



practicum

# Practicum Tulsa: Senior Seminar and Beyond – Glenn Herbert Davis

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## Practicum

### Description

This course involves a series of interrelated projects, each and all tied tightly to the materials you must produce *in support of your work* to successfully negotiate the creative professional world. Each project will incur extensive peer and instructor review, and summarily culminate in a substantial final package that will allow you to aggressively promote your work.

**Opportunities must be made.**

### Philosophy

Nearly all creative professionals operate alone and essentially without support in this world.

**To Survive** you must be hard. In this course you will be expected to continue (or begin) this practice by exposing your work and its tertiary descriptions to rigorous critique. Profiting from this regiment will be much easier if you can distance yourself from your work – by accepting the simple truth: we are discussing your work, not you. This attitude must be maintained when you graduate.

**To Succeed** you must be prepared, informed, thorough, and self-driven. In this course you will be expected to continue (or begin) these practices by developing an unprecedented awareness of your own work and using it to understand and personalize each project/task, just as you would in the professional world. This course will provide you with many tools of the trade, but here again, as in the “outer” world, it’s work. The necessary motivation and clear sense of priorities to get it done right will be solely your responsibility.

### Projects Supported by Instructor Presentations

Artist Statement	Resume(s)
Slide List	Slide and Sample Labeling and Preparation
Work Description	Project or Exhibit Proposal
Work Samples and Portfolio(s)	Promotional Materials
(Final) Artists Package/Portfolio	Simple Project Budget

### Other Presentation Topics

Documenting Flat Work and Installed Work – *Why Not Video Documentation?*

Interactions with Professionals; *Letters of Recommendation, Creating and Maintaining Contacts*

Getting Organized – *The Box Method, Mailing lists, and Beyond*

Taxes and Business – or – *Why the IRS is your friend.*

Graduate School – *When? Where? Why? What?*

Jobs? – or – *Why bartending might be better choice than wedding photography.*

Internships, Grants, Fellowships, Residencies, Apprenticeships – Including: *When NOT to apply.*

The Artist Talk – *Entering The Realm of the Entertainer / Becoming a Stand-up Comic*

## Grading Criteria

Progress and final grades will be based on the qualitative degree to which each component is produced, a.k.a., on the level of interest generated by the result, checked in part by the degree to which it fulfills the specific requirements of the task. I.e., a graphically beautiful, well-organized, and easy to follow resume will receive lower points if it doesn't include relevant information *such as* specific job duties or useful contact information. Further checks will include rudimentary basics such as spelling, grammar, image quality, etc.

**Seek a balance of provocation, relevance, and generic quality.**

### Progress Grades

Consistent work is an essential part of professional life. With this in mind, Progress Grades were created, and will be distributed following instructor assessment of the work due on the dates listed in the schedule. Each Progress Grade will be based on the work produced during each progress / working period using the criteria listed above, though quantity and ambition will be additional considerations. Each grade will be assigned in both letter and point form. Collectively, Progress Grades will count for 2/5 of your final grade. (4 x 5 points each) [20/50]

**Last minute work betrays itself.**

### Dialogue Grades

A vital part of a creative career is communication – dealing with others effectively and making it happen. As an incentive to develop this skill now, two Dialogue Grades will be distributed on the dates listed in the schedule. *Do note that only one will be distributed while the quarter is in process.* Each Dialogue Grade will be based on your level of participation in course discussions; but most specifically in your involvement in the peer review process and in your thoughtful, timely, and responsible interactions with the instructor. \*Attendance deficiencies will also be a factor here, (should they occur). Each grade will be assigned in both letter and point form. Collectively, Dialogue Grades will count for 1/5 of your final grade. (2 x 5 points each) [10/50]

**Silence is, er, not golden.**

### Final Project Grade

The Final Project: Artist Package & Portfolio – the largest single product of your course efforts / this grand representation of your artwork – is ultimately what will create, (or not create) opportunities for you as an artist. Bearing this status, it is also the largest single component in your course grade. The Final Project will be comprised of, (at minimum), a 20 image portfolio and supporting written and visual materials. These will include: appropriate labeling for portfolio, resume, artist statement, slide/image list, promotional materials, suitable packaging, and at least one of the following: work statement, project proposal, or exhibit proposal. The Final Project will be assessed according to the grading criteria listed above, and count for 2/5 of your final grade. (1 x 20 points) [20/50]

\*\*Complete and precise requirements for the Final Project will be distributed at a time nearer, though well in advance of, its due date.

**No matter what your level of professional success,  
more people will see representations of your work than your work itself.**

# Schedule

## Week 1

Discussion of course content, criteria, and scheduling.  
Introduction and assignment of artist statement and resume.  
Introduction to the work sample, (small portfolio – 10 images).  
Introduction to *cohesion* and *the hard line*.  
Special discussion topics and time-use, democratically chosen.

## Week 2

Peer review of 1<sup>st</sup> draft artist statement, basic 10 image work sample, and resume.  
Introduction and assignment of slide list, slide/sample labeling, and work description.  
Special discussion topics and time-use, democratically chosen.

## Week 3

\*Progress Grade Assigned

Peer review of 2<sup>nd</sup> draft artist statement and resume.  
Peer review of 1<sup>st</sup> draft slide list and work description.  
Introduction of Project and Exhibit Proposal – assignment of Project OR Exhibit proposal.  
Discussion of portfolios by type and use –assignment of portfolio.

## Week 4

Peer review of 3<sup>rd</sup> draft artist statement and resume.  
Peer review of 2<sup>nd</sup> draft slide list and work description.  
Peer review of 1<sup>st</sup> draft project or exhibit proposal.  
Special discussion and demo topic:  
Documenting Flat Work and Installed Work – *Why Not Video Documentation?*

## Week 5

\*Progress Grade Assigned

\*1<sup>st</sup> Dialogue Grade Assigned

Peer review of 3<sup>rd</sup> draft slide list and work description.  
Peer review of 2<sup>nd</sup> draft project or exhibit proposal.  
Peer review of 1<sup>st</sup> version portfolio.  
Introduction and assignment of budget and promotional materials.  
Special discussion and presentation topic(s):  
Graduate School – *When? Where? Why? What?*  
Jobs? – or – *Why bartending might be better choice than wedding photography.*  
Internships, Grants, Fellowships, Residencies, Apprenticeships – Including: *When NOT to apply.*

## Week 6

\*Progress Grade Assigned

Peer review of 1<sup>st</sup> version artist package and portfolio;  
(2<sup>nd</sup> version portfolio accompanied by all written materials  
in near final form, promotional materials in communicable design form or beyond).  
Special discussion and presentation topic(s):  
The Artist Talk – *Entering The Realm of the Entertainer / Becoming a Stand-up Comic*

Week 7

\*Progress Grade Assigned

Peer review of semi-final version artist package and portfolio.

Special discussion and presentation topic(s):

Interactions with Professionals; *Letters of Recommendation, Creating and Maintaining Contacts*  
Getting Organized – *The Box Method, Mailing lists, and Beyond*  
Taxes and Business – or – *Why the IRS is your friend.*

Week 8

Presentation and review of final artist package and portfolio.

Final rant by instructor.

\*\*Course Ends

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\*2<sup>nd</sup> and Final Dialogue Grade Assigned

Final Grade Assigned

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Boris Mikhailov

## Final Course Grade

Final grades will be based on the cumulative total of all your efforts in this course, using the criteria and breakdown listed on the previous page, and according to the percentages listed below.

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In general these percentages will be used to determine final grades:

A	92%	<i>*Final grades</i>
B	83%	<i>will also</i>
C	73%	<i>be affected</i>
D	63%	<i>by your</i>
F	59-%	<i>in-class attitude</i>
		<i>and attendance.</i>

You may also use these percentages to assess a letter grade for each point total you receive.

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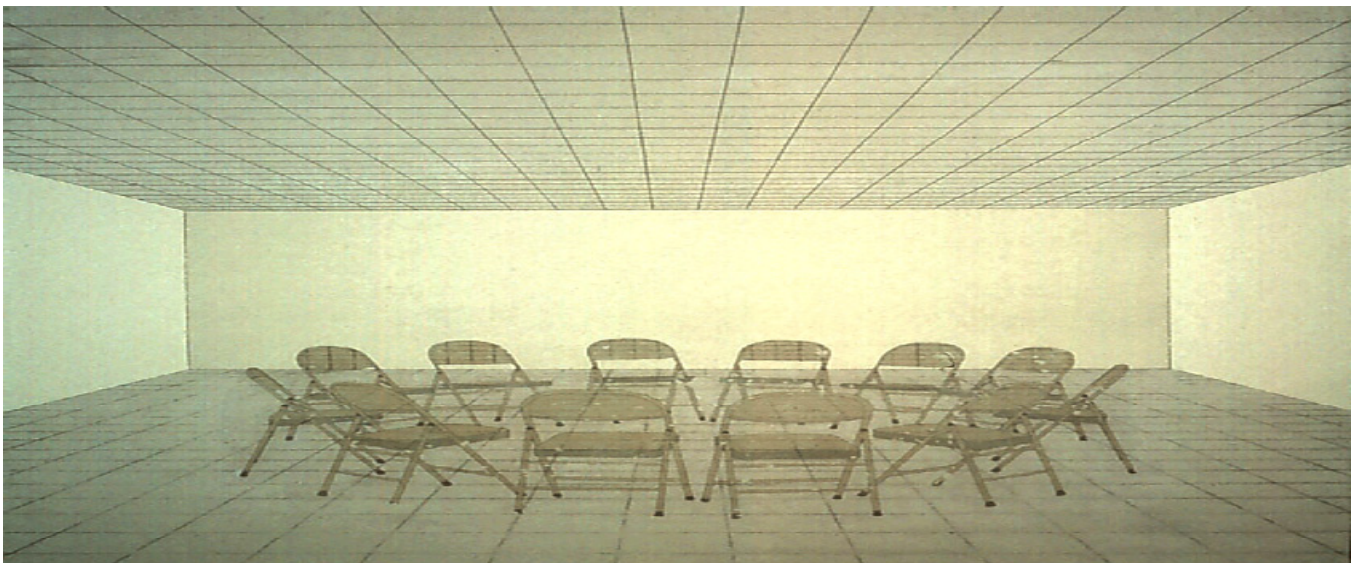
Progress Points	20 (4 x 5 each)
Dialogue Points	10 (2 x 5 each)
Artist Package	<u>20</u>
Course Total	50

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ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED. AFTER ONE ABSENCE, EVERY ABSENCE WILL RESULT IN YOUR FINAL GRADE BEING LOWERED BY TWO STEPS; I.E., AN A BECOMES A B+, ETC. [I MEAN, C'MON, YOU CAN MAKE IT TO 8 CLASSES]

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*Respect and a constructive attitude are essential.*



Kevin Zucker