

**Lithography**  
**ARTF 34042**  
**SPRING 2018**  
**Room 301 Center for the Visual Arts**  
**Tuesday and Thursday 2:15pm-5pm**

**Instructor:** Taryn McMahon  
**Email:** tmcmaho5@kent.edu  
**Office:** 304A Center for the Visual Arts  
**Office Hours:** T/Th 11:45am-2:15pm  
& by appt.

Prerequisites: 2D Composition, 3D Composition, Digital Media, Drawing 1, Print 1, & Sophomore Review/ Common Review

**Course Description:**

Introduction to stone lithography. Techniques of drawing and printing crayon, tusche, transfer and color images and their relation to problems of drawing and composition.

This class is designed to give the intermediate student an overview of various lithographic processes (stone & plate) in relationship to contemporary art practice. During this hands-on studio experience, students will apply principles and techniques taught in lectures and readings into the evolution of their own personal aesthetics. The resulting visual statements will combine those principles and aesthetics with ideas and conceptual content.

This course will cover a variety of techniques to create lithographs including hand drawing and transfer/photo processes. Most of the semester will focus on printing in black and white, but students will also learn how to register multiple plates to create complex imagery with color. We will employ the instructional methods of studio practice, lectures, and critiques in the development of formal, technical and conceptual foundations for student work. The assignments will be very technical, but concepts will be increasingly important over the course of the semester.

Students are encouraged to arrive at new and exciting solutions to the assigned projects. The challenges of each project will evolve sequentially, building upon previously established principles and skills. This is a rigorous, fast-moving, and intense course that requires a good degree of involvement and devotion.

Lithography is one of the most collaborative and community oriented mediums in printmaking. Students will be members of teams of 2-3, led by a student in Lithography II. Your team leader can help you troubleshoot, especially in regards to etching, processing, and printing. In return, your team leader may ask you to help them with his/her project (sponging for example). This will create an environment of mutual learning and respect. I expect you to take your role as a team member seriously! Help each other to succeed!

Expect to dedicate **a good amount** of out of class time to finish projects for this class. The **minimum** will be 8 hours per week.

**Course Objectives:**

- o To understand the fundamental techniques of lithographic processes with a foundation on which to build – including stone & plate, wet & dry media, and color
- o To begin developing your own line of inquiry or body of work in printmaking
- o Understand the vocabulary and history of lithography, including being able to identify artists and movements of the discipline

**Course Policies:**

This is a studio class in which you will be **REQUIRED** to be in class during the **WHOLE** class unless told otherwise. Class time will be used for work time, lectures, critiques, demonstrations, and discussions that **CANNOT** be made up. Attendance will be taken daily, along with noting

preparedness for class and time utilization.

Attendance is mandatory. Over three absences results in the drop of one full letter grade for each additional absence. Arriving late or leaving early on three occasions counts as an absence. Please be here prepared for class and ON TIME as roll will be taken at the start of class. Students who attend class, but elect not to participate, work, or do not bring assigned materials will receive an unexcused absence for the day. Students participating in authorized University activities are expected to notify the instructor before each absence and arrange to make up any missed work. **Missing more than 5 class periods will result in failure of the course. Missing the final exam period will result in failure of the course.**

Students should be ready to take notes during demonstrations and slide presentations and be prepared for work to be done outside of class.

Throughout the semester, each student is expected to participate fully in the life of the printmaking studio. Expect to spend 8 hours per week working outside of class. In addition to completed assignments, every student must participate in lectures, demonstrations and critiques to encourage dialog, thought, and practice good studio etiquette. Be ready to PARTICIPATE in class!!! TALK and ASK QUESTIONS!!! Do not be afraid to ask a question or to offer your critical thoughts. Your direct participation in this class is what will make this class fun and informational. The more feedback you get and give, the better your work will be. To prevent disruption and distraction, **using cell phones and listening to headphones are not permitted in the studio during class.**

### **Email**

To stay current with university information, students are expected to check their official university email account on a frequent and consistent basis, at least twice per week.

As your instructor, I will make every effort to respond to questions or meeting requests by email within 48 hours. Emails should be reserved for important matters in which you cannot get ahold of me in person. Before sending an email, check the syllabus and project handouts for answers to your questions.

### **Coursework and Grading:**

Students will complete four projects, keep a process journal with their name and section legible and visible on the spine, and present a final artist research presentation. The following activities are to serve as assignments and are minimal requirements for entries into the journal/sketchbook:

1. Thumbnails/studies for each project
2. **Record notes** from class demonstrations, discussions, and critiques. Save all handouts.

Grades will be based on the following factors: attendance, work ethic, personal investment into the projects, the quality and quantity of your completed work, self motivation, imagination, diligence, critique & discussion participation, and the application of the techniques learned. Fulfilling the base requirements will translate into a "C". Experimental investigation, superior quality and growth will result in higher grades.

All assignments should be handed in **ON TIME. Prints made the day they are due will be considered LATE, and will not be given full credit.** All late projects will be lowered 10% per class past due. Missing a critique will lower that project grade an additional 5%. Late projects will not be accepted past 1 week from the original deadline, except in the case of documented technical issues. This sometimes happens in lithography – do not despair! If run into technical issues, you must:

1. Write a short paragraph about what happened and why you think it happened. Turn it in by the project deadline.
2. Re-do the project and turn in the completed edition by the last day of class 5-3.

## **Grading**

Projects (4)

16 points (graded on a 4.0 scale)

Note: Each Project will include grades on active use of Process Journal & Participation

- A Exceptional achievement in conceptual and aesthetic development and technical expertise.
- B Extensive achievement in resolved conceptual and aesthetic projects, solid technique.
- C Acceptable achievement and satisfactory projects that fulfill the assignments.
- D Minimal achievement, attempted but incomplete work, below average in meeting basic operations.
- F Inadequate achievement necessitating a repetition of the course to secure credit. Incomplete work, poor participation and/or attendance. Student will not receive credit for the course.

## **Studio Maintenance:**

All students are required to help keep our printmaking studio clean, orderly, and safe. Bad workshop habits negatively affect your work and the work of others. This class is not the only class working in this space, and it is up to all of us to keep it clean. Damage to any of the presses or class tools will be replaced at your expense. The Print Area is a shared lab. Every student is to use it with consideration for others, the materials, and the equipment. It is your responsibility to clean up after yourself and our class. There should be no ink or materials left out. Students are responsible for their messes— failure to clean up after oneself will result in a loss of shop privileges and/or a lowering of the final grade.

All students must participate in a final shop cleanup during their final exam period (after final presentations). Failure to participate in final cleanup will result in a lowering of the final grade. All work must be removed by the end of finals week. Anything remaining in the studio after **3pm on Friday May 11** will be thrown away.

## **Research:**

As instructor, I am looking for evidence of research into every project. This research can be into other artists, artworks, subject matter, or materials. I will be asking you about inspiration during our group critiques and discussions.

## **Critique Sessions:**

We will have studio critiques in which all students show their work. On a given due date, prepare to discuss your work and the work of others. Critique doesn't mean a negative fault-finding mission. Rather it is meant to be a constructive activity, one that will point out the strengths and weaknesses of the work and that will hopefully improve your work in the future. Also, this is not a critique of YOU; it is a critique of your work. Your contribution to a critique session is valuable to everyone. You will build your vocabulary and critical thinking skills, allowing you to make thoughtful and meaningful comments about art.

## **Lockers:**

Lockers are provided inside the printshop for students currently enrolled in a printmaking course. There is no charge for the locker, but you must provide your own lock and clearly mark it with your name and current semester. Lockers must be emptied at the end of each semester.

## **Students with Disabilities:**

University Policy 3342-3-18 requires that students with disabilities be provided reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to course content. If you have a documented disability and require accommodations, please contact me at the beginning of the semester to make arrangements. You must first verify your eligibility for these arrangements through Student Accessibility Services. Please call 330-672-3391 or visit <http://www.kent.edu/sas> for more information on registration.

### **Registration for courses:**

University policy requires all students to be registered in each class they attend. Students who are not officially registered for a course by published University deadlines should not be attending class and will not receive credit or a grade for the course. Each student must confirm enrollment by checking her/his official class schedule using "Student Tools" in FlashFAST prior to the deadline. Registration errors must be corrected before the deadline of January 21. Students wishing to withdraw from the course for any reason must do so before the Withdrawal Deadline of March 25.

### **Photographic Documentation of Student Work:**

The instructor may photographically document student work created in fulfillment of academic requirements for this class for use in future teaching or promotional contexts within the School of Art. Additionally, the Print Department occasionally asks students to donate a print or two to their extensive archives to be used for teaching examples. By continuing enrollment in this class, you automatically grant permission to the instructor to document your work and use the image reproductions for the purposes stated above unless you submit a written request stating otherwise to the instructor by the second week of the semester. Students who choose not to participate in either the documentation or donation of their work will not be penalized in any way.

### **Materials:**

Provided:

|                      |         |              |                  |
|----------------------|---------|--------------|------------------|
| Chemicals & Solvents | Veg Oil | Simple Green | Inks & Modifiers |
| Cheese Cloth         | Grit    | Stones       |                  |

Required for students to buy:

Lithographic Crayons Combination Pack – Stones Crayons Pack #1

Extra Large Cellulose Sponge with medium pores (cannot be a natural sponge or plastic sponge, also cannot have brillo on one side) ([shop.takachpress.com](http://shop.takachpress.com))

Gloves

Apron (optional but highly suggested to keep your clothes clean)

Paper towels (I recommend blue Shop Towels or Viva Paper Towels)

Newsprint pad 18"x24" or larger

Stonehenge or Rives BFK paper – approximately 12 sheets (22"x30", white or off white)

X-Acto

Assorted brushes (inexpensive, not foam)

Acetate (on a per project basis)

Throughout the semester, you may be required to purchase additional materials on a per project basis (Smart Plates and aluminum litho plates can be purchased from the printmaking area)

### **You can purchase these materials at any of the following locations:**

Lithographic Crayons and sponge MUST be ordered from [shop.takachpress.com](http://shop.takachpress.com)

All Media Art Supply Co, 417 E. Main St, Kent, OH

Utrecht: [utrechtart.com](http://utrechtart.com) or store in Cleveland

Dick Blick: [dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com)

If you have a toolbox, it would be a good idea to keep your supplies in your own box, also put your name on EVERYTHING that is yours!!!

**Course Schedule:** Subject to change at instructor's discretion:

|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 1</b><br/>Tues 1/16-Thurs 1/18</p> <hr/> <p>Overview of course<br/>Assign lockers/ flat files/ stones<br/>Lecture: Project 1<br/>Demonstration: graining<br/>Demo: Prepping, drawing, processing plates<br/>Homework: Gather materials and generate 5 ideas for Project 1</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 2</b><br/>Tues 1/23 - Thurs 1/25</p> <hr/> <p><b>Idea and Image Development Discussion</b><br/>Demo: Processing plate, prepping paper</p> <hr/> <p>Demo: Printing</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 3</b><br/>Tues 1/30 - Thurs 2/1</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day: Printing in class</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day: Printing in class</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 4</b><br/>Tues 2/6- Thurs 2/8</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day: Printing in class</p> <hr/> <p><b>PROJECT 1 DUE / CRITIQUE</b><br/>Lecture: Project 2</p>        |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 5</b><br/>Tues 2/13 - Thurs 2/15</p> <hr/> <p><b>Idea and Image Development Discussion</b><br/>Demo: Prepping, drawing, processing stones</p> <hr/> <p>Demo: Printing stone</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 6</b><br/>Tues 2/20 - Thurs 2/22</p> <hr/> <p>Demo: Printing stone</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day: Processing</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 7</b><br/>Tues 2/27 - Thurs 3/1</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day: Processing</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day: Printing stones</p>          | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 8</b><br/>Tues 3/6 - Thurs 3/8</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day: Printing stones</p> <hr/> <p><b>NYC Trip</b></p>  |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 9</b><br/>Tues 3/13 - Thurs 3/15</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day: Printing stones</p> <hr/> <p><b>PROJECT 2 DUE / CRITIQUE</b><br/>Lecture: Project 3<br/>Demo: Scraping, scratching, honing, selective graining</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 10</b><br/>Tues 3/20 - Thurs 3/22</p> <hr/> <p><b>Idea and Image Development Discussion</b><br/>Demo: Counter etching, Image transfers, additions</p> <hr/> <p>Demo: Pronto plates</p> <hr/> <p style="background-color: yellow;">3/26-4/1 SPRING BREAK<br/>NO CLASSES</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 11</b><br/>Tues 4/3 - Thurs 4/5</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day</p> <hr/> <p><b>SGCI</b><br/>Work Day</p>                       | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 12</b><br/>Tues 4/10 - Thurs 4/12</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day</p> <hr/> <p><b>PROJECT 3 DUE / CRITIQUE</b><br/>Lecture: Project 4<br/>Demo: Tusche wash</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 13</b><br/>Tues 4/17 - Thurs 4/19</p> <hr/> <p>Demo: registering plate to stone, making flats on plates</p> <hr/> <p>Demo: Printing color flat from plate</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 14</b><br/>Tues 4/24 - Thurs 4/26</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 15</b><br/>Tues 5/1 - Thurs 5/3</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day</p> <hr/> <p>Work Day</p>                                       | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 16</b><br/>Wed 5/9<br/>12:45-3pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mandatory Final Exam!</p> <hr/> <p><b>PROJECT 4 DUE / CRITIQUE/ CLEANUP</b></p>   |

**Helpful Websites: Please like and follow for information about exhibitions and events!**  
**Kent State University School of Art** on Facebook & **@kentstateschoolofart** on Instagram  
**@kentprintmedia** (#ksuprints) (account for Print Media & Photo program) on Instagram  
**United Print Alliance** (official student organization for printmaking at KSU) on Facebook &  
**@unitedprintalliance** on Instagram

**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:**

Safe handling of all chemicals and equipment will be demonstrated throughout the semester and before each project. The everyday use of acids, chemicals, and equipment while working in the print shop means one must adhere to strict safety guidelines:

1. Only those who are enrolled in a printmaking course may work in the shop.
2. Solvents should only be used under the hood of the 'dry sink' with the fan on to allow proper ventilation. Acids should only be used under the acid booth with the fan on to allow proper ventilation. Aerosol cans and sprays should only be used under the proper hood with the fan on to allow proper ventilation. Turn all fans off when not in use.
3. Great care should be taken when working around the acids and solvents. Always wear protective gear including gloves and goggles. Skin contact with these chemicals should be flooded with water immediately and should be reported to your instructor and/or the student lab monitor. An eye wash station and shower are provided for major accidents.
4. All accidents (spills and any damage to anything in the shop) should be reported to your instructor and/or the lab monitor immediately.
5. Secure all long hair and loose clothing before using any of the equipment. It is very easy to have hair or clothing snagged in the press or dipped in the acid.
6. The last person in the shop to leave should make sure that all tools are returned to their original spot, all acids are properly covered, all hot plates turned off and all fans turned off.
7. Never pour solvents, acids, or any inks into the sink. The combination of water with debris and solvents will clog the sink. Solvents should only be handled under the hood of the 'dry sink'. Acid should only be handled under the hood of the acid booth.
8. Print 1 students may only use the shop during designated lab hours (these vary per semester and are posted in the studio).
9. Upper level students may work outside of designated lab hours, but are never to work in the shop alone.

**PLEASE READ, CHECK EACH BOX BELOW, SIGN, AND RETURN TO INSTRUCTOR**

- 1. I have been shown the nearest fire pull, evacuation routes and the locations of the tornado shelters.
- 2. I have been shown the nearest safety shower and eye wash station and I have been told how to use these devices properly.
- 3. I have been shown the locations of the personal protective equipment and I am aware of their protection and limitations.
- 4. I have informed the instructor of any health conditions I have that may cause difficulty while performing laboratory operations.
- 5. I know that I must take precaution to cover my arms, legs and the trunk of my body when handling chemicals and equipment. I know that I must wear shoes that cover my entire foot therefore I will not wear sandals or open toed shoes when working in the print lab.
- 6. I agree to wear eye protection that has been approved by the University when handling chemicals.
- 7. I will report any accidents that occur, regardless of how insignificant they seem. I realize that by reporting these incidents, better safety practices can be incorporated in the future.
- 8. I know where the used chemical receptacles are stored and I understand how to use the containers correctly. I know how to properly discard sharps, glass and biohazards.
- 9. Print 1 students: I will not begin laboratory work without the lab monitor present. Upper Division students: I will not work in the laboratory alone.
- 10. Safe handling of materials and procedures will be demonstrated during class. I can then anticipate any potential hazards and will prepare for them.
- 11. I will not eat or drink while working in the print lab.
- 12. I understand the chemical warning systems and I am able to recognize hazard symbols.
- 13. I have been made aware of the accessibility of Material Safety Data Sheets. I may request to see these materials by contacting my instructor or the lab monitor.
- 14. I understand that any safety deficiencies I see in the print lab should be reported to my instructor or the monitor.
- 15. I have read and understand the previously listed safety rules. By signing this document I acknowledge that the rules were presented to me and I agree to follow these rules. I have also read the course syllabus and understand the attendance and grading policy as stated.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_