

HUM 3351: Visual Arts in Medicine Class #17868, Section 11CE

Fall 2025

Class time: Monday, 4:05-7:05 / Location: [HPNP1101](#)

Instructor: Sarah Hinds, Adjunct Faculty; E-mail: sarah.hinds@ufl.edu (352)226-4444

Office Hours: Monday, 7:05-8:05pm or by appointment

Description:

This course explores the links between creativity and health, focusing on the many ways that visual arts practices can be used to support health and wellness in healthcare and community settings. It includes studio workshops, lecture/discussion, video viewing, readings/literature research, group project work, and hands-on experiences and instruction on facilitating art experiences with a wide variety of materials and processes. The course will differentiate studio practice in arts in health and art therapy. This course is appropriate for students of the arts and/or of health related fields. Instructor approval is required for registration.

Objectives:

1. Students will become acquainted with the ways in which the visual arts have been used historically to enhance health and healing as a context for the contemporary theory and practice of arts in healthcare. *Students will have access to this information through class lecture and discussion, group research, and consulting listed resources.*
2. Students will identify the basic knowledge and skills necessary to function as an artist in a healthcare or community setting, including gaining/strengthening/maintaining personal creative process; discovering ways to engage participants in their own creative processes; and use this knowledge and skills to facilitate art-making experiences with others. *Students will develop, facilitate, share, and engage in art activities during class time, contribute to a class-created art activity database, and develop a personal art portfolio.*
3. Students will become familiar with visual arts programs and practices designed to enhance health through direct observation and research. *Students will view films, read assigned literature, and will participate in class sessions and on-site observations.*
4. Students will develop critical research and thinking skills. *Students will evaluate literature in the field to develop a literature review and reflect and review feedback on student-facilitated art experiences in class.*
5. Students will illustrate effective communication in verbal and written form. *Students will participate in in-class discussions on readings, provide peer feedback on student-facilitated art experiences, provide verbal and written evaluations of case studies in the field, and develop an art database with clear steps for specific processes.*

Assignments and Evaluation: Total Points: 100

Participation (peer feedback, discussion, attendance) - 20 points (20% of grade)

Practice Presentation and Literature Review – 20 points (20% of grade)

Visual Arts Facilitation – 30 points (30% of grade)

Art Activity Database - 10 points (10% of grade)

Arts in Public Health Presentation - 10 points (10% of grade)

Portfolio/Art Exhibition – 10 points (10% of grade)

Major Assignments:

Participation (20 points):

Participation will be assessed each class period. Students are expected to be on time, prepared, and engaged in class art activities and discussions. This is a highly experiential course, and the only way you can acquire the information and gain the practical experience is to be present at the class or on-site session. There will be no way to make up for missed work in class. Excused absences are consistent with university policies.

Practice Presentation and Literature Review (20 points):

You will research a contemporary practice or program of your choice related to visual arts and health after becoming familiar with existing literature and programs in the field. Students are encouraged to investigate programs that speak to their personal creative practices and/or populations of interest.

Visual Arts Facilitation (Group Project) (30 pts):

With a partner, you will develop an art experience suitable for a group workshop and lead the class through it. The experience should demonstrate your skills as facilitators and include some kind of formative and summative self-assessment from participants. You will have one hour to facilitate your exercise, walking the class through set-up and clean-up procedures as well as introducing and leading the activity - time and media management should be demonstrated. Students are encouraged to develop an activity accessible to all skill levels that can be adapted for different environments and populations.

Arts in Public Health Presentation (10 points):

Each student will present one or two practices or projects found in the [Arts + Public Health Response Repository](#) to the class. Each presentation will be 10-15 minutes and can either be in PowerPoint form or a screen-shared walkthrough of the resource if it contains videos or is particularly image-heavy.

Art Activity Database (10 points):

You will gather ideas for 5 visual arts activities appropriate for a group setting and organize them into an “art menu” that outlines the following for each exercise: a) Brief description of the exercise; b) Space, resource, and material requirements; c) A wide range of sample images using the materials/processes introduced. At the end of the course, the class will combine these menus to create a database available to the whole course.

Digital Portfolio (10 points):

At the end of the semester, students will collect and title the work they have created (through the Visual Arts Facilitation presentations and in-class assignments) into a digital portfolio. Students will develop artist’s statements as well as skills in art curation through this process.

Communication: It is the student’s responsibility to contact an instructor promptly concerning any missed work, upcoming absences, clarification for assignments, etc. Please do not let any questions or concerns you have go unattended. I will respond to email inquiries within 48 hours. I include my personal cell only for last minute emergencies or arrangements, or if you can’t find our class meeting location if we are outside of our normal classroom.

Spontaneity: Due to the experiential nature of this course, the instructors retain the right to alter the syllabus as needed to accommodate class pace, interests, and/or special opportunities that may arise.

Due Dates and Submission of Late Work: Late work will only be accepted in the event of an excused absence or with prior permission from the instructor, and only within five days of the deadline. Requests for make-up tests, assignment presentations, or acceptance of late written assignments must be accompanied by documentation of extenuating circumstances.

General Course Questions: There are two ways in which you can ask general questions of the instructors. If you have a general question related to an assignment, reading or other course material that may be relevant to other class members, you may post it under Course Questions on the Discussion Board. If your question is specific to your own work, progress, circumstances, grade, or is personal in nature, please email the instructors privately or use the Mail function in Canvas.

University Wide Policies

Information about university-wide policies and resources can be found here:

<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

Required Supplies and Recommended Texts:

Please bring a spiral bound, multimedia sketchbook suitable for a variety of mediums such as oil pastel, watercolor, charcoal, or pen and ink sized 7" x 10" or greater to each class meeting, along with any pens/ favorite art materials.

There is no assigned text for this class. Some texts recommended for further learning include:

- Barron, Frank; Montuori, Alfonso; Barron, Anthea. *Creators on Creating: Awakening and Cultivating the Imaginative Mind*
- Herbert, Geraldine; Deschner, Jane Waggoner; Glazer, Robin. *Artists-in-Residence: the Creative Center's Approach*
- Lambert, Patricia Dewey (Editor). *Managing Art Programs in Health*

NOTE: This list is TBD, many articles would be added to course reserves.

Weekly Schedule:

Week 1 / Aug 25

Module: Introduction to Visual Arts & Health

Activity: Introduction to the Course, Art Activity

Week 2 / Sept 1 Labor Day HOLIDAY

Week 3 / Sept 8

Module: Overview of Visual Arts Movements & Practices

Activity: Introduction to Visual Arts Movements & Practice

Week 4 / Sept 15

Module: Literature & Research in the Field

Due: Choose Arts in Public Health Response Topic

Activity: Overview of Literature & Research in the Field

Week 5 / Sept 22

Module: Visual Arts in Public Health

Activity: Overview of Visual Arts in Public Health Responses

Due: Arts in Public Health Presentations

Week 6 / Sept 29

Module: Visual Arts Materials & Techniques in the Clinical Environment

Activity: Survey of Materials & Techniques for Bedside Practice

Check in: Complete check-in on Canvas

Week 7 / Oct 6

Module: Engaging Patients in Art Activities at the Bedside and in Groups

Activity: Engaging Patients in Art Activities at the Bedside and in Groups

Week 8 / Oct 13

Module: Visual Arts in Health with Younger Populations

Activity: Art Activities for Pediatrics/Youth Programming

Due: Student Led Facilitation Topic

Week 9 / Oct 20

Module: Visual Arts & Health: Community Perspectives

Activity: Guest Speaker

Due: Research Paper Source Submission

Week 10 / Oct 27

Module: Facilitating Visual Arts Workshops in the Healthcare Setting

Activity: Facilitating Visual Arts Workshops in the Healthcare Setting

Week 11 / Nov 3

Student Led Facilitation

Due: Practice Presentation/Literature Review

Week 12 / Nov 10

Student Led Facilitation

Week 13 / Nov 17

Module: Research Presentations on Visual Art Practices

Activity: Research Presentations

Week 14 / Nov 24

Module: Curating and Sharing Art in a Clinical Environment

Activity: Creating Digital Portfolios

Week 15 / Dec 1

Module: Art Activity Database Exchange

Activity: Database Exchange

Week 16 / Dec 8 No class meeting

Due: Digital Portfolios

Check in: Complete check-in on Canvas