

UCSB Art Department TA Training/Orientation

TA HANDBOOK

... and resource guide

To Support
Engage
and Inspire

2024-2025

UCSB Art Department TA Training/Orientation

TA HANDBOOK

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Section I: Introduction to TA Assignments

TA Assignments:

Expectations for TAships vary based on class requirements and instructor preferences. In general, there are three basic types of TAships:

Section Leader: This type of TA is responsible for running discussion/studio sections that support larger main lectures. Typical Section Leader responsibilities include conducting section activities to reinforce course material, explaining assignments, evaluating student work and leading discussion groups and studio critique sessions. Most section leaders are also responsible for assigning, recording and reporting grades for all student work. Section leaders also frequently present information to support lectures, make slide presentations, conduct review sessions, and demo tools and techniques. The “7-series” course sections focus on studio practice and projects, while 1A requires the grading of academic papers and working with students on writing skills. Courses with sections in the Art Department include the 7 series (7A: The Intersection of Art and Life, 7B: Image Studies, 7C: Spatial Studies, and 7D: Art, Science and Technologies) and 1A Visual Literacy.

Studio Assistant: This type of TA assists the instructor in a studio course. Typical responsibilities are to help with technique demonstrations, class prep, provide one-on-one feedback and assistance to students, participate in studio critique sessions and maintain workshop facilities/equipment/supplies. Examples of courses include Art10 Intro to Contemporary Painting, 14 Lower Division Print, and 18 Lower Division Drawing.

Exhibition Studies: This TA-ship involves coordinating and managing the gallery programming across departments (Glassbox, Glassbox Gallery Website, Social Media Platforms, Minibox, Red Barn) and overseeing gallery interns. Requires sending out open-calls, scheduling exhibitions, coordinating and supervising install/de-install, curating artists digital images on web platforms with the students, maintaining gallery spaces, promoting exhibitions, and training interns.

1C Intro to Contemporary Art: This TAship involves taking attendance (usually through iClicker), coordinating guest artist/speaker visits, colloquium introduction by grads or faculty, assisting with honorarium paperwork, scheduling studio visits with grads, and assisting with other needs for this course.

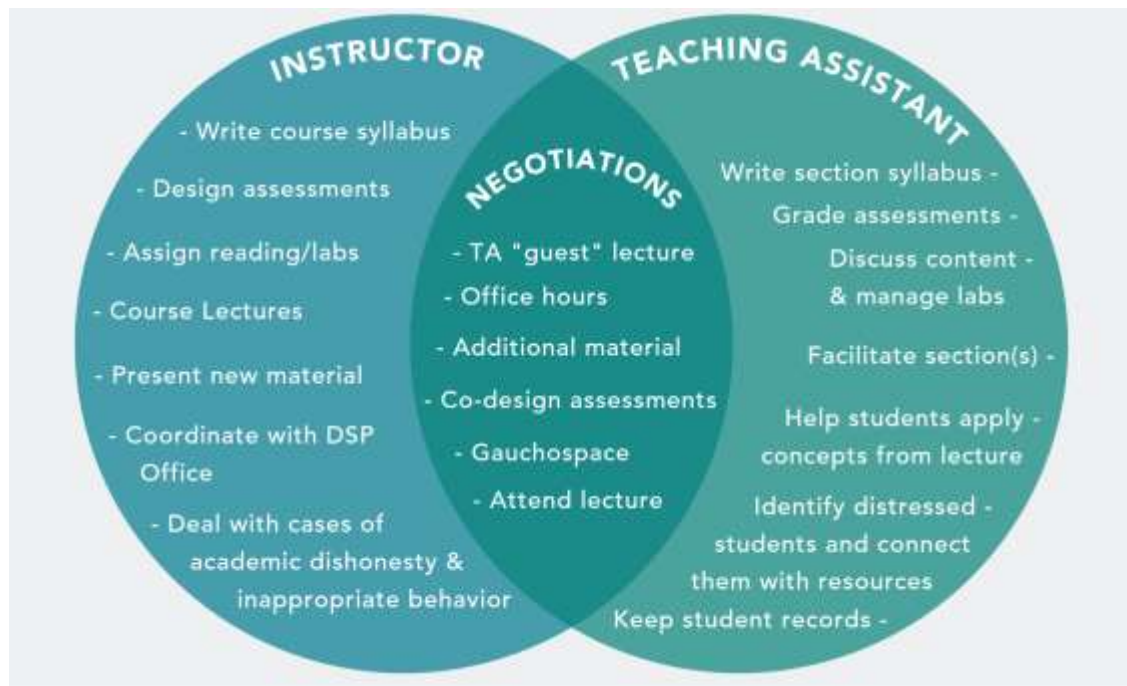
TAs are required to hold office hours. As determined by the instructor, TAs are required to hold on average two office hours per week, as a percentage of their time commitment with the class. For more information see: “Office Hours” in section VI, page 35.

Your instructor will provide you with additional details regarding responsibilities and requirements for your assignment.

Note also that as of Fall 2023, courses at UCSB will frequently utilize an online course management system called Canvas: <https://www.canvas.ucsb.edu/> (previously, an application called Gauchospace was used.) The Art department also has its own “TA Resources” Canvas page with a lot of useful info and documents on specific TA assignments and other resources for you and your students (you should see it on your list of enrolled courses when logged into Canvas.)

Instructors ultimately set up courses in this system, but as a TA you may utilize Canvas to assist with maintaining the course website, give assignments/quizzes, send messages to students, and much more.

Teaching Assistant/Instructor Relations:



TAs complement the activities of the course instructor. Most training and supervision of TAs is through faculty mentorship by the course instructor. Be prepared to take direction from the instructor. It is important that TAs work closely with the instructor in order to meet the requirements of their TA assignment. TAs are highly encouraged to speak to the instructors if they have any questions, need help clarifying the materials presented, or sharing concerns they have about a student’s well-being in the class.

Prior to the beginning of the quarter, your faculty mentor should:

- Provide you with a copy of the course syllabus including course objectives
- Provide you with grading policy and a rubric for grading assignments
- Provide you with the course reader and required textbooks

- ❑ Meet with you to communicate expectations and answer your questions
- ❑ Provide a job description for your assignment
- ❑ Offer advice on starting your assignment

In an initial meeting with your faculty mentor, you may also want to discuss the instructor's teaching philosophy, short- and long-term plans for the course, and how the course fits into the department curriculum. Additionally, you may want to request a list of assignments, course calendar (topics by week), grading rubrics, old exams, and section handouts. If pertinent, you may also want to request a tour of the room you will be teaching in and demonstrations on any unfamiliar materials/equipment (particularly if you have a studio TA assignment).

If the instructor for the course does not contact you with the support you need *at least* one week before the beginning of the term, you should contact the instructor and request what you need. If you cannot get in touch with the instructor, please advise the Staff Graduate Advisor (Megan Koth). TAs and instructors share joint responsibility for ensuring that each understands the division of work responsibilities. When in doubt, ask.

Instructors vary widely in their mentorship style and the amount of direction they provide to TAs. Some instructors hold weekly mentoring sessions for all TAs. Others expect TAs to contact them for input on an as-needed basis. If you are not getting the guidance you need to meet the expectations of your TAship, communicate your needs to the instructor. If this does not work, you may want to seek outside help from lead TAs, other TAs and other faculty (especially the faculty graduate advisor, which for the 24-25 year is Alex Lukas.)

It's a good idea to use tact and good judgment when troubleshooting problems with your faculty supervisor. Use professionalism to help create open communication with your faculty supervisor about issues or questions that may arise. Keep in mind, some professors are more receptive to TA concerns than others. Working out problems with diplomacy will help you maintain a positive working relationship. This is particularly important if they are likely to serve on your thesis committee. Also, you might not fully understand the instructor's strategy – your criticisms of the faculty member may be unjustified and misinformed. Seek to understand your professors' goals and complement their teaching methods. Remember, they are in charge.

Adapted from Umass TA Handbook www.umass.edu/cft/handbook

Section II: Planning

TA Hours/Timecards:

TAs are expected to be adequately prepared for office hours and sections. Most sections require the TA to spend as much time (if not more) preparing for sections as the sections take in actual teaching time (the same isn't true for studio courses where the longer class meetings make up the bulk of the TA assignment time.) Although the bulk of your time will be spent preparing for your section, keep in mind that you likely also will spend a large portion of your time on grading as well. It is important for you to effectively manage your time so that you are not exceeding your average hours worked each week (10 hours if employed at 25% time) and to inform the instructor if you are consistently exceeding this amount. However, note that a TAship is not an hourly position and is instead salaried based on an average of weekly work hours. The average hours per week are just that: an average. Meaning, you can work a little over that average during individual busier weeks of the quarter (such as midterm and/or finals week.) When adding up your weekly hours for the entire quarter, you should not exceed the maximum total hours for your appointment (110 hours for 25% time, 220 for 50% time.) For more info, see article 32 of the [TA union contract](#). A great, free online tool for clocking hours is [Clockify](#).

As a TA and Academic Student Employee (ASE), you will have to sign off on a timecard at the end of each month of appointment. You are not clocking hours worked, but rather confirming that you took no official leave or PTO (as a TA, you are considered an "ASE" and can only take unpaid time off.) For monthly employees, this timecard must be signed off on for that month by the 5th day of the next month (so, your October timecard must be signed off on by November 5th.) To log into Kronos, go to [UCSB Electronic Timekeeping](#) and click the login button. New Kronos users may wish to go to the Knowledge Base Portal available at [UCSB Electronic Timekeeping](#) for more information. There are additional Timekeeping Resources available [here](#).

If you are working as a Reader, which *is* an hourly position, you will utilize Kronos for clocking your actual hours worked (and receive more details on this in the event of a Readership assignment.) Note that readerships are rare in our department and aren't often available, but occasionally they are utilized in classes like Art 130 in the event of over-enrollment.

Planning:

UCSB Instructional Development (<https://id.ucsb.edu/teaching/teaching-resources/ta-programs/overview>) suggests the following formula for Teaching Assistant success:

Plan what you are going to teach

Implement what you've planned

Evaluate what you've implemented

To plan is to set priorities in order to maximize time and resources. It is crucial that you take the time to determine key course goals and the topics/skills students must master before the term starts. Then, develop section activities to build student skill levels in order to meet course goals. Decisions on course content should come out of the instructional objectives established by the course instructor.

You'll want to clearly understand what students should be able to do when they've completed a given segment of instruction. You'll also want to consider the level of student work and match your plans to student abilities. Make sure your plans are relevant to student needs. It is also important to relay course/segment goals to students in class (as well as a timetable for completion) so that they are also clear on objectives. Establishing objectives will provide students with an accurate picture of what is expected of them.

A more detailed discussion of the planning process can be found in the online [UCSB TA Handbook](#).

Developing Curriculum (aka “deciding what should be taught”):

Ultimately, the responsibility for developing the curriculum lies with the instructor. However, TAs frequently play a role in this activity. Some TAs are asked by the instructor to develop assignments that develop student skills in working with the course concepts. Most TAs must plan section activities to support the curriculum.

In planning instructional strategies, you should ask yourself:

- *When should I lecture and when should I hold a discussion?*
- *When should I be showing students how to do something and when should I encourage them to do it themselves?*
- *When should I respond to a student question (give more information) and when should I encourage other students to respond (give opportunity for students to practice skills)?*
- *When should I review important concepts orally, when should I write them on the chalkboard, and when should I distribute a handout?*
- *When should I rely on my own expertise, and when should I seek outside sources (films, guest speakers, etc.)?*
- *When should I ask for student feedback?*
- *How should I go about implementing that feedback?*

It is difficult to develop a meaningful curriculum without a clear picture of the course goals. Make sure you fully comprehend the goals of the course.

- *What do students need to know from the materials presented in lectures and reading?*
- *What skills must they develop to meet the course goals?*
- *How will their success in application of the material be measured?*
- *What is the current student skill level? Are there many different levels?*
- *What types of information can I provide, activities can I plan, tools can I create to help them meet the course goals?*

Adapted from UCSB TA Handbook www.id.ucsb.edu/IC/TA/hdbk/main.html

Individual Class/Section Planning:

Once you have the big picture, it is much easier to determine what should happen in the section, and at what time in the course. Once you know what the students are supposed to learn and how to evaluate that development, you can develop your section activities. Remember to ...

- √ Read course material thoroughly prior to each section (reading assignments, handouts, paper assignments, etc.)
- √ Make an attendance chart, continuous Zoom link, and gradebook to keep track of student attendance and grades
- √ Keep track of communication made to students via email, Zoom sessions, office hours, etc.
- √ Create PowerPoints that help emphasize and anticipate the learning goals, engage the dialogue of the text, and create opportunities for student questions and insights
- √ State your proposed SLO's, or Student Learning Outcomes, for each section. This offers students a clear objective for what is expected of them. This can be done by listing the objectives on a whiteboard for in-person learning, for remote learning having slides devoted to these objectives.

Studio Assistants:

A studio teaching assistant will have a different kind of teaching experience than those who undertake their TAship as a section leader. Studio courses are distinct from core foundation courses in a number of ways:

- Undergraduate students who take studio courses will have completed all the foundation prerequisites (1A and 7-series, unless they are an Art

minor), which means that they are already familiar with department procedures and policies and should have an intermediate or advanced level of conceptual preparation for the course.

- While students may lack technical skills at this stage, they should have a somewhat uniform base of knowledge acquired from the suite of core courses specifically offered within the department. Transfer students are also expected to take 1A and 7-series courses before they may enroll in the studio program.
- Therefore, expectations of students may be at a higher level than that of foundation courses where students have little or no experience in the study of art theory and practice.
- Studio courses also differ from lecture courses in that they are more physical and hands-on than core classes in which content is disseminated through a lecture and then applied separately in sections.
- Studio courses generally meet six contact hours a week and students are actively working in lab environments during the entire duration of each 3-hour class. Teaching and learning are concurrent and interactive. There is a constant need for one-on-one attention and individual mentorship between TA and students.

Given this unique environment, studio TAs are given the opportunity to work in consort with the faculty member who leads the class rather than running sections alone. Occasionally, TAs in these courses may be asked to supervise “open studio” sessions of the course without the presence of the instructor. This traditional mentorship training is an ideal means to acquire basic knowledge in teaching method and style through observation and collaboration with an experienced faculty member. Faculty members should understand that this is a learning situation for the TA as well. Oftentimes, faculty will give assignments to TAs to design their own lecture, demo or assignment as part of their TA training experience. It is an excellent opportunity for exchange.

As a studio assistant in the Department of Art, you may be required to participate in a range of hands-on, technical training activities in addition to your attendance of lectures and labs as part of the studio course content. Studio TAships vary radically from area to area and from faculty member to faculty member. Thus, TAs should consult their faculty mentor as to role and responsibilities prior to the initiation of the class.

Generally, studio assistants are required to perform hands-on support to classroom activity, such as preparation and execution of all technical demonstrations. This may include preparing and duplicating handouts, preparing materials and facility for execution of demonstration, supervision of clean-up activity and after-hours lab supervision. Studio assistants may also be required to conduct technical demonstrations with close supervision of the faculty member.

Given that TAs are not necessarily trained for the class, it is imperative that the TA seek information and training from appropriate faculty or staff technical assistants prior to the class activity. For example, if welding is a required activity, students must consult faculty or Michelle Faust in their training and preparation for that technical component of the class.

TAs should always request a course syllabus from the faculty member at least one week prior to the class. This syllabus should include course schedule and outline of activity and demonstrations performed, allowing the TA to prepare for all levels of teaching in the classroom. Sometimes, faculty will project 2-week or 5-week schedules, allowing for evolution of the course. Make sure that faculty keep you informed ahead of schedule so that you, as a studio TA, feel prepared and confident within an active, hands-on training environment.

Quick Start:

The following checklists are provided to give you a “Quick Start” to your new assignment. While these checklists are most pertinent to section leaders, studio assistants may benefit from them as well by adapting these lists to the requirements of their particular assignment.

Do Before TAship:

- Meet with your instructor:
 - About your expectations/role
 - How you will spend your time, and how responsibilities between TA vs Instructor will be allocated
 - Get copies of basic class materials (course objectives, course syllabus, course calendar/topics by week, student project descriptions, course reader/texts, grading policy, and any other materials for sections/labs.)
 - Agree on your next steps with instructor (particularly, if development is required to meet expectations.)
 - Find out how autonomous you can be in developing section/lab activities.
 - See if there will be regular TA meetings. If not, plan to regularly touch base with faculty mentor in office hours.
 - Get the instructor’s code for the copy machine in the mailroom
 - Ask about “crashing” policies and procedures (unenrolled students wanting to “crash” and eventually enroll in a course)
 - Get add codes for the course (they should have a few on egrades)

- Read and digest all material (for courses with readings.) If this is not possible, at least read the first few weeks worth of material so that you can respond to student questions and plan for your first few section/ class meetings.

- Get a room key to either the main classroom (if a studio class) or the classroom you'll be holding sections in. Keisha will check keys out to you. There may also be a separate office in your classroom that you may need a key for.
- Visit your classroom, make sure you have all needed equipment/furniture. Make sure everything works and that you know how to use/access everything you need. Make sure that you have supplies (chalk, markers, etc.) The Art Dept. (Troy) checks out some equipment (cameras, video projectors), and Kerr Hall is also a source for slide, overhead, and data/video projectors. Troy checks out lighting kits from the lighting studio.
- Locate an empty mailbox in the mailroom (in the small hallway next to the glassbox.) and claim by labeling with your name (using the label maker)
- Determine when and where you will hold office hours
- Meet with other TAs (if applicable) to brainstorm for the course, coordinate materials, get advice, etc. Seek out both current and former/experienced TAs for the course. It can also be useful to shadow a more experienced TA!
- Also, reach out to the instructor about whether the course will have a Canvas page, and if so, ask the instructor for the link to the class page and look around to get acquainted with how it is set up.

Do on Day One of Your Section-Based Course **Checklist** (not necessarily in order)

- Arrive Early to set up:
 - Arrange chairs/tables
 - Set up special equipment you plan to use
 - Organize your paperwork (and your thoughts)
 - Have attendance sheet ready
 - have add codes handy (these are enrollment codes that your students may need in order to add the class in GOLD. See page 24 for more info.)
- Put key course information on the board:
 - Course number and name
 - Your name and email address (you might consider setting up a unique address)
 - Your office hour times, days and location
- Start getting to know your students:
 - Chat with students before class
 - Take roll
 - Ask for information on students (see *1st Day Questionnaire* on the next page)
 - Ask students to introduce themselves to the class, start to learn student names
 - Encourage students to visit you in office hours
- Tell students who you are:
 - Academic background
 - Studio specialty and or interests

- Distribute a section syllabus with key information (don't duplicate the lecture syllabus, provide additional information here only as needed to explain section requirements). Your syllabus will most likely include many of the following: Your name, email address, course/section numbers, meeting time/location, office hour info, materials students will need to supply, name of textbook(s) and author(s), policies/procedures, information on assignments, grading systems/breakdowns, section goals, and explanation of how section supports the main lecture.
- It is very important to also verbally explain how the section supports the key course goals. Provide an overview of what students can expect in section (in class projects, papers, activities to reinforce course material, reading discussions, etc.)
- Tell them how to master the course.
- Review key administrative policies (adds/drops, attendance, etc.)
- Field student questions regarding the class.
- Although it's probably not a good idea to cover a lot of actual course material yet, start teaching on the very first day. Get the ball rolling. Plan an activity or discussion related to the course content.
- Show the students the materials they will need and where to get them:
 - art supplies
 - course reader, texts
 - school supplies, file storage
 - copies of forms/worksheets
- Give assignments, instructions to prepare students for the next meeting.
- Be enthusiastic, accessible, and approachable.

Sample 1st Day Questionnaire (to distribute to students!)

Art Studio 1A Visual Literacy Questionnaire

Crashing? Yes No (enrolled)

Name: _____

Pronoun(s): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Class Standing: _____

Major: _____

What art/art history courses have you had? Where?

Why are you taking this class?

What do you hope to get from this class? What do you want to learn?

What other classes are you enrolled in this quarter?

How many total units are you taking this quarter?

Do you have any “fears” about this class? Are you apprehensive about anything regarding this class?

Section III: Execution

Communicating Course Requirements, Policies and Expectations:

Normally, course requirements are spelled out in the instructor's syllabus. However, you may want to develop supplementary materials to further communicate expectations. The following is one example of a supplementary handout that has been used in *1A Visual Literacy*. This example outlines common sense tactics to help students master the course. Again, you'll want to work with your instructor and past TAs to develop this type of material.

Tips on How to do Well in 1A (for TAs to give to students!)

- Show up to everything (lectures, guest speakers, films, field trips).
- Follow the attendance procedures so that you get full credit for your attendance.
- Do all the reading before lecture each week. Be prepared. Take notes in your book/reader while you read. Question the material. Relate it to your paper and art. Highlight key info. Deface your books. Use them up. Color in them. Get your money's worth. Engage in extreme reading.
- Listen carefully to lectures, take good notes (main points, key ideas, concepts, issues, vocabulary/definitions, facts, anything the instructor reads carefully, repeats or writes on the board, conclusions, relationships/patterns, etc.) Engage in the material and question it (relate the material to your life, your art, question it ... do you agree with the ideas presented in class?)
- Ask questions (in lecture, to guest speakers, during discussions, on field trips, during office hours).
- Make comments in class, share your insights, and participate in class discussions.
- Complete all assignments to the best of your ability.
- Seek assistance when you need help (Instructor's office hours, TA's office hours, email, CLAS, class mates, etc.)
- Try to get to know your instructor and/or TA (participate in class, visit office hours).
- Write your papers on topics/works that interest you. This will help you engage in your paper, work harder on it, and make it more relevant to you. This will also usually make the paper more interesting for the reader.
- Start working on papers early so that you can identify relevant issues in the lecture/reading as you go (this will make writing your paper easier, more efficient). This is also important if you need extra assistance (with writing, understanding concepts, formulating your ideas ... you have more time to get feedback on outlines/drafts if you get an early start on papers.)
- Make friends in class. Trade information. Share notes. At finals time, study with your friends from class (develop index cards, mock test questions, a vocabulary list, etc.) Ask them to read your paper drafts, get feedback from them.
- If you are having a hard time understanding the reading, get a second opinion (internet, dictionary of art terms, other references.) Look for other ways to understand the ideas – then go back over the reading (to see if it makes more sense.)

Lecture vs. Discussions:

If your section is primarily a discussion section (such as in 1A or certain sections of 7-series courses,) Don't merely repeat another version of the course lecture in section (lectures are not discussions!) Incorporate active learning techniques by offering a space for students to explore their verbal or written ideas of the material, allow them to share those within smaller groups, and be creative about how you incorporate their feedback into following sections and slides. Excessive lecturing can be a waste of time in sections. Instead, give them any new information, updates, and insights into the material that they need. Check in for comprehension. Offer students the chance to ask questions of the material that might have been unclear or difficult – work to present this information in another format. Encourage applications for students to practice applying the material with you and one another. Students learn best when they are able to actively engage in the material (vs. passive listening that can happen in lectures).

It can be intimidating for new TAs to lead their own discussions. By making thorough lesson plans, employing active learning engagements, and creating dialogues with other students, TAs find that discussions are inherently casual and relaxed approaches to exploring their thoughts of the lectures and reading. Actively working to generate student interest creates smoother sections with many dialoguing of ideas, all you need to do is a little planning and use a little imagination.

Consider breaking students into smaller groups (4-5 students per group) and giving them a task to do within that group that draws on material from the lecture/reading (a problem to solve, questions to answer, issue to discuss, film or artwork to analyze, case study to dissect). If you can, incorporating interesting audio-visual material into your group activities and using contemporary models can also help stimulate additional interest. Ask yourself: *How can you incorporate film clips, television clips, slides of artwork, game formats, and examples?*

After students have had time to work in a group, ask each group to report their results out to the class by having them appoint one orator, have the students write on index cards, while you use these responses to help moderate a discussion. Well-designed group activities are a very effective way to get *all* students actively engaged in the course material. A list of discussion approaches to explore in your section is included at the end of this section. We encourage you to further investigate ways to incorporate active learning methods into your teaching. Remember that the more fun you have in a section, the odds are in your favor that your students will as well. Effectively used, these techniques will also make your sections lively, fun and productive. For more tips on holding discussions, see UCSB TA Handbook www.umass.edu/cfi/handbook

Student Preparation: Roadblocks to successful section discussions include a lack of preparation on the part of students. One key reason students don't participate in discussions is that they have not kept up with the course reading/assignments. Create accountability within your discussion groups. Maybe have designated groups where a different person each week has to discuss what the readings' main points were.

Developing mechanisms like this can help to motivate students to keep up with course work and make sure that students who are actively participating are not the only ones doing so. The next page includes an example of a successful model for writing assignments used in 1A. Students were required to turn in a brief recap of the weekly readings in each section. These were not graded but did count for a portion of the course final grade (if they did the worksheets, they received full credit.) See Barbara Gross Davis “Tools for Teaching.”

Group Critique Sessions:

Running studio critique sessions can be a challenging task. Students are frequently reluctant to speak up in crits for a variety of reasons. They might not want to criticize their peers, they may be shy, they may feel that they don't know enough and/or they may fear sounding silly.

The TAs objective in running a critique session is to direct a lively discussion that explores formal, conceptual, and contextual issues of student work in order to see how images are received, and determine what meaning has been interpreted, and find opportunities to further enhance the work. Planning and communicating the critique structure in advance to students should help. Specifically, you will want to identify their role in the critique ahead of time. With time for advance preparation, students are generally more willing to engage in critique sessions.

There are multiple techniques for running a critique. You may want to experiment with various formats (any that you are familiar with) to see what generates the best discussion.

The following page (Questioning Art) summarizes questions relating to form, content and context that you may want to pose to your students during critiques. Note when using this structure, try to bridge between issues of form, content and context – explain how form, content and context are not really separate issues but relational. Also, note that this structure can be used to guide student writing assignments on art topics as well as help them to think through their own art practice.

QUESTIONING ART HANDOUT *What is it about? What do you see? Is it successful?*

What is the subject of the work? (CONTENT)

- *Is it representational or abstract?*
- *Is it narrative, symbolic .. or analytical, formal?*
- *Is the subject the object(s) depicted or is it really about something else? What does the work make you think about?*
- *What does the work “tell” you? How do you respond to it?*
- *How does the work make you feel? (angry? bored? peaceful? concerned? ...)*

What formal qualities does the work have? (FORM)

- *What materials are used? How are they manipulated? To what end*
- *Is the work flat or does it have texture?*
- *Is the work highly detailed, visually complex or simple, elegant?*
- *Are scale and proportion important to the impact of the work?*
- *Is the work tight, illustrational or gestural, expressive?*
- *Is space created through the use of perspective (1 pt., 2 pt., 3 pt., atmospheric) or does the work deny depth using a flat picture plane?*
- *What quality of line or type of mark making is used? (confident? uncertain? angular? curvilinear? geometric? organic? sketchy? free flowing?)*
- *Is the composition stable? balanced? harmonious? decentered? fractured? symmetrical? How could the composition be improved?*
- *Is there an organizational system guiding the composition (such as a grid)?*
- *Do the negative and positive shapes work together to create visual interest? Is cropping used? Other dimensional aspects?*
- *Is the work dark or light? How much tonal variation exists?*
- *What color schemes are used and why? Are the colors naturalistic? synthetic? monochromatic? harmonious? shocking?*
- *What is the focal point, the center of interest? How do your eyes “move through the image? Do diagonals play a role here?*
- *Is text included in the work? Is the work’s formal language part of its content?*

Does the work call to mind a particular “ism,” movement or artist? (CONTEXT)

- *Who made the work? Does this shape the point of view of the work?*
- *Does the work relate to the time and place it was created?*
- *Is the work influenced by a particular style?*
- *Is the work personal or political?*
- *What questions does the artwork pose? Does the work open up questions about self? society? environment? culture? What are the theoretical underpinnings?*
- *Who does the work communicate to? Who is the audience? Where is it shown?*

Adapted from Dr. Karen Kleinfelder’s CSULB Contemporary Art course packet.

For the Love of Forms:

Forms are great. Worksheets, questionnaires, checklists, etc. these are all useful tools that can help make your life easier! They can also become a handy mechanism to collect information from students in an organized, easy to understand format. Forms have an official quality to them and communicate that you expect a specific learning outcome from your students. Forms tend to make the TAs or instructor guidelines very clear for students.

Use forms as a mechanism to check for student comprehension of the material, collect data from your class, a way to guide students through a studio process, etc. These also give you an easier method to review the documents. Making your grading much more quick than other alternatives because of the clarity, consistency, and organization of the form. Digital options include those included in Canvas, as well as Google forms/ Jamboards, Miro, and Freeform.

We've included a few examples of forms in this handbook – some that have been used in Art Studio sections and some that we are using with you:

- Art Studio 1A Visual Literacy 1st Day Student Questionnaire, pg. 9
- Day One Checklist, pg. 7

Consider developing forms to help your students with the course material. Some quick tips for developing forms:

- √ make them easy to read, organized
- √ spell everything correctly
- √ format to help guide student responses
- √ clearly indicate instructions for students
- √ use forms as a streamline processes – making them easy for you to grade and useful for students

Student Development:

At times, you will encounter students in your classes who might not display the necessary skills to succeed in your class and/or the University. These students might not know how to effectively:

- take lecture notes
- read complex texts
- write papers
- understand formatting

- prepare for tests
- manage time/work
- comprehend course material and/or instructions

It's a good idea to include in your syllabus and mention on the first day of class the various resources available to students. In particular, it's important to mention DSP (Disabled Students Program) and to remind students that requests for accommodations need to be made early in the quarter.

Additionally, CLAS (Campus Learning Assistance Services) provides free tutoring services, skill workshops, and a writing lab to students. Refer students to CLAS directly – let them know what free services are available to them. If the instruction is remote, recommend students go to Shoreline to access various writing workshops that are offered at UCSB. Students are almost always appreciative of developmental advice. Your referral could make a big difference in their college career.

Sometimes, the majority of the class could benefit from in-section tutoring on a basic skill. For certain classes (such as 1A, and possibly 7B), it may be worth spending time in sections to address common student problem areas. Consider having a writing workshop, make time in sections to have students give each other feedback, consider using a few slides to devote to links that provide correct MLA or Chicago formatting. The next page shows a handout created for a 1A section to help students succeed on course writing assignments.

SAMPLE Formatting Guidelines for ART 1A Writing Assignments:

By: Sunny Samuel, MFA 2017

- Typed, printed and stapled
- Double spaced
- Size 12, simple, legible font
- 1" margins top & bottom
- 1.25" margins left & right
- Cover page (name, title, date)
- Page numbers
- Footnotes and Bibliography: MLA

Student Records:

Many instructors will ask TAs to keep class records. For example, you might be asked to track attendance, grades of each assignment, participation in discussions, etc. Use care to collect, accurately track/record and file information—usually course grades are based on this information.

[Canvas](#) has various tools for giving assignments and recording grades, and is likely the best way to communicate with students about their grades (communication through Canvas is FERPA compliant.) Ultimately, final grades are entered into and submitted through [eGrades](#).

You could also use a spreadsheet like **Excel** to keep class records and calculate grades. **Google Sheets** is also a great place to store this information that can be saved directly to your school's email account and is share-able with the instructor should they need access to your records (and is often easier to access via mobile phone.) The University provides workshops on office productivity software if you do not know how to use these programs (check Instructional Computing website – see Campus Resources list.) Also, don't underestimate the resources that may be available through a simple google search!

Class Participation:

Some TAs give students credit for “class participation.” If you decide to do this, define what that means up-front – state your criteria. Are you counting quality, quantity, or specific types of participation? Are you only interested in class discussion or are you also counting after class questions, office hour visits, email inquiries, questions posed in lecture and other forms of participation?

Student Adds/Drops:

Students wishing to add your class must get an approval code from you. You will be given a sheet of add codes from your supervising instructor for your section(s) at the beginning of the term. It's a good idea to wait until Week 2 of the quarter to process add codes (after the dust settles down from the first week of the quarter). Once you have given out add codes to students, make sure they understand that they must still complete the enrollment process to add the course (they must still enroll through the Gold system). This is particularly important to mention to new students (freshmen and transfer students who may not be familiar with the system). Keep various add/drop deadlines in mind, so that you can advise students accordingly (see quarterly schedule of classes in GOLD).

Section IV: Student Performance, Motivation and Classroom Management

Student Expectations:

Most students expect the TA to 1) be knowledgeable in the course material and 2) to present the material in a clear, easy to understand, and systematic way.

Establish goals in cooperation with the course instructor. Do not be afraid to engage with them if you are unclear about any of the details you are unsure of in the class. Make sure you understand what students are expected to understand and also what they should be able to do as the course progresses. A clear list of goals for the course will help you understand how to best use your time in class as well as communicate expectations to students. Gather feedback from the students' communications, emails, questions, and insights and use this information to plan activities that accommodate that learning.

Classroom Environment:

Don't underestimate the importance of creating a positive classroom environment. Create a supportive and engaging classroom environment. Build rapport with students, encourage interaction, and use their feedback to improve the class dynamic. This can be achieved through:

- Ice breakers
- Group discussions
- Small group class activities
- Other active learning activities

This is a complex topic – not easily summarized in a manual of this scope. We suggest you spend time studying methods of classroom development, take the Pillars of Teaching Assistantship workshops, and work with your instructor-mentor to develop the skills necessary to resolve problems that may arise. If you are having difficulty creating a positive classroom environment, you may also want to seek advice from other faculty, TAs, and potentially a peer advisor in Instructional Development.

Student Relations:

In all situations of teaching and learning within this department, including classroom, seminar, lab, lecture and studio environments, students are expected to maintain civility and respect for all present members, including faculty, administrative staff, graduate and undergraduate student colleagues. This includes any visiting academic members, guest lecturers, or exchange students who might have temporary presence on this campus. Given the subjective nature of creative work within the classroom/studio, rigorous debate is part and parcel to productive learning. Students must give regard to their colleagues and their individual practice within studio and critique environments with due civility and

respect, regardless of personal differences of opinion in quality assessment. Critical feedback on any process or work discussed must be conducive to productive analysis and evaluation.

Individual opinions offered must be supported by thoughtful, grounded positions of critical analysis. Unfounded, angry, aggressive, offensive, accusational statements directed at present faculty members, fellow students and/or their creative work must be distinguished from verbal communications characterized as “opinionated,” “negative” and “critical.”. These differ from those which are productive modes of critique and communication. Individuals who speak out of turn, or monopolize the conversation with no provision for others to counter their position, may also be viewed as displaying inappropriate conduct. Individual behavior that violates the physical space of others by manner of close proximity or violent gesticulation, may also be considered objectionable behavior and grounds for disciplinary warning and action on the part of the department and/or university.

Distinctions of appropriate or inappropriate conduct will be assessed accordingly by the advisory faculty member. TAs should seek assistance from their faculty advisor, graduate advisor, and department chair to resolve serious conduct issues. Our goal here is to promote responsible behavior in classroom/studio environments where verbal communication is grounded in productive, well-founded discourse.

Adapted from UCSB Art Department Conduct Code

Supervision and Feedback on Student Work:

It is very important to offer individual mentorship, especially in those courses in which students have limited direct contact with faculty members. The studio environment is a dynamic, dialogic space for observation and exchange between all members – allowing students to work on their own or at home will generally not be conducive to their productivity and learning experience. Without a heavy hand in supervision, students tend to be less motivated and less ambitious in the time and energy they put forth in their work. Because of the complex nature of the creative process, students will tend to contemplate and defer physical engagement. Supervision in the form of dialogue, advisement, and hands-on guidance on ongoing work in the classroom, lab and studio environment is key to the success of undergraduate work.

Feedback on student work may occur in a studio lab environment where students are working independently on projects, or, it may occur during critique sessions where collective dialogue facilitates the learning process. TAs must be prepared for all capacities of communications with undergraduate students in the production of their work. See also “Group Critique Sessions” in Section III of this handbook for info on productive methodology.

Tests/Quizzes:

Always work with the instructor to develop quizzes if needed. Ensure quizzes align with course objectives and assess students' understanding effectively.

Grading:

TAs are expected to take measures to ensure that grades directly reflect course performance.

Grading serves many functions including:

- describing the worth, merit or value of student work
- improving the capacity of students to identify good work in order to improve self evaluation skills
- stimulating and encouraging good work
- communicating teacher's judgment of student progress
- identifying to the teacher where the class stands (what they have and have not learned)

Source: Barbara Gross Davis "Tools for Teaching"

As you know, students take grades seriously and, in many cases, personally. Many students are coming from high school situations where they were at the top of their class. College courses (particularly on the quarter system) tend to be academically demanding and most incoming students face more competition in the classroom than they are accustomed to. Many have not experienced getting grades lower than A's and potentially find their new academic situation jarring.

As such, it is important to communicate clear rationale and policies on grading. It is also extremely important to check and double-check each grade entry. This is particularly important when grades have been calculated manually. Grade entry mistakes are common and these mistakes are extremely upsetting to students.

Please also note that grades are confidential and cannot be posted or emailed. Make sure that your process for distributing grades protects student privacy. If a student wishes to discuss his/her grade, the TA should arrange a meeting time in person, via Zoom, or refer the student to the instructor (see Problem Resolution (Conduct Issues, Grade Disputes, Absences) below).

Establishing Grading Standards and Systems:

Your instructor will most likely give you some guidelines for grading. However, you may need to come up with your own grading standards and systems. A few possible approaches include:

Quantitative Scoring: Student scores are tabulated quantitatively based on right and wrong answers. Grades are then assigned based on total scores either on a curve or straight percentage basis.

Point Model: Students accumulate points for accomplishing various goals on the assignment (i.e. up to 5 points for technique, 5 points for adhering to assignment parameters, 5 points for creativity/innovation and 5 points for content/conceptual complexity ...) Grades are then assigned numerically usually in a similar manner to percentage breakdowns in either a curve or as a straight percentage.

Grade Level Criteria: Assignments must meet certain criteria established for each grade – distinguishing features are evaluated in this system (ie A=technically superior, exceeds assignment requirements, conceptually innovative, outstanding in all areas; B=strong, meets requirements but either not as technically sound and/or conceptually innovative as A work; C=meets assignment but lacking in some way (either technique or conceptually); D=barely meets assignment requirements, a weak effort but still passing; F=not acceptable)

Pile Method: Projects are sorted a little more fluidly into piles by the TA. A's are put into one pile, B's in another, put your C's over there, your D's over here, etc. With this method, work is evaluated visually and grouped accordingly. Apples are put with apples. Oranges are put with oranges. This can work well with studio projects so that you can *see* how work compares to other class projects (aesthetically, technically and otherwise).

You will want to let your students know what your basic criteria and expectations are. Let them know what you will be doing to determine their grades. And, once again, work with your instructor as needed to establish appropriate grading standards and systems. If there are multiple TAs for a course, it may benefit you to meet with other TAs to make a rubric together-- that way, grading is fair across sections. Grading together may also give you an opportunity to receive guidance from more experienced TAs

For more on grading see Barbara Gross Davis "Tools for Teaching."
Adapted from UCSB Sociology Department TA Handbook and Barbara Gross Davis "Tools for Teaching"

Problem Resolution (Conduct Issues, Grade Disputes, Absences):

The most important feature of problem resolution is the provision of clear guidelines of teaching objectives and policies at the onset of the class. With a clear syllabus, which outlines in writing – expectations, absentee policy, grading policy and criterion for evaluation, TAs may avoid many disputes and disciplinary problems. In significant cases of conflict within the classroom, TAs should report incidents immediately to their supervisory faculty member for their guidance and input. Overall, For significant conflicts that may arise, **TAs should always seek guidance from the instructor of record, and possibly the Faculty Graduate Advisor and Department Chair.** Please refer to the Student Relations discussion in this handbook for more on student *conduct* in the classroom.

Regarding *absences*, TAs, with their faculty mentor, should determine a guideline for the allowable number of missed classes and consequential penalties for missed classes. In the short, 10-week quarter, student absences are not looked upon favorably by the department, but remote learning has encouraged that instructors would have grace for students who have trouble accessing consistent WIFI. Generally, a docking of grades at the end of the quarter for each absence after one or two, and the failure of the course for more than 3 absences, may be considered general departmental policy and appropriate/justifiable disciplinary action. However, students must be informed beforehand, and IN WRITING, that this is the policy. Some instructors may opt to provide extra credit opportunities to make up for absences, but this is up to the discretion of the instructor of record for the course.

The most frequent student complaints concern *grades*. Grade disputes are best avoided by all of the above mentioned suggestions, such as a clear syllabus outlining tangible expectations for the class. Critical to the subjective nature of teaching and learning in an art studio environment is an established set of defined criterion for evaluation. Criterion may include:

- attendance to all lectures, sections and labs
- completion of all assignments in a timely fashion
- participation in discussion, critiques
- technical skill mastery/improvement
- effort (despite outcome of project)
- experimentation and exploration
- collective peer evaluation

Absolutely paramount to grade evaluation is an ongoing dialogue with students, regarding their record of performance PRIOR to the end of the quarter. This may require periodic meetings, elaborating on grades given for an assignment, performance evaluations or warnings of absenteeism. These should occur at intervals throughout the quarter, where students have the opportunity to know where they stand, and how they might improve their performance, before the quarter is complete. If subjectivity poses a problem for evaluation, seek creative ways for peer assessment or articulate in detail why the grade was earned and how it could have been different. Often, students are satisfied when they know why they earned the grade they did. Avoid the emphasis of personal

opinion in favor of supportive, productive suggestions such as the utilization of examples of other artists or works produced in the classroom itself. Comparison and contrast work well in clarifying subjective situations which arise in the critique situation.

Be prepared and patient when students contest assignment/course grades. In dealing with student *grade disputes*:

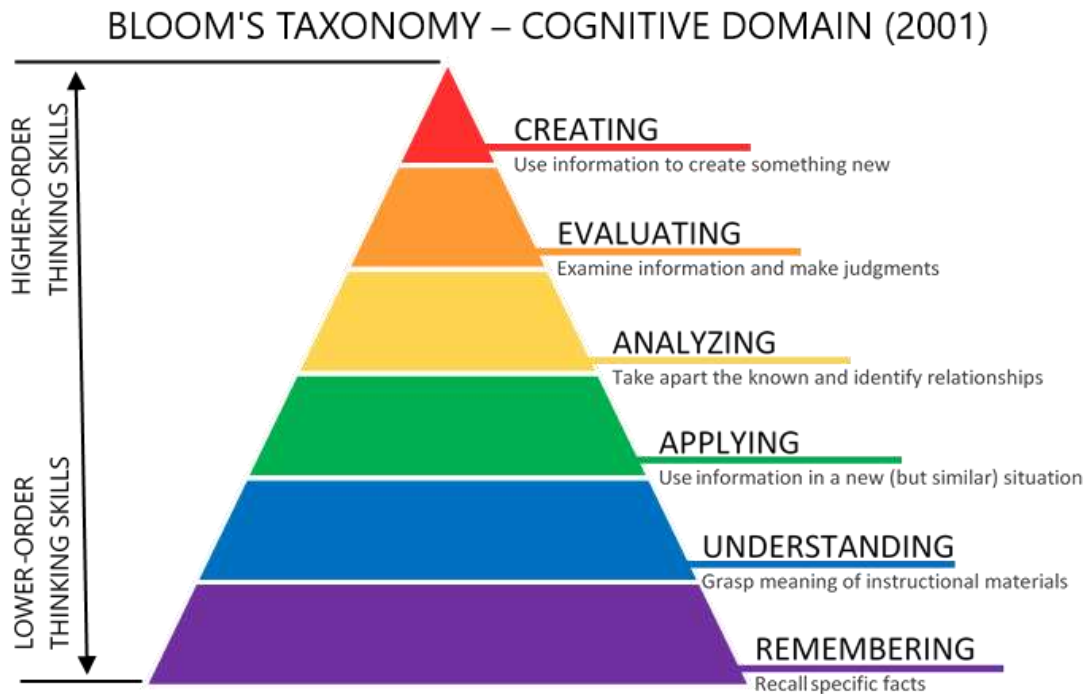
- Ask the student to clarify their grievance and justification for a grade change (in writing) before talking to them.
- Make sure you review your own records and justification so that you are prepared to have an informed discussion on how the grade was assigned.
- You may want to consider showing the student's work to another TA or your faculty mentor for a second opinion of your grading.
- At times, you may want to show the student examples of peer work at different grade levels and explain how that work differs from their work (sometimes it helps students to see the difference between, for example, an "A" project and a "B" project.)
- If students are not satisfied with your assessment of their work, refer them to the professor. If a solution cannot be reached through the professor, the faculty undergraduate advisor and department chair may be able to resolve the conflict.
- Try to be open-minded and fair when considering grade disputes. Be willing to objectively review your criteria and calculations. But, at the same time, don't cave in to a student request for a grade change just to resolve the problem when you believe your grading methodology is valid.
- [OMBUDS](#) is a confidential campus resource for problem resolution.

Emergency Situations:

If a student has a *medical emergency* in your class, call 911 or instruct a student to call 911.

If you recognize [signs of emotional distress](#) in a student, immediately contact your faculty supervisor, and follow the [UCSB Distressed Students Response Protocol](#). As you encounter other student problems that you cannot resolve, consult your faculty supervisor, the department faculty graduate advisor and/or the department chair for advice/mediation. It is also advisable to cc your faculty supervisor on emails from students and make them aware of any communication that seems out of the ordinary. Trust your intuition and, whenever possible, **create a paper trail** documenting such situations.

Section V: Enhancing Teaching Skills



[Bloom's Taxonomy](#) as a framework for teaching

Sources of Mentorship/Evaluations:

The most immediate measure of your teaching abilities is directly from your students. *How are they responding in class? Are they doodling? Yawning? Making frequent trips to the restroom?* These actions could signal that your class isn't filled with Dead Poet's Society moments like you might have assumed. The easiest thing to do to get feedback on your teaching is to ask your students how the course is working for them. Ask them what could be changed throughout the term.

Also, consider getting a second opinion about your teaching from other sources. Here are a few possibilities for getting feedback on your teaching:

The Professor in Charge of the Course

Course instructors may want to sit in on one of your classes at some point during the term to see how you are doing. Usually the professor will discuss your performance and make some suggestions for improving your teaching. Some professors also write written evaluations of TA performance. If you are not getting the feedback you need from your professor, ask them for more input. Ask them to sit in on your class, meet with them at

office hours to discuss your performance or request a written evaluation of your performance.

Another TA

Sometimes another TA will be a less threatening source of input. Ask another TA to sit in on your class and provide some feedback on what they see happening in your class. Working collaboratively with other TAs for the class can be an effective way to improve your classroom performance. We encourage you to share ideas and materials with other TAs. Past TAs are a rich source of ideas and advice. They will most likely have many ideas about effectively running sections, handling student problems, and negotiating effective working relationships with faculty members.

Remember that most of your peers are eager to share their experience with you. However, since they are busy (just like you are), they probably won't hunt you down to offer their advice. Take the initiative to seek them out. Most are very willing to pass on their expertise if you just take the time to ask.

The Instructional Development/TA Development Center

Instructional Development and the TA Development Center can provide support for TA development.

Instructional Development, located in Kerr Hall, provides services to assist faculty in meeting instructional goals including assistance in designing instruction and improving teaching skills.

The *TA Development Center* (Kerr Hall, x3341) offers a variety of services to support TAs:

- Classroom videotaping (at no charge)
- Consultation on instructional issues by appointment
- Instructional grants to develop instructional materials and procedures beyond the scope of normal TA duties
- TA training seminars

Evaluations System for Courses and Instruction (ESCI)

At the end of the term, a course evaluation questionnaire will be administered in your course. You will be provided with a summary statistical report of student answers usually about 6-8 weeks after the quarter end. This report gives the percentage breakdown of student answers benchmarked against departmental and campus averages. This process will provide you with a good sense of how your teaching compares to other TAs. See sample student evaluation form in this section. It's helpful to get high participation in evaluations to receive sufficient feedback. To increase evaluation submissions you can set aside time in sections for students to complete the forms.

Self Evaluations

Another possible way to measure your teaching is to check in with yourself and conduct a self-evaluation. Ask yourself:

- *What is happening in your class?*
- *How are students responding to your teaching?*
- *What's working?*
- *What isn't working?*
- *What would improve your teaching performance? (more examples, illustrations, organization, student interaction?)*
- *What do you need to do to improve?*
- *What isn't working?*
- *What would improve your teaching performance? (more examples, illustrations, organization, student interaction?)*
- *What do you need to do to improve?*

Improving Your Teaching:

Just by continuing to TA, your teaching skills will improve. Additionally, here are a few pointers to speed up the process of building your teaching skills:

- √ *Practice.* If you know which aspects of your teaching need work.
- √ *Observe successful teachers.* Sit in on sections of successful TAs and popular teachers. Analyze their performance. Ask yourself what makes them effective. Identify aspects of their style/technique that you might be able to successfully adopt.
- √ *Learn about learning.* Teaching is more than just disseminating information. Learn what it takes to encourage student learning. Consult [CITRAL](#) (Office of Teaching and Learning) and/or explore TA workshops like the [PILLARS](#) offered by Instructional Development.
- √ *Continually evaluate your own methods and materials.* How can they be improved, upgraded? How can you make the material more interesting, more compelling?

Section VI: Policies, Processes & Resources

TA Conduct:

TAs are expected to attend classes, to email or post information, and keep regular office hours open to students without prior appointment, to hold examinations as scheduled, to evaluate student work in a timely manner, and to ensure that grades directly reflect course performance.

The University is committed to creating and maintaining a community in which all persons who participate in University programs and activities can work together in an atmosphere free of all forms of harassment, exploitation, or intimidation, including inappropriate sexual behavior. Sexual harassment is prohibited both by law and by University policy. (APM-035, Appendix A)

UCSB Sexual Harassment policy can be found on the web (<https://oeosh.ucsb.edu>). You are responsible for being familiar with these policies, for behaving appropriately within their guidelines, and for assisting/referring students who have a sexual harassment concern.

Office Hours:

TAs are required to hold office hours. As determined by the instructor, TAs are required to hold on average two office hours per week, as a percentage of their time commitment with the class. In consultation with the instructor, it is the responsibility of the TA to designate the time and location of their office hours. An example of the use of office hours is that one hour may be held for drop in appointments, and one hour may be designated for appointments specifically made in advance by students. For Studio Assistants, hours are designated to labs and generally support studio lab activity of undergraduate students after class hours – evenings and weekends.

You will be asked to specify your office hours the first week of the quarter. If a TA must cancel office hours, or sections due to illness or another conflict, the TA should notify the course instructor and students ASAP – preferably by an announcement in the course lecture, but at least by emailing students and having a notice posted at the appropriate location.

TAs hold office hours in a variety of locations. Please check with your instructor to see if they have a preference as to where your office hours should be held. The following is a list of locations you may want to consider for your office hours depending on your situation:

eStudio: To be used by TAs leading sections of digital courses (Art 7D, 22 and Art 19-Digital). Check eStudio schedule and confirm office hour times with the eStudio staff supervisor prior to announcing to students.

Starbucks at the UCEN: Mmmm ... coffee! A favorite place to hold office hours. Students seem to like the central (and neutral) location. Nice view. Is sometimes loud and busy. The patio can be great on a sunny day. Good caffeine buzz.

Harder Stadium: Although it can be a little inconvenient for students to get to, it would be good for studio classes and show your work in progress.

Your Classroom: Check availability. Possibly a good option. (Be sure to arrange for the room to be unlocked or get a key for your use.) Some studio assistantships may require you to hold office hours in the course studio (check with your faculty mentor.)

Zoom: Can be a great option for students who can't make it to your normal office hours (while also being convenient and flexible for you as a TA.)

Google Meet: Could also be a potential platform for you to visit with students remotely. This is also connected to your student email and could be conducted through that platform.

Supplies, Other Expenses:

Most instructors have a supply budget for classes. If you need to purchase special supplies or equipment for your class, check with your instructor prior to making special purchases to see if funds are available and how to facilitate the purchase (please do not EVER use your own personal funds to buy supplies for classes. The department has its own processes for purchasing supplies for courses.)

In the course of the quarter you may find yourself having to check out media equipment for lectures, demos, or student projects. For **media equipment** needed for lectures or projects, refer to Troy Small (troy@arts.ucsb.edu) for specific equipment like cameras and lighting kits.

Confidentiality:

All completed assignments, exams, grades, correspondence and other information about individual students in class should be kept confidential except where the student has given written consent. Specifically:

- Grades should not be posted by name, nor by any identifying number such as student ID.
- If printing out your class attendance sheet from E-Grades, delete the columns with student perm numbers so that this information isn't visible.
- Graded assignments should not be left in a public place.
- Grades should not be discussed by email.

These provisions are consistent with Federal and State privacy laws.

Adapted from <http://oic.id.ucsb.edu/handbook-teaching/legal-considerations/posting-grades-returning-papers-record-confidentiality>

Safety/Student Problems:

- If a student reports harassment, take it seriously and report it to the instructor immediately. If a TA faces harassment, notify the instructor, faculty graduate advisor, and possibly the Department Chair who can assess the situation and next steps. Please don't try to solve serious issues alone!
- Follow [Distressed Students Response Protocol](#) for guidance on how to respond in situations involving distressed students.
- Direct students with personal problems to campus support services (e.g., Counseling Services) and inform the instructor.
 - Students in need of disability accommodations must do so through the [Disabled Students Program \(DSP\)](#), specifically their [services portal](#). The instructor will receive the accommodation letter.
 - [CAPS](#) (Counseling and Psychological Services)
 - Crisis Hotline: 805.893.4411
 - [Crisis Assistance](#)

Post-Graduation:

Retain and file your course evaluation records as you receive them during your time at UCSB, as future job applications may ask for them (if needing to retrieve any records for the purpose of job applications, etc, please contact the Staff Graduate Advisor Megan Koth.) Also, please note that when applying for teaching positions, do not list any staff (such as Staff Grad Advisor Megan Koth) as a work reference as staff cannot do employment verification or serve as a work reference. Instead, list any faculty supervisors who directly supervised you as a TA as references, and use [UCpath's Work Number process](#) for verifying your employment.

Campus Resources

Campus Telephone Directory	https://www.sa.ucsb.edu/parents/contacts/phone-directory
Division of Student Affairs	http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/
General Catalog	https://my.sa.ucsb.edu/catalog/Current/
Graduate Division	http://www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/
Instructional Development	https://id.ucsb.edu/teaching/teaching-resources/ta-programs/overview
Graduate Student Association (GSA)	www.gsa.ucsb.edu
Student Email Directory	https://secure.identity.ucsb.edu/student_directory/
UCSB Home Page	www.arts.ucsb.edu
UCSB TA Handbook	http://oic.id.ucsb.edu/ta-handbook
UCSB TA Resource Pages	https://gradpost.ucsb.edu/academics/teaching
Center for Innovation, Teaching, Resources, and learning	https://www.citral.ucsb.edu/home
Campus bookstore	
UAW 4811 (TA Union)	
www.arts.ucsb.edu (Art Department Website)	
www.finaid.ucsb.edu (Office of Financial Aid Website)	
www.graddiv.ucsb.edu (UCSB Graduate Division.	
https://www.gradpost.ucsb.edu for updates/grad events	
University Art Museum (AD&AM)	
Instructional Development	
Image Resource Collection	
UCSB Library	
Graduate Students Association	
Registrar's Office	

[Student Financial Services](#)

[Cashier's Office/BARC](#)

[OMBUDS](#) (confidential consultation and conflict mediation)

If you need any type of technological help, email: help@collaborate.ucsb.edu

Current Union Contract

<https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/labor/bargaining-units/bx/contract.html>

Departmental Resources

Contacts:

Faculty Grad Advisor – Alex Lukas

alexlukas@ucsb.edu

Staff Grad Advisor – Megan Koth

megankoth@ucsb.edu

Lead TAs

Lucy Bell

llbell@ucsb.edu

Autumn Nicole Smith

autumnsmith@ucsb.edu

Faculty

Sarah Rosalena Brady

srbrady@ucsb.edu

Jane Callister

jane@arts.ucsb.edu

Iman Djouini (CCS)

imandjouini@ucsb.edu

Kip Fulbeck

fulbeck@ucsb.edu

Lisa Jevbratt

jevbratt@arts.ucsb.edu

Alex Lukas

alexlukas@ucsb.edu

Shana Moulton

moulton@arts.ucsb.edu

Jane Mulfinger

mulfinger@arts.ucsb.edu

Lecturers

Philip Argent

argent1@cox.net

Eric Beltz

eab@ericbeltz.com

Lyra Purugganan (24-25 CCS Fellow)

lyrapurugganan@ucsb.edu

Kim Garcia

kim_garcia@ucsb.edu

Yumiko Glover

yumikohglover@gmail.com

Madeleine Ignon (CCS)

madeleineignon@gmail.com

Megan Koth

megankoth@ucsb.edu

Helen Taschian

taschian@arts.ucsb.edu

ART STAFF

Julie Vasquez

Finance and Budget
jvasquez412@ucsb.edu

Sandra Caceres

Academic Personnel
scaceres@ucsb.edu

Suzanne Dougherty

AASC Director
sdougherty@ucsb.edu

Hannah Vainstein

Undergrad Advisor
hannahvainstein@ucsb.edu

Megan Koth

Graduate Advisor
megankoth@umail.ucsb.edu

FACILITIES

Joel Sherman

Director of Labs
joelsherman@hfa.ucsb.edu

Keisha Mrotek

Facilities Manager
MStudio
kmrotek@ucsb.edu

Michelle Faust

Sculpture Technician
mfaust@ucsb.edu

Carson Brown

Woodshop Technician
carsonbrown@ucsb.edu

Troy Small

Computer & Network
Technician
troy@hfa.ucsb.edu