

<https://www.instagram.com/bootlegwiki>



fri 3pm
pratt studios
rm. 305

Prof. Sally Thurer
sthurer@pratt.edu

* [Canvas Page](#) <https://pratt.instructure.com/courses/20125>

~~* Milanote~~

* [Student Resources](#)
<https://students.sallythurer.com>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Uncreative ~~Writing~~ [Designing](#)

instructor(s):

~~Kenneth Goldsmith~~

[Sally Thurer](#)

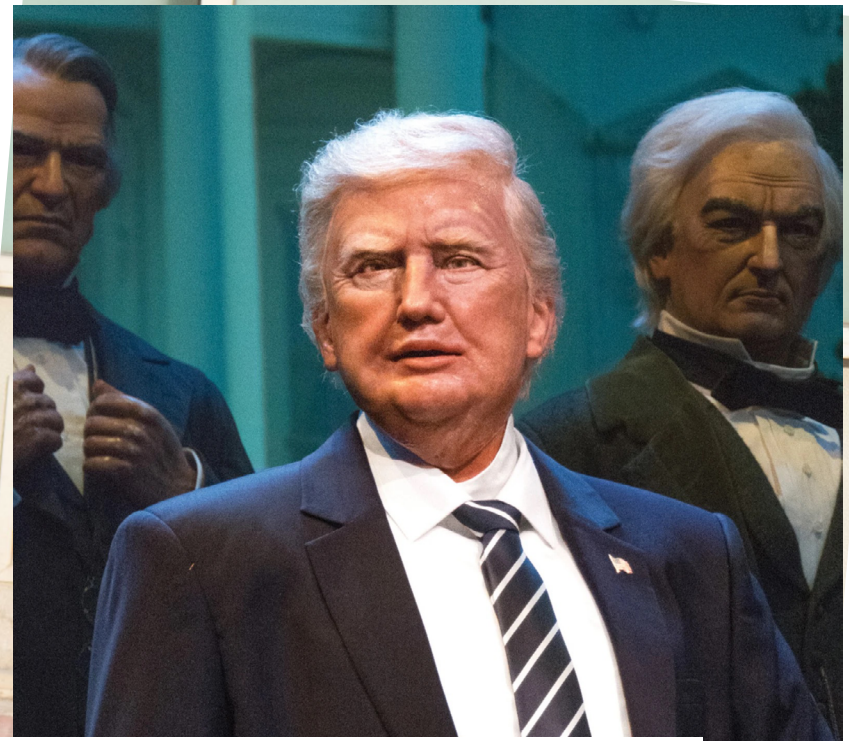
It's clear that long-cherished notions of creativity are under attack, eroded by file-sharing, media culture, widespread sampling, and digital replication. How does ~~writing~~ [graphic design](#) respond to this new environment? This workshop will rise to that challenge by employing strategies of appropriation, replication, plagiarism, piracy, sampling, plundering, as compositional methods. Along the way, we'll trace the rich history of forgery, frauds, hoaxes, avatars, and impersonations spanning the arts, with a particular emphasis on how they employ [visual](#) language. We'll see how the modernist notions of chance, procedure, repetition, and the aesthetics of boredom dovetail with popular culture to usurp conventional notions of time, place, and identity, all as expressed ~~linguistically~~ [visually](#).

https://monoskop.org/Uncreative_Designing

The class will be delivered through a mixture of practice and theory-based learning, including lectures, seminars, class critiques, self-directed study, and one-on-one meetings. You will be expected to discuss readings and present work each week.

The structure of the class is loose, but the workload is demanding, and we move fast. ~~Next week, you will submit a written proposal and present your thesis topic to the class. In fourteen weeks, you will defend your thesis in front of a formal panel.~~

<https://www.are.na/comd-460-04-uncreative-designing>



On Tue, Mar 1, 2022 at 9:56 AM Pirco Wolfframm <pwolfra@pratt.edu> wrote:

Hi Sally,

yesterday concerns were raised about your course proposal, ironically because it is an appropriation. Would you confirm that you have permission from Kenneth Goldsmith to repurpose and modify his course description?

Thank you.

Pirco

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 12:02
To: Pirco Wolfframm <pwolfra@pratt.edu>, "Goldsmith, Kenneth P" <kp@upenn.edu>
Subject: Re: interested in teaching an Emerging Practices section in the Fall or SP23

Dear Mr. Goldsmith,

May I have your permission to repurpose and modify your course description?

Please let us know,

Thanks. **Goldsmith, Kenneth P** <kp@upenn.edu>
To: Sally Thurer <sthurer@pratt.edu>

—Sally

YES! I LOVE IT!!

KG

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- bricolage
 - piracy
 - plagiarism
 - piracy
 - copying
 - copyright infringement
 - bootlegging
 - stealing
 - theft
 - quoting
 - remixing
 - pastiche
 - collage
 - counterfeiting
- buying fake designer stuff on aliexpress.
- appropriating stuff
- designing with envato mockups

Instead, your grade will be based on your engagement with the material, your volume of output, and risk taking.

GRADING

this class is philosophical and experimental. unlike other classes, grades are not based on quality of outcome.

If you come to class and make stuff you will do well.

dec 16!

It is your responsibility to make all your work, is uploaded before ~~May 5~~ **May 5**. Students with incomplete dossiers (~~missing work or fewer than 3 selfies~~) on that date will be penalized at least one letter grade—maybe more—depending on the amount of outstanding work.

I may not be able to answer emails immediately, so if you need feedback before class, try to reach out before Monday so I have time to respond. If I don't get back to you within a day, please do not hesitate to follow up with a reminder. You can send me up to five reminder emails before I get annoyed.

I am often available to meet after class, and I hold regular online office hours on ~~Tuesdays~~ **wednesdays** from 1pm—4pm by appointment. ~~I can also often meet on Fridays.~~

Use [Appointlet](#) to sign up 8 hours in advance to secure a spot. If you cannot find an available slot on Appointlet, don't hesitate to email me—but please check Appointlet first.

<http://sallythurer.appointlet.com>



German spies disguised as western tourists. Simon Memmer



LOGISTICS

My legal name is *Sarah*, but I go by *Sally*.

The best way to contact me is by emailing me at sthurer@pratt.edu. Pratt requires us to conduct all communication via pratt email accounts. Please do not send me messages on social media.

I may not be able to answer emails immediately, so if you need feedback before class, try to reach out before Monday so I have time to respond. If I don't get back to you within a day, please do not hesitate to follow up with a reminder. You can send me up to five reminder emails before I get annoyed.

I am often available to meet after class, and I hold regular online office hours on Tuesdays from 1pm–4pm by appointment. I can also often meet on Fridays. Use [Appointlet](#) to sign up 8 hours in advance to secure a spot. If you cannot find an available slot on Appointlet, don't hesitate to email me—but please check Appointlet first.

<http://sallythurer.appointlet.com>

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is compulsory. Do not make appointments (e.g., doctor visits, covid tests, internships, or job interviews) that conflict with class time. Missing any class session due to travel plans is also not acceptable.

Your health and well-being are a priority. Students who face unforeseen difficulties (e.g., sudden illness, family emergency) do not need

my permission to attend to them. When you are ready to resume your studies, I insist that you check in with me during office hours so I can make sure you're still on track.

Students facing ongoing medical or personal issues that keep them from class should contact idmadvise@nyu.edu and eng.studentadvocate@nyu.edu. Together we will arrange a solution or accommodation suited to the specific situation.

READINGS

I will post all required readings in English to ~~Brightspace~~ [internet](#). When I have versions in other languages, I will post them as well. Feel free to do readings in whichever language is the most comfortable for you. If you find a translation that I don't have, please share it with me.



Pamela Anderson look-a-like Sam Dorner competes for the attention of the photographers with a Venus de Milo statue. photo: Stefan Rousseau

Given the technology in our classroom, it's unfeasible to have remote students dial into in-person classes. If you miss class due to covid, I will meet with you one-on-one during office hours to catch you up.

DIGITAL DOCUMENTATION

You will be **bringing work to class** each week, but I will also request that you upload formal documentation to Canvas at the end of the semester. I will not collect physical work, and I do not accept work by email under any circumstances for logistical reasons.

Please use the filename prefix for our class **COMD460_04_st_fa22** when naming your files. Anytime you revise a project, upload a new PDF with the suffix "rev." Do not delete or replace the original file.



Daniel Day in his shop, Dapper Dan's Boutique, which closed in 1992. He is wearing his own custom clothing.

DISTRACTIONS

We will be using technology a lot this semester, but please keep your laptops closed during lectures, critiques, and discussions. As long as you respect covid guidelines, you may drink beverages, snack, and use your phone in a limited and discreet way. Please do not record anyone (or their work) without consent.

COVID SAFETY *until further notice*

Everyone must wear a face-covering while indoors on campus. You may remove your mask indoors briefly when you eat and drink, keeping some measure of distance between yourself and others. We are not required to wear a face-covering outdoors.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Students should feel free to step out of the room discreetly for any reason. However, if you disappear for longer than 20 minutes or leave entirely, please let me know what happened after class or by email.

I want to encourage lively and supportive conversation during critique. However, students who miss class, feel uncomfortable sharing, or feel like they didn't sufficiently express themselves will have the opportunity to give written comments on Are.na after class. While this is entirely optional, it will count towards class engagement—like extra credit.

I am happy to grant a one-week extension to any student who needs extra time to work on a project for any reason. No explanation is necessary, but please let me know at least 24 hours before the deadline.

I will make every effort to accommodate students with both visible and invisible disabilities. While I advise students to speak to me at the start of the semester, they should feel free to discuss issues about disabilities with me at any time.

If you have a disability and require accommodations, don't hesitate to contact the Learning/Access Center at LAC@pratt.edu. They can provide additional resources and information to facilitate full access to all campus programs and activities. Their office is in the ISC Building, Room 104.

If you experience non-academic difficulties (e.g. death in the family, protracted medical issues) that might adversely affect your work, contact your advisor or schedule an appointment with Health and Counseling Services (718-687-5356 or therapy@pratt.edu) as early as possible to establish an official record. They will work with me to help arrange a solution suited to the specific situation.

COMD & INSTITUTE-WIDE POLICIES

Students must adhere to all [UG COMD department policies](#) and [institute-wide policies](#) including policies on academic integrity, plagiarism, bias, discrimination, community expectations, accessibility and email use. A complete copy of these policies is posted to the syllabus on Canvas. ■



Cardboard security guard in Mysore, India.