

**RATIONAL FOR PARTICIPATION IN THIS ART COURSE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE LIBERAL ARTS.**

As a contextual base for this course we will focus on examining the history, place and purposes of art throughout human history with special attention to the use of metal-based body adornment as vehicles of artistic personal expression. We will pay special attention to contemporary ideas in the visual arts as they relate to the modern forces that are driving society. While building upon your understanding of the central place of art within all of the human experience, you will create a series of sculptural objects that attach to the body that are consistent with what you understand are the purposes of art. By marrying theory and practice in a single experience, you will participate in a true hands-on, real life experience of art making.

**Class Structure**

We will meet each week for 2 1/2 hours. The first part of each session will be dedicated to the development of a deeper understanding of the concepts that define and the forces that affect the visual arts. The learning methods utilized will be lectures, discussions, presentations, critiques and demonstrations. The second part of each session will be dedicated to the hands-on creation and execution of one-of-a-kind, jewelry based objects of art. We will refer to this part as “studio time”. We will explore numerous fabrication (construction) techniques, finishing techniques and the processes of small and medium scale casting.

**Evaluation Process**

My evaluation of your degree of success will be based upon:

1. The quality of your classroom participation in discussions and critiques.
2. Your demonstrated understanding of the concepts and techniques that we have explored.
3. The quality of your portfolio of art objects completed during the semester.

**Expectations**

For the reason that virtually all of your learning and production will occur in the studio, I expect that you will make every effort to attend each class throughout the semester.

I expect that you will be on time each class and prepared to work (Including proper attire).

I expect that you will review and respect the Honor Code.

**Materials**

The bookstore has a metalsmithing kit waiting for you to purchase. You will need this kit at the start of our second class. Make sure that you have your supplies with you each time that you come to class. If you exhaust any of your supplies during class, the bookstore has replacements available. There is no textbook required for the course