

Academic Year/course: 2022/23

## 25104 - Sculpture Techniques, Materials and Processes

### Syllabus Information

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**Academic Year:** 2022/23

**Subject:** 25104 - Sculpture Techniques, Materials and Processes

**Faculty / School:** 301 - Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y Humanas

**Degree:** 278 - Degree in Fine Arts

**ECTS:** 6.0

**Year:** 1

**Semester:** First Four-month period

**Subject Type:** Compulsory

**Module:**

## 1. General information

### 1.1. Aims of the course

- Know and comply with the rules of risk prevention, safety and hygiene in work spaces and in the different sculpture workshops, as well as those relating to the use of tools, machinery and personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Acquire and use the specific terminology of the language and processes of sculptural creation.
- Know and use the techniques, materials and procedures specific to sculpture.
- Know the main physical, plastic and aesthetic properties of matter.
- Know and correctly use the tools and machines specific to the field of sculpture, applying them to the creation of original works.
- Develop the technical skills necessary for the resolution of sculptural work.
- Initiate the handling of auxiliary instruments (photographic and video cameras, notebooks, etc.) for the documentary recording of the processes of elaboration and of the final work.
- To learn from the proposals and actions of other contemporary artists, assimilating strategies of formal and discursive analysis that allow them to interpret, discuss and make use of such contents.
- To develop the capacity for analysis, evaluation and self-criticism of one's own sculptural work.

These approaches and objectives are aligned with the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Agenda 2030 (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>), so that the acquisition of the learning outcomes of the subject provides training and competence to contribute to some extent to their achievement:

- Goal 4: Quality education.
- Goal 5: Gender equality.
- Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

### 1.2. Context and importance of this course in the degree

"Sculptural techniques, materials and procedures" is a compulsory subject in the first year of the Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts. Together with the subject "Volume I", it is the first contact with the language of sculpture.

It provides the student with the knowledge and skills necessary to tackle the different processes involved in the field of sculpture. Knowledge of the properties of materials and the techniques and procedures required for their transformation are essential to be able to express ideas in a three-dimensional way. This learning contributes to broadening the perspectives of their creative options, being able to be integrated in turn in the processes of other disciplines (painting, photography, video, drawing, engraving...) as well as in other fields of knowledge (cinema, music, theatre, literature...).

In order to combine the basic elements of sculptural language such as volume, time, space and matter in their productions, students need to know and know how to use specific techniques, machines and tools. The acquisition of these skills will allow them to undertake complex productions, broadening the horizon of their formal and discursive repertoire, taking into account the combination of languages and techniques in order to enrich the possibilities of their aesthetic discourse.

### 1.3. Recommendations to take this course

To ensure the correct development of the laboratory practices, both in this and in several subjects in the area of Sculpture (Volume I, Volume II and Sculpture Workshop) and due to the technical difficulty and danger of some machines and tools

(compressor, radial saws, saws, drills, etc.), students must know and scrupulously comply with the regulations on safety, occupational risk prevention and use of the facilities of the sculpture workshops, which will be provided to them by both the teacher and the workshop officer.

The subject has a marked propaedeutic character, as the instrumental nature of its contents will allow students to take the subjects "Volume II" and "Sculpture Workshop" in the second and third year of the degree, respectively, with better results.

## 2. Learning goals

### 2.1. Competences

Upon passing the course, the student will be more competent to:

#### **General Competences:**

- CG09. Perseverance capacity. Develop the perseverance necessary to solve the difficulties inherent to creation.
- CG14. Interpersonal skills, awareness of capacities and own resources for the development of artistic work.
- CG15. Capacity for an ethical commitment and the promotion of equality between the sexes, the protection of the environment, the principles of universal accessibility and democratic values.

#### **Transversal Competences:**

**Instrumentals:** Analysis and synthesis, organizing and planning, problem solving and decision making.

**Personal:** Teamwork, skills in interpersonal relationships and ethical commitment.

**Systemic:** Creativity and innovation, leadership and sensitivity towards environmental issues.

#### **Specific Competences**

- CE07. Knowledge of the vocabulary and concepts inherent in each particular artistic technique. Know the specific creative language.
- CE09. Knowledge of production methods and artistic techniques. Analyze the artistic creation processes.
- CE12. Knowledge of the materials and their processes derived from creation and / or production. Know the materials, procedures and techniques that are associated with each artistic language.
- CE14. Knowledge of the tools and methods of experimentation in art. Learning of the creative methodologies associated with each artistic language.
- CE23. Ability to professionally apply specific technologies. Use the appropriate tools for your own artistic languages.
- CE32. Skills for artistic creation and ability to build works of art. Acquire the skills of artistic practice.
- CE33. Ability to establish production systems. Develop strategies applied to the systematic exercise of artistic practice.

### 2.2. Learning goals

In order to pass this subject, students must demonstrate that they have acquired the following knowledge:

- Knows and applies the rules of prevention, safety and individual protection for the elaboration of artistic works in Sculpture workshops.
- Knows the processes of the basic sculptural techniques, the functioning of the tools and machines used and the main properties of the materials employed.
- Correctly uses the most appropriate production methods in each case for a good execution of the works.
- Is capable of materialising quality sculptural proposals, both in their formal result and in their discursive approach.
- Is able to plan and develop a complex creative process that simultaneously considers the adequacy of the discourse, materials and procedures.
- Is able to reflect analytically and critically, drawing conclusions on the work carried out.

### 2.3. Importance of learning goals

The knowledge acquired during the course of the course leads to the acquisition of the different competences, with the aim of placing the student in a position to opt for the different professional opportunities contemplated in the Degree Degree's memory, and especially those related to the field of plastic and visual arts. The contents provided enable students to be able to carry out their professional work independently (self-employed or freelance as a creative, producer, designer, artist, etc.), or to join multidisciplinary teams or companies related to the production of sculptural elements that require a deep knowledge of the processes of three-dimensional configuration, as well as a creative spirit to conceive and propose new original products.

## 3. Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

### 3.1. Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

#### Continuous Assessment

The type of evaluation will be continuous and in order to be eligible for it, the student must have at least 80% of class attendance. Each of the proposed assignments will have a specific deadline. In order to facilitate the visualisation of the different assessment techniques, in relation to the different instruments that will be used, as well as the tests that will be carried out in the subject, and the percentage that each of them will represent in the final grade, the following table has been configured:

Continuous assessment system			
Type	Techniques	Instruments / tests	Percentage / score
Continuous assessment	Practical exercises	4.1./4.3. Serial art project / Case analysis The evaluation criteria are presented.	70% - 7
Continuous assessment	Direct observation	1.5. Work diary. According to the guidelines and structure indicated in class.	10% - 1
Continuous assessment	Practical exercises / self-assessment	4.4./6.1. Portfolio. Project report. According to the guidelines and structure indicated in class.	10% - 1
Partial evaluation	Oral presentations	3.1. Project presentation. Adhering to the duration, guidelines and structure indicated in class.	10% - 1

The **evaluation criteria** applicable to the tests indicated above are:

- Acquisition of the necessary skills to execute autonomously sculptural works or projects according to the procedures and materials seen throughout the course.
- Quality of the finishes and appropriate formal solutions in accordance with the discourse of the works executed.
- Assimilation of the contents, demonstrable in the ability to resolve contingencies and/or problems not foreseen in the execution process, as well as in the audacity in the use of tools, techniques and materials, leading to processes that involve a certain degree of innovation.
- Treatment, development and presentation of the work proposed (portfolio, reflections, project, etc.) in which the levels of research, interest and attitude will be positively assessed.
- Quality, structure, interest and depth in the research for the development of the project presented.
- Consultation of bibliographical and video references for the exercises. Clarity and good presentation of the exercises.
- Capacity for analysis and self-criticism. Capacity for argumentation in the oral and written transmission of the work carried out.
- Attendance and involvement of the student in each proposed activity.

#### Global Assessment

Students who do not take part in the continuous assessment or do not attend class with the indicated regularity, may take the "Global Assessment" to pass the subject, which will consist of a theoretical-practical exam made up of different tests according to the following table:

Overall evaluation system			
Types	Techniques	Instruments / tests	Percentage / score
Final assessment	Practical exercises	4.1./4.3. Artistic project / Case analysis. The evaluation criteria are presented.	80% - 8
		5.1./5.2. Developmental tests / Objective tests.	

Final assessment	Written tests	Theoretical exam on the topics developed during the course.	20% - 2
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### Self-assessment. Evaluation of the teaching-learning process. Evaluation of teaching practice.

At the end of the course, a review of the programme will be carried out to check whether the objectives, contents and results are in accordance with the programme (teaching quality). At the end of the course, students will be given a test so that they can evaluate both the programme and the teacher from their point of view. These data will be taken into account in order to modify those aspects that require revision.

Students must be familiar with the Learning Assessment Regulations approved by agreement of 22 December 2010 by the Governing Council of the University:

<http://cud.unizar.es/docs/ReglamentodeNormasdeEvaluaciondelAprendizaje.pdf>

Students must also be familiar with the plagiarism regulations of the University of Zaragoza and their consequences published at:

<https://biblioteca.unizar.es/propiedad-intelectual/propiedad-intelectual-plagio>

## 4. Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

### 4.1. Methodological overview

The methodology followed in this course is oriented towards the achievement of the learning objectives. It is based on active methodologies that favor the development of critical thinking. A wide range of teaching and learning tasks are implemented, such as lectures, practice sessions, autonomous work and assessment tasks.

The practical dimension in this course is fundamental, therefore the general dynamics are aimed at the development of workshop activities by the student. Each of these activities involve a series of specific guidelines, according to the following sequence: 1. Information-presentation; 2. Proposal-ideas; 3. Development; 4. Analysis and synthesis of results.

According to the proposed scheme, the development of the practice sessions is preceded by the programming of lectures that address specific issues of the syllabus, emphasize specific aspects of it and contextualize the work to be carried out. The professor introduces the students to the subject of the activity, providing the theoretical information necessary for its understanding and execution (referring to one or more of the contents established in this teaching guide). Afterwards, the professor explains the specific guidelines to follow for the elaboration of the work and carries out the technical demonstrations necessary to train the students in the practice. Later the students develop the exercise under the supervision of the teaching staff and the workshop master.

The supervision of the work can be done individually or collectively. Once the activity is finished, the results obtained will be assessed.

As a complement to this learning scheme, other methodological strategies may be incorporated from conjunctural situations that occur throughout the course, or that are detected depending on the development of the subject, or at the suggestion of the students.

In addition to the bibliographic resources that appear in this teaching guide, other sources and references related to the course may also be used, such as audiovisual files, web pages, films, etc.

Classroom materials will be available via Moodle. These include a repository of the lecture notes used in class, the course syllabus, as well as other course-specific learning materials, including a discussion forum.

Further information regarding the course will be provided on the first day of class.

### 4.2. Learning tasks

The central activities of the program offered to the student to acquire the necessary skills and abilities in terms of materials and sculptural procedures are those indicated below. To facilitate its visualization, in relation to the different teaching techniques, as well as the number of hours that it is necessary to dedicate to each activity by the student, the following table has been configured:

Teaching methodology			
Activity	Teaching techniques	Student work	Hours
AF01. Theory session	Theory session given by the professor on the contents of the subject.	<u>In-class</u> : taking notes, solving doubts.	8
		<u>Autonomous</u> : study of the contents presented in class.	10
		<u>In-class</u> : preparation and assistance to the workshop with adequate materials and tools. Supervised artistic practice.	50
		<u>Autonomous</u> : maintenance and	

AF02. Practice session	Supervised student work in the workshop.	preparation of the necessary materials and tools. Autonomous work in the works to progress according to the instructions of the professor. Documentation of the work process.	60
AF04. Presentation of works	Exhibition and defense of the project carried out in class.	<u>In-class</u> : presentation of the project in class.	1
		<u>Autonomous</u> : design, organization and preparation of the project exhibition.	5
AF14. Assignments and reports	Portfolio / written paper of the practical works and/or artistic project developed during the course.	<u>In-class</u> : resolution of doubts and follow-up of the process of preparing the written paper or portfolio.	1
		<u>Autonomous</u> : autonomous work in the preparation of the written paper or portfolio.	15

### 4.3. Syllabus

In general lines, three thematic blocks are proposed, where the following contents will be addressed:

- Introduction to subtractive techniques and procedures: historical approach to their use, especially considering that carried out in contemporary sculpture. Topics: The block and carving. Techniques and tools for carving. Soft and hard materials. The round, hollow and solid bulk. Amplitude and function of surface finishes: (textures, color). The materials that will function as the axis of this activity may be several, the main one being plaster.
- Introduction to construction and assembly techniques: a historical approach to its use, especially considering that carried out in contemporary sculpture. Topics: construction by planes and use of two-dimensional elements as a basis for spatial construction. Intersections, joint systems. Structure concept. Open and closed structure. Rhythm and articulation. The rigid constructive structure. Repetition and difference. Construction with pre-existing materials. Manufacture of objects from other objects. The materials that will function as the axis of this activity will be metal and wood.
- Introduction to reproduction techniques: historical approach to its use, especially considering that carried out in contemporary sculpture. Topics: transit materials and final ones. Materials for the production of lost and reusable molds. Serial work and repetition sculptures. The materials that will function as the axis of this activity will be plaster and alginate mainly.

### 4.4. Course planning and calendar

The course comprises a total of 13 to 15 sessions depending on the academic year, each lasting 4 hours. As a guide, the distribution according to each thematic block is as follows:

September:	Presentation	1 session
September/October:	Subtractive techniques/carving	4/5 sessions
October/November:	Construction/assembly techniques	4/5 sessions
November/December:	Reproduction techniques/molds	2/3 sessions
January:	Portfolios/presentations	1 session

Further information concerning the timetable, classroom, office hours, assessment dates and other details regarding this course will be provided on the first day of class or please refer to the "Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y Humanas" website (<https://fcs.h.unizar.es/bellasartes>)

### 4.5. Bibliography and recommended resources

<https://psfunizar10.unizar.es/br13/egAsignaturas.php?codigo=25104>