**SOS: Visual Art Information and Application**

**Fall and Winter, 2011-12**

Shaw Osha (office: Seminar 2, C3108, [oshas@evergreen.edu](mailto:oshas@evergreen.edu), ext. 6129)

<http://blogs.evergreen.edu/sosvisualart1112/>.

**Program Description:**

This is an intensive full-time, two-quarter program designed for students ready for intermediate to advanced work in theory and practice in the visual arts.  Students should be ready to work independently in the studio and in their research, but must also be interested in the learning community that a classroom provides. The academic content, lectures, and instruction are a collaboration between the faculty and the students enrolled. Credits are earned through your project and research related to your project and program activities such as seminars, the Artist Lecture Series, field trips, and research presentations.

Students will design their own projects including proposed materials and theoretical research, they will write papers, share their research through presentations, work intensively in the studio together, produce a significant thematic body of work, and participate in demanding critiques.

Expect to work on program assignments 20 – 30 hours per week outside of class meetings.

Fall quarter will be a more structured environment in order to have a common culture of readings and knowledge base. There will be structured class time for seminar, lecture/workshops and student presentations of art historical content. Students will begin working on their proposed projects with the understanding that the outcome is not an a priori deal but will come through the process of experimenting and taking risks both materially and intellectually. Winter quarter will be an intensification of focus on individual projects with the understanding that there will necessarily be new iterations of projects from fall quarter. Part of the overall work will be allowing for development and change in direction and thoughtful articulation of the process as the inquiry progresses.

**Application Information:**

To apply for the program,

Application forms can be found:

<http://blogs.evergreen.edu/sosvisualart1112/> or, hard copy forms at Seminar II E 4106

Completed applications (see pg 2) should be submitted in one of the following ways:

1. Drop it in Shaw’s mailbox in Sem 2, A-2117 [M-F 8am to 4:45pm]
2. Email it to Shaw as an attached document

Admitted Students: If you decide not to take the program, please let Shaw know by e-mail as soon as possible. If you do not register for the program, your place will be given to someone on the wait-list. Students who do not attend the first day of class in fall quarter will be dropped from the program.

Wait-listed students: Please Email Shaw to let her know of your continuing interest and to give her your best contact information.

Proposal evaluation criteria:

* Does the proposal represent a good balance between working with existing artistic skills or knowledge and a substantial amount of uncharted intellectual or visual territory?
* Is the project interesting? Ambitious? Does it demonstrate synthesis and critical thinking?
* Is there clear evidence of prior proficiency in the medium you plan to pursue?

**Student Originated Studies: Visual Art 2011-12**

**Application (please type)**

Faculty: Shaw Osha (office: Seminar 2, C3108, [oshas@evergreen.edu](mailto:oshas@evergreen.edu), ext. 6129)

Completed proposals will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, until the program fills. This program assumes that you already have the technical skills to carry out your work. Instruction in the program will be limited to mentoring students in their individual work in drawing, research, and artistic presentation skills. If you have concerns about your preparation for this program, consult with a faculty member who knows your work well before submitting a proposal.

**1.** Provide your NAME, student ID number, most reliable EMAIL address, and PHONE number.

**2.** Provide your STATUS as of September 2011 (sophomore, junior or senior) and the number of CREDITS you expect to have by that time.

**3.** Current Evergreen students: a. Please list all Evergreen programs you have taken. b. Include a faculty evaluation of you paired with your self-evaluation from the same coordinated studies program (i.e. a fulltime interdisciplinary program taught by two or more faculty). This should be a program that you took in the past year, if possible.

**4.** Transfer students entering in Fall 2011: Submit a current transcript (this can be unofficial/a photocopy) and 1 or 2 letters of recommendation from the instructor of a recent class you've taken, which speaks to the following: your academic strengths, critical thinking skills, work ethic, and ability to work well with others.

**5.** In one paragraph, discuss your *artistic and intellectual background* including coursework (interdisciplinary studies, critical theory, art history, drawing) and explain the relevance of this background to the SOS program.

**6.** **One page to write about the *proposed body of thematically linked works*.**

**a.** Proposed *medium*, technique(s), scale of the work. How would you like your work to change or “improve” during the course of this project: medium(s), technique, subject matter/ imagery, content, style/form, scale, and productivity…

**b.** Describe *your project* and goals for this project: the question, discipline, or theme/subject your work will explore. Successful proposals will demonstrate the use of artistic practice and critical thinking to generate work addressing more than simple skill building and personal expression. Explain why your project warrants development; why in this medium; how do the materials work to express and communicate your ideas.

**c.** What is driving your critical inquiry? What artists do you imagine you are in conversation with around this project? What critical readings would you draw from?  Come up with a potential reading list for researching your areas of interest next year.

**d.** Why and how is this particular work important to you personally, artistically, and in terms of its relationship to society?

What makes a strong application?

* Faculty evaluations/letters that speak highly of your critical thinking skills, work ethic and/commitment to learning, organizational and time management skills, and enthusiasm for collaboration.
* Responses to the application questions that demonstrate strong critical thinking and writing skills and that indicate your sincere commitment to an interdisciplinary study of visual art (a study not only of technique but also of art’s inextricable connection to history, culture, society and politics) and your sincere commitment to being flexible in your learning in collaboration with your classmates.

This application is also available on-line at: <http://blogs.evergreen.edu/sosvisualart1112/>