

MICA FYE FF111.14 Forum I (DEIG-J) (Interdisciplinary and Thematic)

- Fall 2023
- Mo 9:00AM - 1:00PM
- M 350: Studio Classroom
- Mo 2:00PM-3:00PM
- BR 002: Falvey Hall
- Pete Cullen (he/him) pcullen@mica.edu

Office hours by appointment on campus or over zoom

The course teaches first-year students fundamental skills in art and design that is interdisciplinary and thematic. Interdisciplinary skills are developed by working in non-medium-specific creative practice. The major theme addressed in the course is DEIG-J for diversity, equity, inclusion, globalization, and justice, while monthly sub-themes of identity, community, and universality are considered with guest lecturers who set the tone of each theme of inquiry. The course will cultivate the artistic voice through ideation derived from topical themes while incorporating art and design making processes that are independent, collaborative, and project based.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

- Apply theme-derived ideation and incorporation of interdisciplinary skills for personal artistic development.
- Demonstrate a foundation level of familiarity with contemporary art and design practices that relate to social and global issues.
- Apply iterative thinking, brainstorming, research, critique, documentation, and archive for foundational-level best practices in art and design processes.
- Demonstrate awareness of community through collaboration, citizenship, and social engagement.

Course Structure/Format:

This course has 1 weekly in-person session that is mandatory. The first part of the session typically will be from 9:00am-1:00pm in M350 and will consist of instructor demos and the presentation of the weekly assignments, as well as studio time for students to work and group critique. Students will most likely need to budget at least three hours of work outside of class per week to stay caught up with course assignments. Students will need to be self-directed in class as well as engage and collaborate with other students on a regular basis.

The second part of the session will be in BR 002: Falvey Hall from 2:00-3:00pm.

Anticipated Material costs:

Each student can establish their own budgetary needs for supplies. Artwork can be in any media of choice including: 2D, 3D, digital and analog. 4D work in “time-based arts” such as video, performance art, sound and installation art are acceptable.

• Field trips: Per the undergraduate or graduate field trip policies, if a field trip is required it must be on the syllabus distributed on the first day of class. Field trip or site visit opportunities added after the first day of class (when the syllabus is distributed) must be optional. ◦ Travel costs if applicable

Attendance: •

Students are expected to attend all meetings of each class in which they are enrolled, and to comply with the standards stated in the course syllabus. Students who must miss a class session should notify the instructor to arrange to make up all missed work as soon as possible. Full participation is essential to the successful completion of coursework and enhances the quality of the educational experience. Attendance is closely monitored by instructors to ensure that students are fully engaged in the course. Attendance records are also important to verify that federal financial aid and international visa requirements are being met. International students are required to maintain full-time status and be making progress towards completion of their degree requirements. This means that they must be attending classes. In the case of extended illness, injury, or extenuating circumstance, students should contact the Student Development Specialist in the Office of Student Affairs. International students should also contact the Office of International Education if there is a medical or academic need for a reduced credit load.

Faculty members may fail any student who is absent for a significant portion of class time. Excessive absence is defined as missing more than 20% of class meetings. After missing 20% of a class, a student will be required to meet with their academic advisor to discuss continuing in the course.

Class Hours: Late arrival or early departure from a class session translates to absence. Students arriving after class begins or leaving before class ends will be marked partially absent. Two late arrivals or early departures will be marked as one absence.

Exception for Religious Observances: Students are not penalized for absences due to religious observance. However, students may not miss a significant portion of class time, as defined in "Attendance." Students must inform the instructor at the beginning of the term of anticipated absences for religious observance. Adjustments for these absences may include make-up sessions in a different section of the class, independent projects, or both.

Expand as needed on MICA's Policy: Allowed absences and tardies ◦ Explain clearly what constitutes an absence or tardy ◦ Explain clearly the consequences [Letter grade drop, incomplete, etc.] ◦ Explain clearly the process for getting an absence excused • Hybrid and Online courses should clearly indicate how you will evaluate student engagement in course activities when those are not in-person or synchronously online.

Assessment/Grading: • Assessment criteria that is connected to CLOs • If applicable, assessment criteria for graduate students taking undergraduate courses • Weight of types of work and assignments, e.g. participation, weekly sketching or reading response, large projects • Grading scale [Use MICA standard - alphabetical, numerical, pass/fail]

Grades

A grade of 0% is automatically applied to missing assignments at the deadline. This grade will remain in place until any late work is graded by the instructor or graduate assistant. Assignments allowing multiple attempts will use the highest grade. Late assignments will be deducted 3% per day with a the lowest possible grade being 60%. Assignments are available for submission for two weeks after the deadline.

Major Assignments

Portfolio Assignments

- There will be 13 weekly portfolio assignments worth 45 points each.
- These assignments will help us explore the three main subthemes of the course:

Universality + Sustainability Justice

Community + Psychogeography

Identity + Freedom

The assignments will also help us to achieve the CLOs. Typically there will be four assignments dedicated to one of the subthemes. These assignments will be completed and documented in the following sequence of phases:

<i>Phase</i>	<i>Deliverable</i>
Brainstorming	Documentation of vision boards, sketches, collages, low-stakes writing, etc
Iterative Thinking	Repeat a prototype, concept, or form and document with the goal of improving the work in some way.
Research/Critique	Respond to information or feedback obtained through research and small group critique and document
Final Documentation	Present the work in its final form and explain concept, process, and form to full group

- Students will photograph these assignments and submit them via Assignments grouped into weekly Modules in Canvas. It is important to provide high quality photographs of your work with

adequate lighting. The camera on your phone should be sufficient for this purpose. Strong daylight is the best light source.

Participation & Engagement

- Students will post photographs that are in focus with adequate lighting of their work at least 24 hours before the final deadline for the Group Critique Discussion. Students will provide constructive and detailed feedback in the form of a comment on two other students' work before the final deadline for the Group Critique Discussion. Students will also participate in live critiques in class.

Final Assignment

- There will be a final assignment worth 135 points.
- This assignment will serve as a final exam for the course and will serve as a capstone incorporating multiple concepts and techniques of drawing covered during the semester.

Grading Structure

Assignment Percentage %

Portfolio Assignments 63%

Participation/Engagement 28%

Final Assignment 9%

Total 100%

Grades

All assessment scores will be posted on the course Canvas page. If you would like to review any of your grades (including the exams), or have questions about how something was scored, please email me to schedule a time for us to meet and discuss.

A zero percent grade will automatically be applied to all late submissions. A late submission deduction of 3% per day will be applied to all late submissions. Assignments will be available for late submission on Canvas for two weeks after the deadline. After this time, they will no longer be available.

I am happy to discuss any of your grades with you, and if I have made a mistake I will immediately

correct it. Any formal grade disputes must be submitted in writing and within one week of receiving the grade.

Final letter grades are assigned based on the percentage of total assessment points earned. To be fair to everyone I have to establish clear standards and apply them consistently, so please understand that being close to a cutoff is not the same as making the cut (89.99 \neq 90.00). It would be unethical to make exceptions for some and not others.

Final Grade Cutoffs

+	97.00%	+	87.00%	+	77.00%	+	67.00%	+	
A	94.00%	B	84.00%	C	74.00%	D	64.00%	F	
-	90.00%	-	80.00%	-	70.00%	-	60.00%	-	

Schedule:

Week #	Studio	Flex	Deliverables
1(8/28)	Intro	August 28 – Welcome Provost Rob Sabal and Forum Faculty Panel Introduction: Stephen Hendee, Chair FYE	Assignment 1, Group Critique 1
2(9/4)		Labor day	
3(9/11)	Universality + Sustainability Justice: Brainstorming	Resumes 101	Assignment 2, Group Critique 2
4(9/18)	Universality + Sustainability Justice: Iterative Thinking (Library Visit?)	Ethan Cohen	Assignment 3, Group Critique 3
5(9/25)	Universality + Sustainability Justice: Research/Critique	Open	Assignment 4, Group Critique 4
6(10/2)	Universality + Sustainability Justice: Final Form	Resumes 101	Assignment 5, Group Critique 5
7(10/9)	(Field Trio??)	Open	Assignment 7, Group Critique 7
8(10/16)	Community + Psychogeography: Brainstorming	Fall break	Assignment 8, Group Critique 8
9(10/23)	Community + Psychogeography: Iterative Thinking	Major Field Presentations from UGS Depts	Assignment 9, Group Critique 9
10(10/30)	Community + Psychogeography: Research/Critique	Wizard of Oz	Assignment 10, Group Critique 10

11(11/6)	Community + Psychogeography: Final Form	Resumes 101	Assignment 11, Group Critique 11
12(11/13)	Identity + Freedom: Brainstorming	Open	Assignment 12, Group Critique 12
13(11/20)	Identity + Freedom: Iterative Thinking	George Ciscle: Elizabeth Talford Scott (TBD)	Assignment 13, Group Critique 13
14(11/27)	Identity + Freedom: Research/Critique	Open	Final Project
15(12/4)	Identity + Freedom: Final Form	Resumes 101	In-person Group Critique

Academic Policy & Title IX

Accessibility and Disability Services

MICA makes reasonable accommodations for qualified students with documented disabilities. The Office of Accessibility and Disability Services (ADS) facilitates equal access for students who self-identify as having a disability and provide appropriate documentation. All accommodations must be approved through ADS. If you are a student with a disability who needs accommodations in this class, please contact ADS to schedule an appointment. ADS is located in Bunting 110 and can be reached at 410-225-2416 or ads@mica.edu. Once accommodations are authorized by ADS, please provide me (your instructor) with your approved accommodation memo as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to make an accommodation request in a timely manner. Accommodations are not retroactive.

Environmental Health and Safety (EHS)

Students are responsible to follow health and safety guidelines relevant to their individual activities, processes, and to review MICA's Emergency Operations Plan and attend EHS training. Students are required to purchase personal protection equipment (PPE) appropriate for their major or class. Those students who do not have the proper personal protection equipment will not be permitted to attend class until safe measures and personal protection are in place.

Plagiarism

Each discipline within the arts has specific and appropriate means for students to cite or acknowledge sources and the ideas and material of others used in their own work. Students have the responsibility to become familiar with such processes and to carefully follow their use in developing original work. Policy MICA will not tolerate plagiarism, which is defined as claiming authorship of, or using someone else's ideas or work without proper acknowledgement. Without proper attribution, a student may NOT replicate another's work, paraphrase another's ideas, or appropriate images in a manner that violates the specific rules against plagiarism in the student's department. In addition, students may not submit the same work for credit in more than one course without the explicit approval of all of the instructors of the courses involved. Consequences When an instructor has evidence that a student has plagiarized work submitted for course credit, the instructor will confront the student and impose penalties that may include failing the course. In the case of a serious violation or repeated infractions from the same student, the instructor will report the infractions to the department chair or program director. Depending on the circumstances of the case, the department chair or program director may then report the student to the appropriate dean or provost, who may choose to impose further penalties, including expulsion. Appeal Process Students who are penalized by an instructor or department for committing plagiarism have the right to appeal the charge and penalties that ensue. Within three weeks of institutional action, the student must submit a letter of appeal to the department chairperson or program director, or relevant dean or provost related to the course for which actions were taken. The academic officer will assign three members of the relevant department/division to serve on a review panel. The panel will meet with the student and the instructor of record and will review all relevant and available materials. The panel will determine whether or not to confirm the charge and penalties. The findings of the panel are final. The panel will notify the

instructor, the chairperson, division, the student, and the Office of Academic Affairs of their findings and any recommendations for change in penalties.

Title IX Notification

MICA faculty are committed to helping create a safe and open learning environment for all students. If you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. The College strongly encourages all members of the community to take action, seek support and report incidents of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Office. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, I am required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office. If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact the Student Counseling Center, counseling@mica.edu, 410.225.2367. For more information about reporting options at MICA, please visit [here](#). Students with Extended Illness or Absence In the case of extended illness or other absences that may keep the student from attending a class for more than three meetings, undergraduate students must contact the Student Development Specialist in the Division of Student Affairs or have an official disability accommodation letter issued by the Learning Resource Center that specifically addresses class absences. For students who have not been approved for academic disability accommodations, the Student Development Specialist will work with the student to determine the cause and appropriateness of the absences and subsequently notify instructors as necessary. Graduate students must contact the instructor, director, and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies. Students in professional studies programs must contact the Associate Dean for Open Studies. The appropriate administrator will facilitate a conversation with relevant faculty to determine whether the student can achieve satisfactory academic progress, which is ultimately at the sole discretion of the faculty member.