

**Climate Change and Sustainability,  
For Artists and Designers**

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<http://climatechangeandsustainability.edublogs.org/>

**Purpose of class:**

To provide students of art and design a sophisticated education in the social, environmental and political issues related to Climate Change and Sustainability.

To provide students with the tools necessary to become creative makers and problem solvers engaged at the highest level of cultural production.

To provide students an introductory experience of applying their creative skills towards question asking and problem solving in a studio setting.

All aspects of life, industry and culture are being effected by what is now called “the triple crisis”. This is: a changing climate, diminishing fossil fuels and our ability to feed a rapidly expanding population. If we are going to be engaged in an attempt to alter the current course of our civilization it will involve all aspects of society. This class is designed to allow students to respond according to their own direction of interest, in the format of their choice.

**Goal of class:**

To bring the information of Climate Change and Sustainability into the arena of art and design.

The scientific, economic and political consensus is that how we respond to these issues will define our century. The goal of this class is to prepare you with an overview of the information and skills necessary in order to begin a career as a professionally engaged as an artist, designer, entrepreneur or academic.

Through a series of course readings, lectures, field trips and guest speakers you will be exposed to the information of Climate Change and Sustainability from the local to the international level. You will then be asked to respond to this information with three projects of your own design. It is the goal of this class that the information presented by the syllabus and by the student projects will provide a think- tank, research-based atmosphere, open to the free exchange and generation of ideas and solutions.

These projects may be pragmatic, applied or conceptual.

This class takes place in a private, Fine and Applied arts educational context, we are therefore not held to accepting all information as unequivocal. Art and Design are fields where we can question and provide a platform for criticality that we are especially equipped for.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

> Students will demonstrate ability to respond to seminar information with three visual projects.

> Students will be able to understand and converse in the current language of Climate Science, Policy, Art and Design.

> Students will gain a Generalist understanding of the issues of Climate, Energy and Food and the concepts of Mitigation, Adaptation and Resiliency.

> Students will demonstrate a deeper understanding of the role of Art and Design in these issues and will demonstrate a focused development of their own work toward this purpose.

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## **Requirements –**

1) Three Project Presentations: See Schedule for descriptions

**(All presentations on digital file, 300dpi and PDF turned in with students name, date and project title)**

2) 1 page notes/responses/questions and participation in discussion of required reading

3) Attendance – if you plan on missing a class or have missed one please email me a brief explanation with the days date. Unexplained absences will severely impact final grade.

## **Projects**

For this class you are asked to develop four projects.

You have approximately five weeks for each project to gather information and develop a project according to your own interests and discipline. To clarify: the manner in which you resolve your projects is open to you. There are many different majors in this class so the projects can range from the conceptual, performative, sculptural, social, representational, 2-D process based, architectural, product design, graphic design and educational. It is up to you. This issue calls for all fields to develop sophisticated and informed responses, proposals and solutions.

Turn in all photographs 300dpi on CD and create a PDF that can be posted to class blog.

**Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory and recorded. No unexcused

absences are allowed, any unexcused absences will lower your grade by one full letter.

Excused absences will be given to notification in written form only. No verbal excuses. If you must miss more than three classes for personal or medical reasons it is recommended that you withdraw from this class. If you are routinely late you will miss a considerable amount of information including tool demonstrations and tool safety necessary for the completion of your projects. Missing these will profoundly impact your grade. I do not give individual tutorials to students who are late to class.

### **Grading**

Your level of involvement in your work will largely determine your grade in this class. I will look for the amount that you challenge yourself and your development as a visual artist in regard to that challenge. Here is a more specific chart that I will use to determine your grade.

#### **Grading:**

A +, A	(superior)
A-	(excellent)
B+, B	(good)
B-	(above average)
C+, C	(average)
C-	(below average)
D+, D	(poor)
F	(failure)

**e-mail policy :** Feel free to e-mail me to let me know if you will be absent, late or would like to set up an appointment. I do not use e-mail to answer questions covered in class or to inform you of material you have missed due to an absence. Please ask a fellow classmate to help you make up for missed class time.

#### **Attendance Policy:**

**Attendance is mandatory.**

**Two late arrivals equal one absence.**

**Two early departures equal one absence.**

***Remember – leaving early for holidays is not acceptable – tell your parents***

**1 absence-** not good.

**2 absences-** bad. I report to foundations and Student Affairs

**3 absences-** really bad. I will drop your grade by at least full letter grade.

**4 absences-** the college states that this equals an automatic failure.

***Remember – leaving early for holidays is not acceptable – tell your parents***

*Students are expected to stay the full length of class unless I excuse you early. Class starts at 9am and ends at 3pm.*

*Do not try to leave class before it ends without asking my permission, as I will notice and it will affect my decision for grading you.*

***Remember – leaving early for holidays is not acceptable – tell your parents***

Class begins promptly; excessive tardiness will negatively affect you as you will miss important information and demonstrations. However, arriving late is better than missing a class. It is your responsibility to find out what you have missed by asking a fellow student or me directly.

**Class requirements:**

**Have materials in class on workdays and be prepared to work and take notes.**

**This means students are to bring their own art supplies, some tools and all assignments to class.** *(Class time is not the time to scramble and gather materials).*

**Work on projects outside of class.** Time management is an important skill you will need to survive. Making art requires dedicated time; do not wait until the last minute for things to come together. As a general rule, it will almost always take you twice as long as you think it will.

**Cell phones are prohibited during class.** Be sure to TURN OFF your phone at the beginning of class for the duration of class time. Do not text in class. If you need to use the phone, please go out in the hall quietly during a break. **All devices are off and closed during lectures and critiques. Take notes by hand in your notebook.**

Portable music devices are only allowed during designated class work time and *must* kept at a low enough volume for the student to hear comments and instructions at all times.

**Americans with Disabilities Act**

MICA makes reasonable academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. All academic accommodations must be approved through the Learning Resource Center (LRC). Students requesting accommodation should schedule an appointment at the LRC (410-225-2416 or e-mail [LRC@mica.edu](mailto:LRC@mica.edu)), located in Bunting 110. It is the student's responsibility to make an accommodation request in a timely manner.

**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 Action Plan and attend EHS training. Students are required to purchase personal protection equipment 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**

Maryland Institute College of Art seeks to provide an educational environment based on mutual respect that is free from discrimination and harassment. If you have encountered sexual harassment/misconduct/assault, please know that there are multiple ways to report it and you are encouraged to do so ([www.mica.edu/equal\\_opportunity](http://www.mica.edu/equal_opportunity)). Additionally, in order to meet our commitments to equity and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, faculty and staff members are required to report disclosures of gender based discrimination made to them by students, except when prior notice regarding a specific classroom assignment or discussion is provided. If you require academic accommodations due to an incident involving sexual harassment or discrimination, please contact Student Affairs at 410.225.2422 or Human Resources at 410.225.2363.

### **Students with Extended Illness or Cause for Legitimate 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. The Student Development Specialist will then 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, program director, and the Office of Graduate Studies. Students in art education or professional studies programs must contact the Dean for the Center for Art Education or the Associate Dean for Open Studies, respectively. 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.