

MS 9601

Making and Thinking

Winter 2018

Mondays 6:30-9:20

Professor Torres

FNB 4027

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office hours: Wednesday afternoons. Please book at www.bit.ly/torresofficehours

Description

Marx once remarked that in communist societies, one would be able to "hunt in the morning, fish in the afternoon, rear cattle in the evening, criticize after dinner, just as [one had] a mind, without ever becoming hunter, fisherman, herdsman or critic." This course will begin by interrogating the implications of, and assessing the fallout from, industrial capitalism's separation of manual from intellectual labor. We will next consider the persistence of this division in later forms of capitalism and ask how thinking might change if pursued alongside manual practices of making. Course work will offer opportunities to make and think in tandem, and to reflect on the relation of these activities to one another.

Required Materials

- A notebook suitable for visual note-taking
- Adamson, *The Invention of Craft*
- Adamson, *The Craft Reader*
- Braverman, *Labor and Monopoly Capital*
- Tharp, *The Creative Habit*
- Brown, *The Doodle Revolution*
- A selection of articles available at <http://bit.ly/makingthinkingreading>

Requirements

- Class Participation (20%).
- Experiment 1: Visual note-taking (20%). Notebooks due April 9.
- Experiment 2: Narrative of failure (20%). Due March 5.
- Experiment 3: Making (20%). Due April 9.
- Experiment 4: Meditation on Making (20%). Due April 17 via email.

Things Senate Requires Me to Say

- Scholastic offenses are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offense, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf
- Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Schedule

This schedule is subject to change.

Date	Topic	Read	Do
1/8	Introduction		In class: hands-on experiment
1/15	Creative Practice	<p>Twyla Tharp, <i>The Creative Habit</i>, chapters 1 and 2.</p> <p>Natalie Goldberg, "First Thoughts," "Writing as Practice," and "Composting," from <i>Writing Down the Bones</i> (photocopy)</p> <p>Leslie Hirst, "Groundwork," <i>The Art of Critical Making</i> (photocopy)</p>	<p>Do two of the <i>Creative Habit</i> exercises on pages 29-33</p> <p>Before class, identify three possibilities for your creative practice this term.</p>
1/22	Making and Thinking I	<p>Patricia C. Phillips, "Conversation: Drawing," <i>The Art of Critical Making</i> (photocopy)</p> <p>John Dunningan, "Thinking," <i>The Art of Critical Making</i> (photocopy)</p> <p>Brown, <i>The Doodle Revolution</i>, chapters 1 and 2</p> <p>Tharp, chapter 3 (creative DNA)</p>	<p>Answer the questions in Tharp, pages 45-46</p> <p>Decide on and commit to your creative practice</p> <p>In class: Kristen Haring, "How to Knit a History of Popular Media"</p>

Date	Topic	Read	Do
1/29	Making and Thinking II: Arts-based Research	<p>Elliot Eisner, "Does Arts-Based Research Have a Future?" (photocopy)</p> <p>John Howell White, et al., "Speaking in Tongues: The Uncommon Ground of Arts-Based Research" (photocopy)</p> <p>Brown, <i>The Doodle Revolution</i>, chapter 3</p> <p>Tharp, chapter 4 (memory)</p>	<p>your practice on four days this week, and at least one of the following:</p> <p>Do exercise 8 or 9 in Tharp, pages 75-77</p> <p>Practice the doodle alphabet, drawing stick figures, and drawing faces</p>
2/5	Braverman	<p>Braverman, Labor and Monopoly Capital, part I</p> <p>Brown, <i>The Doodle Revolution</i>, pages 65-100</p> <p>Tharp, chapter 5 (start with a box)</p>	<p>your practice on four days this week, and at least one of the following:</p> <p>Write about your own "boxes," (Tharp)</p> <p>Practice Brown's "12 Devices"</p>
2/12	Braverman	<p>Braverman, part II</p> <p>Brown, <i>The Doodle Revolution</i>, pages 101-145</p> <p>Tharp, chapter 6 (scratching)</p>	<p>your practice on four days this week, and at least one of the following:</p> <p>one of the exercises in Tharp, 109-115</p> <p>practice info doodling in your classes this week</p>
2/19		No Class	
2/26	Braverman	<p>Braverman, part III</p> <p>Brown, <i>The Doodle Revolution</i>, chapter 5</p> <p>Tharp, chapter 7 (accidents)</p>	<p>your practice on four days this week, and at least one of the exercises in Tharp, pages 133-139</p>
3/5	The Invention of Craft	<p><i>The Invention of Craft</i>, "Introduction," "Manipulation," and "Mystery"</p> <p>Tharp, chapter 8 (spine)</p>	<p>your practice on four days this week, and one of the exercises in Tharp, pages 155-159</p>

Date	Topic	Read	Do
3/12	The Invention of Craft	<i>The Invention of Craft</i> , "Mechanical," and "Memory" Tharp, chapter 9 (skill)	your practice on four days this week, and one of the exercises in Tharp, pages 174-181
3/20	The Craft Reader	<i>The Craft Reader</i> , selections by Lippard, Parker, Tulloch, Black and Burisch, and Bryan-Wilson, et al. Tharpe, chapter 10 (ruts and grooves)	your practice on four days this week, and one of the exercises in Tharp, pages 203-209
3/26	The Craft Reader	<i>The Craft Reader</i> , selections by Sturt, Albers, Riegger, Terrio, plus five additional articles that look interesting to you Tharpe, chapter 11 (failure) and chapter 12 (the long run)	your practice on four days this week, and one of the exercises in Tharp, pages 227-229
4/2	No Class		keep practicing
4/9	Final class		Making presentations today notebooks due
4/17			Meditations on making due via email at 5 pm