

COURSE OUTLINE

2/17/2021

F405i Special Projects: Social Engagement & Collaborations: Building Your Project's Road Map — ONLINE

06 March – 03 April

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Description

How does one approach a site-specific project? Where does it take place? — In physical and/or virtual spaces? Who are your collaborators, even when working “alone”? How does a project start as a collaboration, or become one? What are the delimitations between protest art and art activism?

Throughout the development of a project — during conversations, research and implementation — one needs to make decisions and often adapt them along the way. This is especially true when unforeseen circumstances, such as site-specific issues, local/global social and political issues, public reception or refusal, and even a pandemic may interfere with original ideas and plans.

In this course, we will review the specifics of locality, written and unspoken rules, subject matter, activation of public space, tools, realization, dealing with obstacles and gifts, presentation and documentation. In particular, we will examine these when an artist approaches a project that includes social & political issues and interactions.

Every participant in this course will be a creator and an interactor. By examining each others' projects and looking at their implications, we will build on concepts to further interact with viewers and/or participants. At times we will work collaboratively and develop new ways of working.

COURSE SCHEDULE

5 sessions, from March 6 - April 3 as follows:

- 3 online group/discussion live sessions on weeks 1, 3, 5;
 - 2 hybrid/ asynchronous on sessions 2 & 4
 - Prior to first session, answer introductory questions by Friday March 5, 7pm (NYC)
- This course will include three live sessions, including the first meeting.
All new sessions will post on Saturdays.

Live sessions will meet on Saturdays - March 6, March 20 & April 3 from 2-3.30p EST (US).

Assignments will be due on Wednesdays by 7PM EST (NYC) / followed by students' comments on colleagues assignments, usually due on Thursdays at 7PM EST (NYC).

Notes:

A collaborative assignment with a classmate after session 02, to be explained by Professor.

Professor available for one-on-one scheduled sessions (lasting up to 10 mins) on Wednesdays of hybrid weeks

Additional consultation/ lab sessions possible, upon scheduling/emailing

Project presentations (max. 20 mins): last Saturday, April 4 (Session 05): all present; group feedback; optional additional individual feedback after the group session.

INTRODUCTIONS

Answer introductory questions, due on Friday March 5, 7pm (NYC)
QUESTIONS ON LAST PAGE OF DOCUMENT

SESSION 01

Live session - March 6 - 2-3:30pm NYC

LESSON 01 / Laying out a foundation for the work

Discussion of students' interests
Professor's Presentation of Ideas and Projects

Assignments from Session 01 due on Wednesday, March 10, 7PM (NYC)

01 Reading and 01 Video
Answer questions about the reading and video

Feedback due on Thursday March 11, 7PM (NYC):

Read answers of all colleagues,; comment further on the reading and on the video

SESSION 02

Asynchronous - Research and Concept

LESSON 02 / research and project conceptualization

Listen to instructors' comments on Lesson 01 assignment
View 01 video and read 03 materials posted on Saturday March 13
Write/ document project sites/ issues / ideas / collaborators (a guide will be provided)

Assignments from Session 02 due Wednesday March 17, 7PM (NYC)

Post materials and images

Answer 2 questions

Initiate a collaboration with a classmate (guide will be provided)

Contributions to a classmate project due on Thursday, March 18, 7PM (NYC):

Post what was asked of you

Check on posting that you asked of someone else

SESSION 03

Live session - March 20 - 2-3:30pm NYC

LESSON 03 / BUILDING THE MAP

Discussion:

- Contents of Projects; development of ideas; challenges, subject / background information/ driving forces
- Strategies for engagement of others and implementation; site-specific interaction; installation; performance; documentation

Presentation of Ideas:

- Each student will present current development and implementation ideas (10 min. each)
- Plans for fabrication, planning, execution
- Elements researched
- Needs

Assignments due on Wednesday March 24, 7PM (NYC) /

Comments on classmate contributions

Preparation for your project realization

(Optional: Professor will be available on March 24 & 25, time to be scheduled, for short consultation towards your REALIZATION day).

Post documentation strategies

Information due on Friday March 26, 7PM (NYC)

Post some details of your plans for implementation,

Schedule implementation time and post time for classmates

(Project implementation: **between Saturday March 27 and Tuesday, March 30**)

Prepare and post invitation / description / link (if available)

SESSION 04

Social engagement & collaborations: Building Your Project's Road Map
06 March – 03 April 2021
Professor Natalia de Campos

studioELL

Asynchronous (but possibly livestreamed): ACTION!

LESSON 04 / PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Realization/ documentation, at best time possible for class participant.

Scheduled between Saturday March 27 and Tuesday, March 30.

See prior assignment for informing class on realization time.

Do it!

Realize your site-specific interaction - installation - performance - and its documentation

Assignments due Wednesday March 31, BY 7PM (NYC) /

Organize your presentation materials,

Write down how you will present your project's realization/ prepare videos/ photos

View video

Reflect and prepare a Presentation (guide will be provided)

Report on collaborations and challenges

Comments will be in the last session: prepare by Friday April 2, 7PM (NYC)

Reflections on collaborations and exploitation with communities

Readings: Examples and Constructive Feedback guide

SESSION 05

Live session - April 3 - 2-3:30pm NYC

1h30m with group

Plus optional additional one-on-one feedback with instructor (10 min./ scheduled)

LESSON 05 / PRESENTATIONS, DOCUMENTATION AND FEEDBACK:

15 mins per student; following the Assignment guidelines

25-minute group feedback session; 5-10 minutes per project, depending on enrollment

According to Assignments of Session 04

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE SLIGHTLY AT DISCRETION OF PROFESSOR

MATERIALS LIST

CAMERA /

a digital camera or device with a good camera to document your work.

SKETCHBOOK /

any space that you can put down thoughts, complete assignments, and keep a diary/roadmap (this will be discussed).

RESEARCH MATERIALS / project-specific

Some ideas:

old books, magazines, newspapers, mail, photos (old or new), old clothes, fabric, building materials, notebooks, drawings, maps, coloring books, online content, websites, archives, sound recordings, videos (old and new), old artwork, objects, site-specific collected materials, recorded interviews, sounds, images etc. etc.

SITE /

Walking/ driving distance; choose a place you can get to safely, and interact with people safely both for access and public health concerns;

(Example: corner deli entrance; park; building entrance; beach; public spaces - make it easy on you, do not commute if you can't; do not go by at night if not safe) —

Tips on choosing sites (to be discussed): a space that entices you; has a lot of foot traffic; people stop by all the time; has relevant social or aesthetic issues that you want to explore;

CREATION MATERIALS/

Limited only to the size of your imagination or other temporary concerns!

DOCUMENTATION /

Materials appropriate for your project: camera, phone, smartphone, sound recorder, computer

PRESENTATION /

Slideshow, video, sound file, sketchbook, final documentation

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

Present yourself online to each other and to your professor- answer these questions :

1. In what city are you located ?
2. What media / discipline do you consider your primary mode of expression?
3. If applicable, what other disciplines/ media do you work in?
4. Are there any media / discipline that you are interested in, but haven't yet tried?
5. What do you consider your best creative workspace? (Studio/ office/ desk/ kitchen/ park / other). Please include secondary workspaces too, if any exist.
6. What artists have inspired you, recently or in a distant past time? (Of any discipline)
7. What current or recent events (personal, local, national, worldwide) have affected you? Please pick at least one event affecting you positively, and one affecting you negatively. Specify which is which. (Note: You can pick more than one in each of the positive/ negative categories, if you feel inclined to do so, but you need to substantiate at least one in each category)
8. Please provide an image of yourself.
9. In a maximum of 3 sentences, please describe why you chose this class.
10. Please share one image of the area where you will be located during the course. This can be an image of your house/ apartment/ studio (interior/ exterior), or street, neighborhood, city. A simple snapshot is sufficient. It should give us a strong idea of a piece of your local environment.
11. Provide a one-line caption of your choice for this photo. (Some examples: Corner store that I frequent everyday; Studio where I work and share with a friend; Apartment where I live/ study/ work alone or with 5 cats and two family members; Main street of the city where I live and shop, and also near where I grew up; my favorite apartment corner, and so on)
12. What is an area (accessible to you) that you are curious about? (one real place, one virtual)
13. Add one media piece related to who you are and another related to maps or spaces (anything goes: drawing/ photo/ video/ audio btw 3-5 mins. max)- have a little fun.

Answer these questions prior to Session 01: post by March 05, 7PM EST (NYC)