Special Topics/Fashion Design: Mask Making

FSHD 1291-0001 Spring 2012 Course # 77215

Course Location: FANNIN building Room 222

Course Semester Credit Hours: 2

Course Length: 8 weeks

Type of Instruction: LECTURE/LAB

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#### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introductory course in the construction of masks through several techniques. The students will use their creativity to put their own spin on a traditional craft.

# COURSE PREREQUESITE(s)

**NONE** 

#### INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

No textbook required for this class. Supplementary materials will be provided.

#### **COURSE GOALS:**

This class is designed to enhance the student's enjoyment and understanding of mask making. It will provide a guide to understanding the steps needed to design, construct, and realize ideas for creating a successful mask.

## COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO)

- 1. Students will gain an awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the use and ritual of masks in many cultures.
- 2. Students will gain perspective on the characteristics within masks the exaggeration, distortion, and symmetry of elements.
- 3. Students will create sculptural masks by covering underlying structures with paper mache, instant mache, and plaster gauze exhibiting a strong foundation for their mask.
- 4. Students will finalize their thoughts and designs in the creative completion of their mask through details/embellishments, and choice of finishing.

## CLASS ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT.

It is the policy of the department that **there are no excused absences**. Just as in the workforce, you are responsible for all material assigned and/or covered during the missed session. Attending class is vital to understanding, integrating, and applying the concepts discussed in class. When you miss class, you are a

step behind other students. Get to know your fellow students in order to have a source for lecture notes and handouts if you cannot attend a class session... GET A NUMBER AND EMAIL OF SOMEONE IN HERE TODAY! Students are expected to assume the responsibility for learning. Your instructor may choose to assist you, but the actual responsibility rests with you.

## PLEASE BE COURTEOUS.

Students arriving late or leaving early should notify the instructor ahead of time, please do not disrupt the class. Disruptive activity that hinders other students' learning or deters an instructor from effective teaching will not be tolerated under any circumstances. If a student arrives more than 10 minutes late for any scheduled class times or presentations, the instructor may lock the classroom door and the student will not receive credit for that class.

## PUNCTUALITY IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT! DO NOT COME LATE!

## DON'T MISS CLASS OR ARRIVE LATE!

The class will start with a mini lecture and demo every class. Be respectful to me and your classmates by arriving on time so we can all complete this portion together and move on to the hands on part of class. If you are late you will miss important information. I will not wait to start, class starts at 10, not anytime after.

Your attendance score accounts for 25% of your final grade. In accordance with HCC Policy, if you miss more than 12.5% of your scheduled classes (**only 1 class for this course!**) you will be dropped from the course. Dropping this course is the responsibility of the student, NOT the instructor. If the student has not withdrawn from the course by the last drop-date, the student will receive a failing grade.

## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.

Any student with a documented disability who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at Central College at the beginning of each semester. Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. If you have any questions, please contact a disability counselor.

**FOR ALL OTHER HCCS POLICIES** ... Grade appeal, attendance, withdrawal policies, refunds, discipline issues, etc.- please refer to the HCCS student handbook, the HCCS catalog and/or the class schedule.

## **INSTRUCTOR GRADING CRITERIA**

Projects 50% Participation/Homework 25% Attendance 25%

Come to class. Follow directions. Be creative! If you can manage this, a good grade is assured.

#### STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

**I want you to complete 8 masks by the end of the course.** It may seem like a lot, but it works out to 2 per instructional class. To secure jobs or make money selling creations you have to learn how to produce multiples and in a swift manner. This is cost effective and will yield a higher profit margin in the end.



Mask themes needed:

1 animal 1 fairytale character 1 Venetian inspired 1 recycled materials

2 ethnic inspired masks. I want you to research the culture you chose so you can share with the class in your final critique. Talk about common themes in the culture, colors, symbolism, etc. How are masks used in that culture? A brief typed summary to turn in to me. Most museums have cultural masks in permanent exhibits, go get inspired by real life not just behind a computer screen!!!!

2 remaining masks you can do whatever subject you choose! (All masks should have 3 dimensional features such as eyebrows, ears, etc- not just flat masks).

You will also need to turn in a mask specification sheet for one of your masks (I will provide this sheet) This will include a sketch of one mask (to show where it covers the face), swatches of fabrics trims, paints used, any details for design used along with estimated completion time. Also include any inspiration research.

## **Project Evaluation:**

The final critique of all your masks will be graded based in the following manner:

25% Completion (Did you complete all 8 masks or have some been left unfinished?)

20% Neatness, clarity (Are the masks presentable and a clear reflection of ideas)

20% Creativity (Is your design thought out and interesting?)

20% Practicality (Is the mask designed to be worn or hung? Could it be sold?)

15% Presentation (Expression of your journey in this class, understanding of culture you

chose)

#### **Instructor Evaluation:**

- 1. Did students exhibit an awareness/understanding of masks from various cultures?
- 2. Did students integrate planning into their own mask design? Need to map out plan.
- 3. Did students break the form with added sculptural relief?
- 4. Did students exhibit craftsmanship in applying layers of paper maché?
- 5. Did students complete design creativity in finishing their mask and applying embellishments?

## **Student Presentation:**

- 1. Describe our masks one by one. (What you made and how, why, and the materials you used.)
- 2. Describe one new thing you learned through making this mask, or looking at and discussing the masks from various cultures.
- 3. Describe how you have communicated a specific idea through making this mask.
- 4. Describe what you enjoyed the most about this project and the least.
- 5. If you were to do this project again, what might you change to make it more successful?



## MAKE-UP TESTS & ASSIGNMENT POLICY:

Deadlines are VERY important. As they say, "the show must go on."

LATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE UNACCEPTABLE!!!

All masks will be due the final day of class. **If an extreme circumstance occurs contact me immediately**. Grades are turned in that last day of class, and if you do not alert me you will fail for missing the final critique. 15% of your project grade is the presentation to the class, so if you miss critique, you will not be able to make an A.

# If something is going on LET ME KNOW!

#### GRADES ARE EVALUATED ON THE FOLLOWING SCALE:

A (90-1 00/Excellent)-4 points per semester hour

B (80-89/Good)--3 points per semester hour

C (70-79/Fair)-2 points per semester hour

D (60-69/Passing\*)-1 point per semester hour

F (Failing)-O points per semester hour

(\*A grade of "0" is not a passing grade in developmental courses.)

## **COURSE CALENDAR**

The Tentative schedule for the class is as follows (This may change!!!)

**MON Jan 16:** NO CLASS MLK Day

MON Jan 23: Syllabus/Intros

**HOMEWORK**: buy supplies and find 10 photos of masks that you like or want to recreate. Bring to next class for a grade.

MON Jan 30: Plastic premade masks- embellishing painting/ Paper mache- paper layering technique

MON Feb 6: Instant paper mache- pulp sculpting technique

MON Feb 13: Impregnated gauze

**MON Feb 20:** NO CLASS PRESIDENTS DAY

MON Feb 27: Fabric, interfacings, and buckram. Demo of leather.

**MON March 5:** Final critique of masks

## **Mask Making Supply List**

**\$25 to pay for class packet.** Includes: Art paste, plastic mask, pulp paper mache, Impregnated gauze, floral wire, clay, sandpaper, vasoline, glue sticks and other items we share in class.

Styrofoam head (3.99 @ sally beauty supply)

Cling wrap

Scissors (a large and a small tipped one would be great!)

Apron and Vinyl gloves

Plastic/vinyl Drop cloth or tablecloth (easy to wipe clean) vinyl placemat

Tacky glue or Gem Tac

Plastic spoons and a small container with lid.

Embellishments: Glitter, sequins, broken jewelry, feathers, rhinestones, pasta, beans, bottle caps, yarn, ribbons, lace, pom poms, fringe, raffia, tulle, fake flowers/leaves, beads, trims, pipe cleaners, etc

Elastics and ribbons for holding masks on (organza ribbon works well b/c it doesn't slip.)

Needle and thread

Paints (acrylic is best because it is non toxic) \* wide and fine tip brushes to paint designs, or paint pens. Can use spray paints at home.

Sealer- this can be a spray gloss or paint on sealant. \*Any spray paint will have to be done outside or at home)

Plastic bags (grocery bags, Fruit and vegetable bags, large Ziplocs to protect masks when travelling home and to cover Styrofoam head ) or box to transport (plastic best).

Scrap fabrics

Sharpie

Dressmakers pins

Pretty papers, colored printing paper, colored tissue paper, etc

Aluminum foil, just a little, to build up areas of mask

\*\*\* You may need more or less than what is here. Every student creates the masks they want so this list changes with your designs. Plan ahead!\*\*\*