



**Department of  
Art and Art History**

**ART STUDIO/SHOP SAFETY CONTRACT**

**Purpose**

The University of Alabama in Huntsville's Department of Art and Art History sculpture, painting, printmaking, and photography studios are hands-on student work areas and fabrication shops. You will be participating in many art-making activities that require the use of potentially hazardous machines, tools, processes, and chemicals. Those hazards include rotating machinery, sharp tools, abrasives, high temperatures, airborne vapors and particulate matter, fluid and dry media chemicals, and others, which if not used correctly, can produce serious bodily injury that may result in amputation of fingers, hands or arms, respiratory distress, serious illness, blindness, or even death.

Safety in the art studios is the #1 priority of all concerned. To ensure a safe work environment, Studio/Shop Safety Rules have been developed and are provided to you in this student Safety Contract. You must follow these rules at all times. If you observe a violation of the Safety Rules, you must bring it to the attention of the course instructor without delay.

Both you and the course instructor must sign a copy of this contract before you will be allowed to participate in studio/shop activities. A reference copy of this contract may be found in the Safety Manuals located in each studio area as a constant reminder of the Studio/Shop Safety Rules. If you ever have any question about any Safety Rule, or any other safety concern, do not delay in seeking clarification from your course instructor.

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**Studio/Shop Safety Rules**

- Only students currently enrolled in studio art classes may utilize the studio facilities, unless the department chair or course instructor grants access.
- Obtain course instructor's permission to operate any equipment or undertake any new process.
- No smoking, eating, or drinking in studios.
- Safety glasses (ANSI Standard Z87.1) must be worn at all times in sculpture shop areas: RH 101 and 102. We try to keep suitable eye protection available, but it is the students' responsibility to supply their own safety glasses.

- Printmaking students must wear safety glasses (ANSI Standard Z87.1), appropriate chemical and solvent resistant gloves and apron, when working with acids, solvents, chemicals, and certain oil-based inks and paints.
- Report any injury, breakage or other mishap or incident to the course instructor immediately, no matter how minor.
- Read, understand and follow all safety instructions written or verbal.
- Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry in the sculpture shop areas. Long hair must be secured. No short pants, overly-long sleeves, or open shoes. Never wear gloves around machines in operation.
- Never attempt to talk to or distract a person while they are using a tool or machine. Wait until they have turned it off before approaching them.
- No horseplay or other distractions
- Compressed air can cause serious injury to eyes, ears, and skin. Do not direct compressed-air stream in the direction of anyone.
- One person per machine or work station unless otherwise directed by the course instructor.
- Never leave a machine running unattended.
- Keep work areas and tabletops clean and free of clutter.
- Stop machinery to make adjustments or measurements.
- Cutting tools are sharp and may shatter if used incorrectly. Handle all cutting tools accordingly.
- Keep machine guards in place, and hands and other body parts out of work area.
- Many machines and tools involve rapidly rotating components that may move in a manner that is unpredictable. Keep a wide path around machines in use.
- Paints, solvents, and lubricating fluids may be toxic, corrosive, and / or flammable. Wood, stone, and metal working processes may produce hazardous vapors, dust, sparks, and/or particulates. Current Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are available and filed in binders located in RH 101 and RH 201, and must be consulted prior to exposure. Suitable personal protection equipment is available for those sensitive to exposure to these hazards. It is the student's responsibility to inform the course instructor of any conditions or concerns relative to these or other hazards.
- The use of spray paints, fixatives, or adhesives is prohibited indoors except in properly ventilated fume hoods and spray booths.
- There are machine-specific and process-specific safety rules associated with each type of tool and equipment. Rules governing the proper use of each machine are posted on or near each piece of equipment. They are also available at all times in the Safety Manual included with the Material Safety Data Sheet files. You are responsible for these rules as if they were set out in this Contract.
- The course instructor may impose additional requirements, as they are deemed necessary.

### Agreement

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand all of the Studio/Shop Safety Rules set out above in this Contract. I hereby agree to follow all of those rules at all times when participating in art course activities. I realize that it is necessary for me to obey all of those rules for my own safety and for the safety of my fellow students and instructors. I hereby further agree that I will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructors and fellow students to maintain a safe studio/shop environment; to include, but not limited to, paying close attention to and strictly following without delay the oral and written instructions provided by the course instructor regarding my participation in studio/shop activities. I also hereby agree to inform the instructor without delay if I observe any violation of the Studio/Shop Safety Rules.

I hereby acknowledge that I am aware that if I violate any portion of this Safety Contract or otherwise demonstrate behavior inconsistent with studio/shop safety, I may be subject to dismissal from the studio/shop or from the course, and that I may also be subject to sanctions under the Code of Student Conduct as provided for in the UAH Student Handbook.

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Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Instructor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print or Type Student's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print or Type Instructor's Name

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

Checked out on the following procedures:

- ☐ Basic hand-held power tools (drill, saber saw, pneumatic nail guns and staplers, sanders)
- ☐ Basic frame and painting stretcher/panel construction (miter and panel saw)
- ☐ Basic woodworking (band saw, table saw, radial arm saw, drill press, stationary sanders)
- ☐ Advanced woodworking (wood lathe, joiner, planer)
- ☐ Basic welding and cutting (ferrous metal, Oxy-Acetylene, MIG)
- ☐ Advanced welding and cutting (non-ferrous and stainless, TIG, Plasma arc)
- ☐ Basic metalwork (vertical/ horizontal band saws, forming, rolling, drilling, grinding)
- ☐ Advanced metalwork (metal lathe, milling)