

ASSIGNMENT 1: ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS

Grade Weight 15%

Choosing what to make your art out of is one of the most important steps. Understanding the properties of your chosen medium can often help to determine the outcome of your work, just as the initial idea for an artwork can determine what medium to choose in the first place.

Once you have chosen a medium it is important to understand its properties as best you can. Most drawings have three simple components:

1. The medium (ex. a graphite pencil)
2. How the medium is applied (ex. the pencil is drawn across the page to create lines)
3. The support (ex. a sheet of white paper)

In this assignment, you will choose a non-conventional drawing medium to complete an excellent drawing.

PART ONE: CHOOSING THE MEDIUM

Find a minimum of **10** completely unique and non-conventional mediums that will create a mark on a piece of white 8" x 5" paper. "Non-conventional" means that none of your mark-making tools were ever intended as drawing tools. Therefore, no pencils, charcoal, pastels, inks etc. You may use any media whatsoever, as long as they are not harmful to yourself or other students (nothing that contains radioactive materials or contagious diseases etc.). Please stay away from cleaning products, nail polish, and anything else with a strong chemical odour (perfumes, gasoline etc.). If you're unsure of the safety of a material, please ask.

Some possible mark-making materials might include: food, dirt, garbage, your body, grease, your pet, leaves, etc.

DUE: Tuesday Sept. 12

- Submit 10 pieces of white paper (8" x 5"), demonstrating 10 different non-conventional mediums.

PART TWO: PUSHING THE MEDIUM AND THE SUPPORT

Select a medium that you want to explore further and use for your final project. Once you have selected the material you would like to work with, use 10 sheets of white 8" x 5" paper and experiment to find a minimum of **10** different methods for applying this medium to the page (think about stamping, rubbing, dragging, adding water, adding juice etc.).

Consider your support. Think about supports other than white paper which may work with your medium (glass, wood, cardboard, different coloured paper etc.). Experiment with your medium on a minimum of **4** different supports.

DUE: Thursday Sept. 14

- Submit 10 pieces of white paper (8" x 5"), demonstrating 10 different **methods** of using your selected media
- Submit 4 different **supports** that demonstrate experiments with your selected media

PART THREE: AN EXPERT DRAWING

DUE: Tuesday Sept. 26

Now that you have thoroughly explored the properties of your chosen medium, use this knowledge to produce a drawing; using the medium of your choice, on the support of your choice, at the scale of your choice. As much as possible, allow the medium to determine the outcome of your final drawing. This should be a collaboration between you and the materials you are using. Listen to the medium. And obey. Try to avoid obvious representational associations (ex. using coffee to draw a coffee cup).

DUE: Tuesday Sept. 26

- Submit final drawing

ASSIGNMENT BREAKDOWN / GRADING RUBRIC

- 20% Research of different media
- 20% Research and use of media /supports
- 30% Use of medium in final drawing
- 30% Resolution of final drawing