

THE BOOK AS ART

Prof. Pat Badt

I. Course Description: The focus of this course will be on the investigation into the process of bookmaking from simple zines to unique artist books. We will learn several different structures and produce books with and without text. Students will work individually and collectively to explore different ways of creating. Ideas of narrative, found language, concrete poetry and illustration will be addressed.

II. Course Objective: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate competence in the following areas:

- A. Understanding bookmaking processes and different book structures
- B. Understanding elements of narration, design and creating a unified bookform
- C. Use creativity and aesthetic judgment in creating a project
- D. Developing the verbal skills to discuss formal aspects of a project
- E. To critically examine works on the basis of their aesthetic and communicative merit.
- F. Understand and practice safe and considerate studio procedures

III. Course Method: Method of instruction includes lectures, slide presentations, class discussion, and studio demonstrations, in progress and finished work critiques and personal student conferences in addition to hands-on bookmaking processes.

IV. Method of Evaluation: Students will be evaluated on the following criteria according to the accompanying scale Attendance

- @5 projects
- homework
- sketchbook
- self-evaluation

Each project will be evaluated using four criteria:

1. Fulfillment of requirements (5pts)
2. Proficiency of technique (5pts)
3. Development of idea, composition and color (5pts)

4. Creativity (5pts)

V. Policy for class attendance: Attendance is mandatory! After 3 unexcused absences your grade will be lowered by one letter grade. Tardiness should be avoided. Being late on three occasions constitutes as on unexcused absence. All assignments must be submitted when they are due. Late assignments will be penalized one grade level. Work submitted more than one week beyond the due date will not be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made between the student and

VI. Classroom conduct: Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and any other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to their Cedar Crest College education.

VII. Materials List:

Hardbound book for class journal
misc. books for altered book project
pencils
color pencils|
paper
Metal triangle
Bone folder

VIII: Draft Syllabus: Book as Art or Artists' books

Artist' Books (also called bookwork) are works of art realized in the form of a book. They are usually published in small editions, though sometimes they are one-of-a-kind objects. Artists' books have employed a wide range of forms, including scrolls, fold-outs or loose items contained in a box. Although artists have been active in printing and book production for centuries, the artist's book is primarily a 20th century form. www.wickopedia.com

1. Project 1: begin practice pages in altered book journal
2. Project 2: **One-page crazy-fold bookform**; found poetry or zine*
3. Project 3: **Pocketbook**, Post card inserts of Altered Postcards or Concrete poetry**
4. Project 4: **Side-sewn non-adhesive book form**, group project Exquisite corpse*** see below

5 Project 5: **Adhesive bookform, folding style**

6. Project 6: **Adhesive bookform, concertina style**

7. Project 7: **Final project**

***Zine:** A **zine** (an abbreviation of the word *fanzine*, or magazine; pronounced /[zi](#) [n](#)/"zeen") is most commonly a small circulation [publication](#) of original or appropriated texts and images. More broadly, the term encompasses any [self-published](#) work of minority interest usually reproduced via photocopier on a variety of colored paper stock.

****Concrete poetry** or **shape poetry** is poetry in which the typographical arrangement of words is as important in conveying the intended effect as the conventional elements of the poem, such as meaning of words, rhythm, rhyme and so on. It is sometimes referred to as **visual poetry**, a term that has evolved to have distinct meaning of its own, because the words themselves form a picture.

*****Exquisite corpse** (also known as "exquisite cadaver" or "rotating corpse") is a method by which a collection of words or images are collectively assembled, the result being known as the exquisite corpse or *cadavre exquis* in French. Often the work develops without visual information and grows on its own, in parts and only whole in the final unveiling.

Studio Contract

Student Name: _____

Semester/Year: _____

Studio Level/Course Number: _____

Description of proposed projects: (a minimum of 4 projects must be completed during the semester)

Description of related research:

Materials you are interested in exploring.

I will assist, advise, instruct and evaluate the accomplishments of the above student in accordance with the terms listed in this contract form.

I understand and accept the terms listed in this contract form. As a student I also will do my best to perform and gain experience and knowledge with the advice and instruction of the above faculty.

Student Signature _____

Student phone # _____

Student email _____

Faculty Signature _____