

St. John's University Department of Art and Design:

Procedures for ART 4125, Creative Thesis

Students who are interested in working on a thesis project during their last semester **must submit a proposal** to the Chairperson of the Department of Art and Design in order to enroll in Art 4125, Creative Thesis. Enrolled students must find a faculty member willing to act as the student's thesis advisor and also register for the Thesis class, which will meet once a week with a faculty member who will facilitate critiques and exhibition requirements. In addition to the weekly group meetings, each student will also meet on a regular basis with their faculty advisor/mentor feedback throughout the semester. The thesis project culminates in an exhibition and as such, students are required to adhere to a strict schedule and guidelines provided by the gallery hosting the exhibition. Guidelines for the initial proposal are outlined below.

Thesis Proposal:

1. Submit a 2 page (double spaced) typed statement of your intended thesis project. This proposal should describe your project in as much detail as possible, and include all creative, conceptual and practical components.

Include the following:

- A working title
- Overarching ideas, concepts or problem situation that will frame the thesis
- A list or paragraph about the artistic or intellectual traditions that are related to the thesis
- Potential materials and art/design making techniques to be used
- Preliminary speculation on the final output/physical specifications of the thesis (please note: outputs may change and evolve over the course of the semester)
- The name of you're the faculty who had agreed to act as your advisor

Please note that the initial proposal and form are due to the Department Chair during midterm week the semester PRECEDING the thesis class.

Due dates and procedures

2. The thesis proposals are due to the Chair of the Department of Art and Design by mid October for students doing a thesis in the spring semester, and by the end of March for students doing a thesis in the fall semester. **The Department of Art and Design reserves the right to deny registration in Art 4125 if the proposal is deemed to be insufficient in scope and purpose or does not give the faculty confidence that the student will be able to complete a successful thesis project.** Proposals will then be evaluated by a faculty committee who will make the final decisions regarding thesis eligibility for each student. Students will be notified within two weeks of proposal submission.

3. Along with the thesis proposal the student must fill out the attached form, which includes the signature of the faculty member who has agreed to act as the thesis mentor/advisor to the student. This form should be attached to the proposal.

Expectations

4. Students are expected to meet on a regular basis with their faculty advisor to discuss the progress of their thesis project and must adhere to the requirements set forth by the faculty member leading the Thesis class once a week. It is also recommended that the student plan at least two additional meetings with a third faculty or outside advisor in order to achieve a broad scope of professional perspectives.

6. On or around mid-semester the students must provide the Thesis faculty with a detailed installation proposal. (Due dates for the installation proposal will be provided each semester). This document must provide as much specific information as possible as to what the student's thesis will look like in the designated gallery space and must include a hand drawn or computer rendered diagram. Along with the detailed proposal, student must submit a draft of a one-paragraph artist statement. A Midterm thesis critique will be scheduled in which 4-5 senior faculty members will engage with each student and comment on the progress of the work.

Thesis Exhibition

7. All students must participate in the Thesis exhibition at the end of the academic year. Students who do not participate in the Thesis exhibition will not be eligible to receive a passing grade for Art 4125. Details about this exhibition will be provided by the Department of Art and Design. Other details and expectations regarding participation in the thesis exhibition include:

- Arranging for work to be delivered to the gallery space hosting the exhibition.
- Preparation of artist's card or business card for inclusion in the gallery.
- A prepared, finalized statement which will be installed with the work.
- Participation in the installation of the thesis exhibition.
- Participation in midterm and final critiques as well as the opening reception of the thesis exhibition.
- Ability to take down the work when the exhibit is over.

ART 4125 Thesis Project Form

Student Information:

Student Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Cell #: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Project Information:

Title of Project: _____

Media: _____

(Please attach project statement)

To be filled out by Faculty Mentor:

Faculty Mentor: _____

Signature: _____

Thesis proposal must be attached to this form and submitted to the Department Chair during midterm week of the semester PRECEDING the thesis semester.