

CASS 1011

Miller Arts Scholars Discussion (1 Credit Hour), Spring 2024

Meeting Times: Wednesdays, 2-2:50 PM

Place: Culbreth, Room 217

Prerequisite: CASS 1010, Instructor Permission Required

Instructor of Record: Michael Rasbury, Director

Additional Leadership: Cecilia Huang, MAS President



CONTACT

Appointments can be scheduled by email at mr2xk@virginia.edu.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

CASS 1011 is a discussion course for sharing ideas, building community, programmatic development, cross-disciplinary exploration, and meeting professional artists.

COURSE GOAL

This course seeks to stimulate cross disciplinary discussion and connections between the disciplines represented by our students in Miller Arts Scholars. This semester is largely student driven and opens the door for us to consider how individual practices can interact with, serve, and thrive within the ecology of the arts community.

In particular we will:

- Conduct student and guest artist led discussions covering topics of immediate concern to emerging artists.
- Meet and discuss with working artists in the local community and beyond.
- Explore cross-disciplinary collaboration and discussion.
- Conduct personal reflection.

OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

- Envision new connections between the respective artistic disciplines.
- Potentially expand professional network with new connections to community artists.
- Better articulate our thoughts about artistic topics and/or process.
- Develop action items towards improving our arts programs and communities on grounds.

GRADING

Collaboration/Discussion

40%

The quality of discussion and collaboration is impacted by the unique viewpoints, diverse thoughts, and level of engagement contributed by each member of a group. Therefore, your level of engagement with our discussions and collaborations during each of our meetings will be graded. Your participation grade for each class meeting is worth 10 points and is based the two categories of promptness and engagement/focus (see rubric at website.) These will be averaged and weighted for a possible 100 points in this category. Unexcused absences will receive zero points.

Journaling

40%

By midnight on each date on the calendar of due dates below, upload journal responses and questions to the course Canvas site. Before each guest visit, research their body of work to create three questions

or thoughts relating to the coming visit. Uploaded documents must be named using the convention “lastfirst_j#.pdf” (ex. rasburymichael_j1.pdf). Good journals should be a minimum of 200-300 words and submitted in pdf format. See rubrics at our website.

Each journal/questions set is worth 100 points. These 14 grades will be averaged and weighted for a total possible 100 points in this category. Missing sets of questions and/or journal responses receive zero points.

Here are the 14 sets of questions/journals with due dates:

Due Date	Journal	Journal Response	3 Questions for or concerning...
January 19	1	Meeting 1 General reflections	Katelyn Hale Wood’s coming visit
January 26	2	Katelyn Hale Wood visit	Group beginnings
February 2	3	Collaborative Work week 1	Coming collaborative work
February 9	4	Collaborative Work week 2	Kim Brooks Mata’s coming visit
February 16	5	Kim Brooks Mata’s visit	Coming collaborative work
February 23	6	Collaborative Work week 3	Coming collaborative work
March 1	7	Collaborative Work week 4	Coming collaborative work
March 15	8	Collaborative Work week 5	Coming collaborative work
March 22	9	Collaborative Work week 6	Coming collaborative work
March 29	10	Collaborative Work week 7	Coming presentations
April 5	11	Group Presentations	Amendments and Documents
April 12	12	Amendments and Documents	Endorsement plans
April 19	13	Endorsement outcomes	Final meeting
April 26	14	General reflections concerning our process	Three goals for the future in your discipline
		Final Reflective Report (if not applying for Arts Award, see below)	

Final Reflective Report 20%

Participants in the course who do not also apply for rising third and fourth-year arts awards this semester must submit a final report reflecting on their participation in the Arts, the Arts Scholars Program, and the University for the academic year. This information is vital to the development of the program and should be a maximum of two, double spaced, pages using a 12-point font. The attached document should be named using the convention “lastfirst_report.docx” (ex. rasburymichael_report.docx.) Well-written and informative final reports will be worth 100 points. Those who applied for rising third or fourth-year arts awards can send their existing document from the application process.

Late Work Policy

- Less than 24 hours late: Maximum of 90% of the grade can be earned
- Less than 48 hours late: Maximum of 75% of the grade can be earned
- More than 48 hours late: Automatic 0 on the assignment

GRADING SCALE:

A+ = 100, A = 94-99, A- = 90-93, B+ = 89, B = 84-88, B- = 80-83, C+ = 79, C = 74-78, C- = 70-73, D+ = 69, D = 64-68, D- = 60-63, F = 59 or les

Schedule (created with Cecilia Huang, Miller Art Scholars President)

1/17	Meeting 1	Introduction: DEI and Transcript Designation Introduce topics and discuss overall plan.
1/24	Meeting 2	Guest 1: Katelyn Hale Wood
1/31	Meeting 3	Collaborative Work 1: We will break into two collaborative teams, and each will be assigned one of the two above topics. The groups must first establish “norms.” Groups will meet throughout the semester and bring their thoughts and an accompanying formal document back to the group for discussion at the end of the semester.
2/7	Meeting 4	Collaborative Work 2: Teams will begin devising group statements including 3-6 objectives for their respective topic. <i>Applications Due, February 9, 5PM</i>
2/14	Meeting 5	Guest 2: Kim Brooks Mata
2/21	Meeting 6	Collaborative Work 3: Talking points: importance of topic, influence on students, scope of influence, potential endorsements, action plan.
2/28	Meeting 7	Collaborative Work 4: Talking points continued: importance of topic, influence on students, scope of influence, potential endorsements, action plan. <i>Artists Minigrant Applications Due, March 1, 5PM</i>
3/13	Meeting 8	Collaborative Work 5: Narrow talking points to 2-3 objectives for proposal, begin work on formal document. <i>Arts Award Intent Letter Due, March 15, 5PM</i> <i>Awards Outcome Reports Due, March 17, 5PM</i>
3/20	Meeting 9	Collaborative Work 6: Begin structuring plan for presentation. Work on printed materials for the presentation.
3/27	Meeting 10	Collaborative Work 7: Formalize plan for class presentation and finish printed documents. <i>Arts Award Proposals Due, March 29, 5PM</i>
4/3	Meeting 11	CLASS PRESENTATIONS
4/10	Meeting 12	Collaborative Work 8: Amendments based on class discussions and Finalizing Documents
4/17	Meeting 13	Collaborative Work 9: Seek endorsements outside of class.
4/24	Meeting 14	GROUP DISCUSSION: Reporting and looking forward
4/28	SHOWCASE	Helms, 4-8PM with 6PM Showtime.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Arts Scholars must be present at each discussion period. Excused absence is permitted if the instructor is contacted before the absence and provided with an official written notification after the absence. Excused absences include unforeseen emergency, extreme sickness, etc. All other absences are unexcused.

ARTS SCHOLARS RESPONSIBILITIES

Participants of the Miller Arts Scholars program are expected to meet certain requirements during their first year of participation to be eligible for third and fourth-year research support. During their second year of study in the College (first year of Miller Arts Scholars participation), students must attend the weekly Miller Arts Scholars Seminar (CASS 1010, Wednesdays, 2-2:50) where they are personally introduced to a cross-section of our faculty. Participants are also expected to attend our spring

discussion meetings, Miller Arts Scholars Discussion (CASS 1011). After that, participants are expected to attend one seminar or discussion course each year. Our scholars should prove measurable engagement with the arts at the University and within their discipline throughout their academic career. Participants will attend outcome presentations and/or performances by fellow third and fourth-year Miller Arts Scholars each April. Additionally, Arts Scholars are required to enroll in a minimum of four, credit-bearing art courses within their respective nominating department between their second and fourth year of study. In Studio Art and Drama, one of these courses should be at 3000 level or above. In Dance, two of these courses should be at the 3000 level or above selected from two distinct areas: Movement Practice, Creative Process, Critical or Somatic Studies. In Music, two of these courses should be at the 3000 level or above, including at least one MUSI course. Applicants must have also remained in the College and have a minimum GPA of 3.4 in all arts classes and 3.2 at the University. Participants should major or minor in the College to remain in the program. Each participant is required to read and understand our evolving [program design/description document](#), found on the about page at our website.

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

January 31, Last Day for Adding New Courses

January 31, Last Day to Elect the AU (Audit) Option, and Last Day to Change to or from “Credit/No Credit” Option.

Feb 1, Last Day to Drop a Class.

March 13, Last Day to Withdraw from a Course.

Students needing special accommodations are encouraged to discuss the need with the professor as soon as possible.

The syllabus and/or each rubric is subject to change at any time, without prior notice, and it is the responsibility of the student to keep informed of changes, new material, or missed content.