Sculpture I (Art 309) Syllabus

This beginning sculpture class will meet at the same time as the Sculpture Studio class. It will include projects utilizing different media, materials and concepts. Media utilized will include clay, plaster, wood, cardboard, steel, sound and found objects. Concepts worked with and discussed will include form, space, tension, texture, repetition, scale, use of modular units, and abstraction. Skills learned will include ceramic sculpture techniques, plaster, and use of woodworking tools, welding. We will learn how to use materials and equipment for each area with regards for safety and health hazards.

We will do a series of projects, incorporating various concepts, media and skills. With each project we will look at slides of sculptures of artists from various cultures within the United States and worldwide, both past and present. We will discuss issues of content, choice of media, scale and the interrelationships of these elements. Projects are progressively more open ended in terms of students choice of concepts and materials, as the quarter progresses. We will have critiques after each project and will discuss aspects of completed projects, including concepts and presentation.

We will take a field trip to galleries and museums in Los Angeles, (probably Oct. 26th). If you can’t go on the field trip, please talk to me about going locally or on your own another time. Keep a notebook of ideas and drawings for projects. Read Artweek, and Sculpture Magazine. If you go out of town during the quarter, talk to me about what exhibitions or public sculptures are available in the area that you are going.

Participation in class, as well as working outside of class is of utmost importance. At mid-term and during the last week of class, each student will fill out a self-evaluation form, including information on projects completed, books and periodicals read, exhibitions seen, etc. Grades will be based on a combination of effort, attendance, participation in all aspects of the class, willingness to learn new skills, and growth in ability to conceive, complete and present projects creatively. If students miss more that 3 class periods, their grade will be lowered accordingly.

Although there is a $25 materials fee for this class, you will be responsible for bringing some of your own materials. Keep an eye out for interesting found objects, large sheets of cardboard, furniture, wood, etc.