100; A; 80-89, B; 70-79,C; 60-69, D; below 60, F. The final course grade will indicate the student’s degree of success in meeting the course goals and objectives.

**General grading criteria:**
A: Good attendance. Arrives on time and works productively the entire class period, good cleanup. Is open to research and experiment. Finished products demonstrate extra attention given to quality and creativity of work beyond the basic timely minimal completion of assignments.
B: Completes all assignments on time and participates in all critiques. Good progress in work.
C: Completes all assignments on time with average effort. No extra effort evident.
D: Poor attendance and products, poor class participation, poor cleanup. No real progress noticeable.
F: Habitual tardiness and leaving class early, excessive unexcused absences, missing critique, late assignments, failure to participate in class activities and cleanup.
Success in this class is a matter of commitment and communication. If you have special circumstances, questions about the assignments, or other problems, please talk with the instructor.

Course Schedule: This class consists of six contact hours per week for three hours credit. See the Sculpture I Projects Assignments handout for a detailed calendar of assignments and critique dates.

Instructor Information:

Name:
Office phone:
Office hours:
Office location:
E-mail address:
Division Secretary: Lula Lee, 141 AFA
Office phone: 685-4624
Note: Students are encouraged to contact the instructor at any time; however, making an appointment will guarantee the instructor’s availability at a specific time.