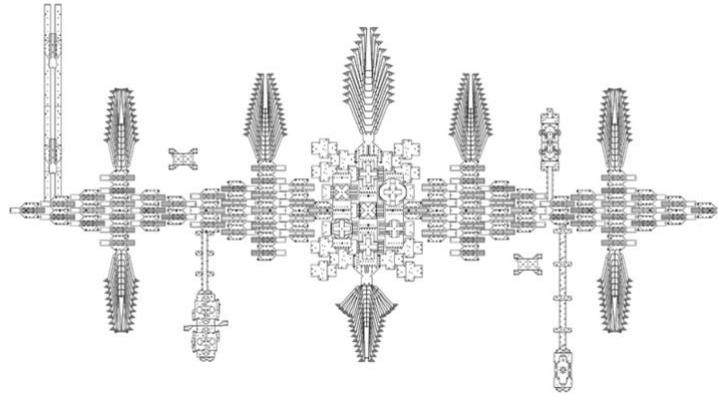# Advanced Projects in Media and Visual Arts

Taught by
Evan Blackwell : email: blackwee@evergreen.edu
ceramic art, sculpture, visual studies

Spring Academic Fair – March 4th from 2:00 – 3:30: The faculty will meet students on ZOOM
who are interesting in applying for the spring 2026.

> Evan Blackwell is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
> Join Zoom Meeting
> https://evergreen.zoom.us/j/91981106029
> Meeting ID: 919 8110 6029

Program Description:
This program is for intermediate to advanced students who are ready for intensive, full-time
work in both theory and practice in visual and/or media arts. Students will have an opportunity
to pursue individually driven work, supported by program structures to help scaffold their
projects through peer-led critiques, rigorous research, etc. This program provides students with
an opportunity to plan and realize a project, complete visual research, and write papers
appropriate to their topics. They will share research through presentations, work intensively in
the studio together, and participate in demanding bi-weekly critiques. Professional
development for students who are thinking of graduate school, careers in arts or media, arts or
media internships, or art education at any level will be provided. Although enrolling for winter
or spring only is possible, the two-quarter structure of the program will allow students to
attempt more ambitious ideas and more coherent content through the process of editing,
critique, reevaluation, and formal practice. By the end of the program, students will produce a
cohesive body of work that is exhibition-ready.

Areas of Study: Visual art, Media, Film and video production, Design, Visual studies, Museums
and curation, Education

Prerequisites: Previous college-level visual arts studies are required, and previous college-level
art history studies are strongly encouraged.

Signature Required

Students can access the program application on the Advanced Projects in Media and Visual Arts Wordpress site here: https://sites.evergreen.edu/advancedprojects-tpva/ . Students should email their completed application and digital portfolio to blackwee@evergreen.edu. Only complete applications will be considered. Selection criteria will be based on experience in the visual arts, the strength of application, visual portfolio, and the feasibility of their project. Applications received before the Academic Fair will be reviewed and students will be notified of their status in the program before registration starts the following week. Completed applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, until the program fills.

ANTICIPATED CREDIT EQUIVALENCIES:
8 - Practice (related to your project – Studio work, critique, presentations, etc.)
8 - Theory (related to your project – Research, writing, seminar work, etc.)

DRAFT Weekly Schedule:

Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
Self-Directed Cohort Group Work 1:00- 3:00pm Or TBD per group	Workshops and Critique 10:00 - 4:00pm	Artist Lecture Series (remote) Weeks 2,4,6,8 11:30 - 1:00pm	Seminar 10:00 - 12:30pm Workshops 1:30 – 4:00	No Class

Major Assignments:

Your Personal Project: You will devise a thematic art project which will generate half of your credits in the program. To help you plan and monitor progress in your work, you will create a Project Proposal and update throughout the quarter. You will also share progress on your project and receive feedback from your peers in critiques during the quarter, in addition to meeting with your faculty periodically to discuss your project. Half of your credits arise from your project. Your faculty will review your project plan with an eye toward feasibility and credit equivalencies. There can be some flexibility, as we expect that your plan may evolve over the quarter. Up-to-date project proposals and consultation with your faculty will be necessary to make sure you are on track.

Project Planning Sheets:
Describe the focus, goals, and theme of your project in depth. Revise this planning sheet periodically throughout **each** quarter. Time management is often a challenge, and this program will provide you with support in improving time management and problem-solving skills. An important tool for improving these skills will be the periodic Project Planning Sheets and updates. The format for these planning sheets will be available to you on Canvas. These Project Planning Sheets will be a valuable planning tool for you as you work on your projects, and they are a requirement for full credit.

On-Campus Shared Studio:
Everyone enrolled in the program will have access and individual workspace in one of the Arts Annex shared studios Monday - Sunday. Hours will be the same as the Arts Annex building hours. Extended access is possible but will need to be arranged with your faculty and Key Services.

Personal Reading List:
Maintain a list of readings relevant to your project and various presentations. This will be an annotated bibliography format and is included within the Project Planning Sheet.

Visual Research Paper:
>One research paper (approx. 5 pages). Each paper should include a bibliography and images with appropriate citations. The visual research paper should be a broad, cross-cultural, cross-material investigation (copy-edited, and double spaced). Please include definition of terms, historical context, visual symbols suggested by the assignment and bibliographic information for at least three sources (only one web based, NO Wikipedia). Attach images of objects that inspire you. Be specific about dates, artist names, geographic locations, and materials. The intention of this research is to demonstrate understanding of your sources and recognize the context for your work.

Research opportunities:
>Research and compile a list of ten in each category:
>Internships, Grants, Residences, Graduate Schools / Learning Communities

Exhibition Review:
>A written review (approx. 2-3 pages) of a museum or gallery exhibition. This paper should follow the *Writing a Review of an Exhibition* guide.

Grant, Grad. Application, Cover letter:
>Research and find a grant, graduate school or job you would like to apply for. Write a grant proposal, letter of intent or cover letter.

Resume and Artist Statement:
>Complete a resume and artist's statement about your work; participate in a peer review and make revisions.

Source Presentation:
>One 15-20 minute Power Point presentation of your theoretical and/or visual source outline & bibliography for your project.

Final Portfolio / Digital Photography / WordPress Websites:
>Create a final portfolio of high-quality digital images, edited and formatted to specific guidelines. Create a WordPress site for your artistic projects.

Critique & Individual Meetings: Ongoing throughout each quarter
>The studio portion of Advanced Projects in Media and Visual Arts will be self-directed with supplementary workshops and lectures on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All students are required to attend and participate in all the program activities including Workshops, Seminars, Critiques, Lectures and Field Trips. Critiques will start in week 2. All students must sign-up and participate by showing their work at least five times throughout each quarter and contribute to these important group sessions.

Seminar: Ongoing throughout each quarter
>We want to encourage students to take responsibility for seminar discussion during the quarter– both the content that is discussed and the process of the discussion. Each seminar will be guided by student interest groups: groups of 3 or 4 students who are prepared to share their research interests with the larger program through a directed seminar discussion.

Field Trips: Ongoing throughout each quarter
>As a group we will visit local galleries, museums and artist's studio each quarter. We will be using school vans, so we need people to volunteer as driving and back-up drivers.

<u>Application for</u>
<u>Advanced Projects in Media and Visual Arts</u>

Basic Program Information:

This program is based on a student originated project in art (or art history). This is for intermediate/advanced level students who are capable of working independently on a project and who also have the maturity and experience necessary to contribute to (and benefit from) an artistic community. Half of the credits in this 16 credit program stem from your project and the other half of the credits are earned through research related to your project and program activities such as seminars, workshops, and research presentations.

Readings for seminars are selected by the students in the program. Each student will have a turn to select readings from the journal databases or other sources that are relevant to the student's own project. Readings have a 12-page limit and done in groups IN CLASS.

Academic projects and internships about art are also possible. Thus, students who want to do research and writing on art history, art administration, museum studies, or have an internship possibility in an art-related field may substitute this type of work for the studio project component.

A note about shop spaces on campus: If you are planning to use specialized shops and spaces on campus (animation studio, ceramics, printmaking, wood, or fine metals, etc.) and would like access them make sure to contact the staff who run these spaces and ask for access before the start of the program. Let me know if you need help contacting staff. Also, add info about the spaces you hope to use in your application to the program.

Completed applications 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 visual arts, research, professional practice, 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.

Admitted Students: If your application is accepted you will hear from Evan via the email you provided on your application and Evan will enter a registration override for you. At that point, it is up to you to register for the program before the first day of class. If you decide not to take the program, please let Evan 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 waitlist. Students who do not attend the first day of class in winter and spring quarter will be dropped from the program. **Wait-listed students:** Please email Evan to let him know of your continuing interest and to give him your best contact information.

To Apply:
Your application consists of two components: a **Digital Portfolio** and the **Selection Questions Application.** Your acceptance into the program is ONLY based upon your Portfolio and your answers to the Selection Questions Application. A **Logistical Questionnaire will be sent for you to complete after you have been accepted into the program**.

Portfolio: A curated portfolio of selected work samples is a required part of your application. You may submit up to 10 images of your work. Make sure to include at least one image of work relevant to the project you propose. For example, if you are doing a painting project, don't

submit all 10 images of sculptures. You can email your work samples with your Selection Questions Application to blackwee@evergreen.edu or you can include a file share link like Onedrive, Google Doc. or Dropbox. If you would like to share your work via a website, make sure you have a stand-alone / separate page for your portfolio. In other words, don't just send a link to your website. Your portfolio should be a curated selection of your work for this program.

Project Proposal evaluation criteria:
- Does the proposal represent a good balance between working with existing artistic skills or knowledge <u>and</u> 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?

This application is also available on-line at: https://sites.evergreen.edu/advancedprojects-tpva/

Selection Questions Application

Name:_____

e-mail Address: _____

Student ID (A#): _____

Selection Questions:

How are you submitting your work samples / portfolio (example: email attachments, file share link, website link)?

Provide your CLASS STANDING STATUS as of Winter or Spring 2026 (junior or senior) and the number of CREDITS you expect to have by that time.

Current Evergreen students:
> A. <u>Please list all Evergreen programs you have taken</u>. B. **Include a faculty evaluation of you paired with your self-evaluation** (drafts are ok) from the same program. This should be a program that you took in the past two years, if possible.

Transfer students entering in Spring 2026:
> 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.

Project Proposal:
> <u>One page maximum</u>- Try to use the prompts below to help you generate and guide your Project Proposal. Do your best at using the prompts but do not worry if you don't cover every prompt in detail. If your idea is for an academic project or an internship, provide specific details here.

Please describe the nature of the individual project you plan to pursue. Include the following information:

      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?

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

Studio / shop / space access request:

      What on campus spaces **/** studios / shops do you need access to do your work? Include any specialized equipment in these spaces you would like to use? Have you contacted and made arrangements to access these spaces with the staff who oversee them?

Application Check List

- Contact Info
- Class Standing
- List of programs taken at Evergreen
- For transfer students: current transcript and 1 or 2 letters of recommendation
- Faculty evaluation of you and your self-evaluation
- Work samples / portfolio (up to ten images)
- Project Proposal – one page maximum
- Studio / shop / space access request

What makes a strong application?

- Faculty evaluations/letters that speak highly of your critical thinking skills, work ethic and/or 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 or expression 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.

Submit your completed application or questions to Evan Blackwell: blackwee@evergreen.edu