

CASS 1010

Miller Arts Scholars Seminar (1 Credit Hour)

Fall 2024

Meeting Times: Wednesdays, 2-2:50 PM

Place: Culbreth, Room 217

Prerequisite: Instructor Permission Required

Instructor: Michael Rasbury; Cecilia Huang (President)



CONTACT

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

COURSE DESCRIPTION

CASS 1010 is a required seminar class for Arts Scholars. Faculty from Music, Studio Art, Drama, Creative Writing, and Dance, second through fourth-year Arts Scholars, and others will share aspects of their personal research, thoughts about Arts at the University, practical applications of an Art Major after college, etc.

COURSE GOAL

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

In particular we will:

- Conduct student led discussions covering topics of concern to emerging artists.
- Meet and connect with arts guests and faculty.
- Make connections between your art and the approaches and work of your peers and other artists through portfolio sharing.
- Conduct personal reflection.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Envision new connections between the respective artistic disciplines.
- Potentially expand network with new connections to students, faculty artists and beyond.
- Better articulate our thoughts about our artistic work and/or process.
- Better understand other artistic disciplines and processes.

GRADING

Attendance and Engagement

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 quality of engagement with our discussions and presentations during our meetings will be

graded. Your engagement grade for each class meeting is worth 10 points and is based the two categories of promptness and engagement/focus. These will be averaged and weighted for a possible 100 points in this category. Please see the supplied rubric. 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 (when applicable) to our UVACanvas 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 https://michaelrasbury.org/uva/classes/cass1010/engagement_journal_rubric.pdf.

Each journal/questions set is worth 100 points. These eight 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 eight sets of questions/journals with due dates:

DATE	Journal	Journal Response	3 Questions for or concerning...
September 6	1	Reflections on “Welcome to Your MAS Community”	Mona Kasra, Drama, Studio Art
September 13	2	Reflections on Mona Kasra	“Finding Our Way as Artists”
September 20	3	“Finding Our Way as Artists”	“Artistic Introductions”
September 27	4	“Artistic Introductions”	Neal Rock, Studio Art
October 11	5	Reflections on Neal Rock	Daniel Sender, Music
October 25	6	Reflections on Daniel Sender	Katie Schetlick, Dance
November 8	7	Reflections on Katie Schetlick	“Looking Back and Ahead”
December 6	8	Response to “Looking Back and Ahead”	Expectations for CASS 1011: Arts Scholars Discussion

Portfolio Presentation **20%**

This semester, four class periods will be devoted to portfolio presentations. Each student will have no more than ten minutes of class time to present. Please see the important guide and rubric at <https://artsscholars.as.virginia.edu/miller-arts-scholars-seminar-discussion>

In general, these portfolio presentations should include the following characteristics:

- *Evidence of rehearsal of presentation and inclusion of facets from earlier discussions concerning portfolio packages.*
- *Personal Introduction (about two minutes)*
 - What led you to your art form?
 - What excites you in your art form?
- *Overview of no more than 2 contrasting projects (about three minutes each)*

- What led to the project?
- How did you create your ideas?
- How did you end up at the outcome?
- Pictures, audio files, videos, live examples, etc.
- *Future plans (less than two minutes)*

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 less

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.

Calendar on next page...

Fall 2024 Schedule, Created in Collaboration with Katie Haines

8/28	Meeting 1	Syllabus <i>Items to Discuss:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus • Course expectations • Class Contract
9/4	Meeting 2	Group Discussion 1, “Welcome to your MAS Community” , Led by Katie Haines/Michael Rasbury <i>Items to discuss:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish class energy and traditions • Overview of MAS and its grants. • Discussing MAS Initiatives
9/11	Meeting 3	Faculty Guest 1: Mona Kasra, Drama/Studio Art <i>Fall Minigrant Applications Due</i>
9/18	Meeting 4	Group Discussion 2, “Finding Our Way As Artists” , Led by Katie Haines/Michael Rasbury <i>Items to discuss:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivating an image and artistic statement - who are you, and what matters to you? • Moving forward as an artist after university – what do you want to do after you graduate, and how do you get there?
9/25	Meeting 5	Group Discussion 3, “Artistic Introductions” , Led by Katie Haines /Michael Rasbury <i>Items to discuss:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevator pitches, networking, and branding • Creating an artistic resume • Portfolio Presentation example – Katie Haines
10/2	Meeting 6	Student Portfolio Presentation 1, Four Students
10/9	Meeting 7	Faculty Guest 2: Neal Rock, Studio Art
10/16	Meeting 8	Student Portfolio Presentation 2, Four Students
10/23	Meeting 9	Faculty Guest 3: Daniel Sender, Music
10/30	Meeting 10	Student Portfolio Presentation 3, Five Students
11/6	Meeting 11	Faculty Guest 4: Katie Schetlick, Dance
11/13	Meeting 12	Student Portfolio Presentation 4, Five Students
11/20	Meeting 13	Student Portfolio Presentation 5, Five Students
11/27	Thanksgiving Break	
12/4	Meeting 14	Group Discussion 4, “Looking Back and Ahead” , Led by Katie Haines/Michael Rasbury <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating Initiative Contracts

ABOUT ARTS SCHOLARS

Miller Arts Scholars is a College of Arts and Sciences interdisciplinary program comprised of student researchers, creators, interpreters, and collaborators supported by grants and a creative community.

- We are not a Contracted Independent Organization (CIO).
- We are not a performance group.
- We are “governed” by a faculty advisory committee comprised of Arts Faculty from music, drama, dance, creative writing, and studio art.
- Our Arts Scholars are led by an elected Student Executive Committee.

ARTS SCHOLARS RESPONSIBILITIES

Participants of the Miller Arts Scholars program are expected to meet certain requirements to remain in good standing with the program and to be eligible for minigrants and third and fourth-year research support.

- Each member of the Miller Arts Scholars program is required to read and understand our evolving [program design/description document](#), found on the about page at our website.
- During the second year of study in the College (first year of Miller Arts Scholars participation), students are asked to 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, discuss topics related to the arts, and share their work.
- During the first year of participation with the program, students are asked to attend the weekly discussion course (CASS 1011, Wednesdays, 2-2:50) where they are primarily led in discussion by the elected Miller Arts Scholars student president. After that, participants are encouraged to attend one seminar or discussion course each year.
- Participants must attend outcome presentations and/or performances by fellow third and fourth-year Miller Arts Scholars each April.
- Arts Scholars must prove measurable engagement with the arts at the University and within their discipline throughout their academic career.
- 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. (Creative Writing requirements are forthcoming)
 - 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.
- Participants must remain in the College through a major or minor and have a minimum GPA of 3.4 in all arts classes and 3.2 at the University.

ARTS SCHOLARS GRANTS

In addition to being part of a developing, exclusive group of artists/scholars, Arts Scholars may apply for Artist Minigrants and Arts Awards.

Artist Minigrants

Arts Scholars actively engaged in the College of Arts and Sciences, either through majoring or minoring in the college or through ongoing and measurable coursework within an artistic discipline in the college are eligible two, \$500 Artist Minigrants per academic year.

Arts Awards

Arts Scholars may apply as a rising third or fourth-year student during the spring semester for \$3000 to support an arts related project and/or research. Arts Award recipients have between June and March to complete faculty mentored work detailed in proposals. All funded proposals and outcome reports are available to the public for review at our website.

Our faculty advisory committee reviews and awards proposals, and favors:

- Applicants engaging in the arts in a meaningful way in our departments with our faculty, through extra-curricular activities, and with Miller Arts Scholars in seminar, discussion, and other meetings.
- Proposals that are well-written, clear, and articulate.
- For Arts Awards Proposals, the Identification of a faculty mentor in the related arts discipline similar to the research outlined in the proposal.

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

September 10, Last Day for Adding New Courses

September 11, Last Day to Drop a Class.

October 22, 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.