

**Hand Papermaking and Book Arts, Art 280_WEC
Winter 2008**

Saturdays, 8 am - noon

January 12, 26, February 2, 16, March 1, 15, 29

**Old Main 4 & 5
Augsburg College**

Professor: Regula Russelle

Office: Old Main 2

651.399.9021

russellr@augsb.org

January 12 class:

We will begin by looking at samples of artists' books and will make a couple of book structures, possibly a slipcase as well. All materials for book making will be provided. Please bring your sketch book and a pen.

Art 280: This introduction to hand papermaking and book arts explores western sheet forming and dimensional paper making, paper surface treatment, and an exploration of a variety of book forms and cases to create opportunities to integrate form, image, and text. Gallery visits, discussion, brief writing, and group critiques will examine papermaking and artists' books as cultural art forms. (Some experience in writing and image making is helpful, but not required.)

General Objectives: Students will develop a greater awareness and appreciation for hand papermaking and the book arts; practice forms to gain competency; demonstrate an ability to integrate form and content; develop book and paper projects, from concept through production; and critique their own and others' work.

Outcomes:

1. create pulp and paper by hand
2. practice and create sewn book structures
3. practice and create continuous spine structures
4. practice and create simple cases
5. explore the interplay of text and imagery
6. create original work that combines form and content
7. explore the book as an art object
8. participate in critiques and discussions

Teaching methodology:

lecture with samples and/or slides; discussion and questions

museum and book arts center visits

instructor demonstration of techniques

student practice exercises of techniques in a group setting

creation and critique of original paper and book art; one-on-one and group feedback

brief writing about book art and paper projects

open studio work time

Requirements: Each unit will include a demonstration, practice, exploration, sketchbook "diary," and a critique of the finished, assigned project. Participation in all aspects of study are graded. (Projects comprise 75 percent of the grade; Attendance, sketchbook "diary," class room participation comprise the remaining 25 percent of the grade.)

Attendance: Because this is a hands-on studio art course, what is demonstrated and learned in class together cannot be made up by email or through phone conversation. It's important that students arrive on time, attend complete class sessions, and come prepared to work in class. More than one absence results in a maximum grade of 2.0 for the course. Incompletes are only given in the case of documented financial or health-related problems.

Grading: When grading a project, four categories are considered: 1. completion of the assignment 2. excellence of craft (*to what level does your project display mastery of skills*) 3. creative approach (*to what level have you challenged your abilities and created opportunities for discoveries in your work?*) 4. content and sense of gestalt (*how well does your project communicate intent? How well does your project work as a unified whole?*)

Course Content:

Beginning book and paper students will:

- keep a sketch book of inspirations and process notes for each project
- visit galleries and share reflections with other class participants
- make paper pulp and a hand-made paper edition
- explore surface design of paper
- explore a variety of book structures
- explore simple case and box making
- combine paper, text and imagery in these structures
- present work and give weekly feedback to others in weekly group critique

Class Session Plan (details may change if needed)

Class Session 1 — January 12

Introduction

Look at book arts samples

Demonstration and Practice: Sewn book structures; if time permits, a soft-cover slipcase

Talk about 3 class project assignments and other course details

Class Session 2 — January 26

Demonstration and Practice: Page surface treatment

Review of work in progress

Studio work time

Class Session 3 — February 2

Project 1 is due

class critique

Demonstration and Practice: Sheet forming paper

Studio work time

Class Session 4 — February 16

Demonstration and Practice: Accordion structures

Review of work in progress

Studio work time

Class Session 5 — March 1

Project 2 is due

class critique
Demonstration and Practice: Dimensional paper making
Studio work time

Class Session 6 — March 15

Demonstration and Practice: Box making and wrappers
Review of work in progress
Studio work time

Class Session 7 — March 29

Project 3 is due
final class critique
self-evaluation
studio clean-up
celebration

Academic Honesty: A college is a community of learners whose relationship relies on trust. Honesty is necessary for the functioning of the Augsburg College community. Academic dishonesty destroys the trust necessary to the functioning of this community and is, therefore, abhorred and prohibited. The policy and definitions of academic honesty are included in the Augsburg College Student Guide; students are responsible for reading this.

Optional Reading:

The Augsburg library holds a variety of books on papermaking, book arts, and related topics.

Books that may be helpful include:

Elliot, Marion, *Paper making*
Jackson, Paul, *The Pop-up Book*
LaPlantz, Sharon, *The Art and Craft of Handmade Books*
Smith, Gloria Zmolek, *Teaching Hand Papermaking*
Smith, Keith, *Non-Adhesive Bindings; Text in the Book Format; Structure of the Visual Book*
Shannon, Faith, *The Art and Craft of Paper*
Zeier, Franz, *Books, Boxes, and Portfolios*
Books on Origami paper folding
Hand Papermaking magazine

A course materials kit will be provided at the first class session

In addition to this kit you will need to bring the following:

package of 12 nylon handi-wipes or similar product like pellon interfacing (non-adhesive) cut to 12" x 18"
6 large zip-loc plastic bags; 6 small zip-loc plastic bags
optional: rubber gloves, apron, waterproof footwear
small sketchbook or notebook for concepts and writing exercises
archival black marker or pen
sharp scissors
pressing weights: two mason's bricks securely wrapped in clean paper
some sort of container for supplies
waste sheets for gluing (discarded magazines work well)

You'll find that you'll collect additional materials such as specialty papers, threads, hardware, etc. as your ideas develop. Wet Paint Art Supplies (Grand and Snelling, St. Paul), Dick Blick Stores (Roseville, Edina, Minnetonka), and Minnesota Center for Book Arts (Washington and 11th Street Avenue, Minneapolis, near University of Minnesota West Bank) all carry good book arts supplies.