FINE 4350:001 Topics in Digital Design

Art + Science

Fall 2023 • Fridays 10-2 • Downtown Denver Campus

Are you a science-curious artist or an art-curious scientist? Do you have something to say, but feel you need new techniques to transmit your thoughts and feelings into something visual? This course is for you!

Together, we will explore the exciting intersection between art and science and the many ways artists are using science in their work. The course will feature presentations by several artists who will showcase their works and discuss their creative process, inspirations, and techniques (many of them not considered traditionally as art-making tools or elements), often followed by hands-on creative activities.

Co-taught by two practicing Art + Science artists, this course is ideal for students interested in exploring the relationship between art and science and learning how they can inform and inspire each other. It’s also perfect for students who want to discover new ways to express their thoughts and feelings visually. There are no prerequisites for this course and we welcome all students who have an interest in art and/or science. By the end of the course, students will have gained a deeper understanding of how science and art can intersect and the ways in which they can combine to create unique communicative works of art. We also hope that this course will help spark curiosity and the ability to find new ways of making artwork using tools and technologies from other disciplines.

About the Instructors

Jaime Belkind-Gerson, MD
Chief of Pediatric Neuroradiology, Children’s Hospital, Anschutz Medical Campus
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, CU Denver

For over 30 years, I’ve been an artist, neuroscience researcher and a doctor. I take care of people and do basic research in a lab. My experiences in the medical field and science have greatly influenced my art. My latest artwork focuses on connections, both internal (as stored memories) and external (with other people).

My work is created with the images that surround me: X rays, CT scans, MRI’s through which our internal reality and beauty is manifested. These, I combine with other images that reflect our external world. They are manipulated with specifically designed software algorithms. Once captured, I use manual processes for additional layering.

Travis Vermilye, MFA
Associate Professor in Digital Design and Illustration, CU Denver

Travis Vermilye creates imagery inspired by the natural world. His abstract digital imagery and animated short films invite you to gaze into a dream-like microscopic realm and find a sense of joyous calm within the organic forms on display. Travis’s work grows from an award-winning 18-year career as a medical illustrator and animator with work shown on Dateline NBC, The Oprah Winfrey Show, in the New York Times, National Geographic, and via numerous medical organizations.

Questions? Email Travis Vermilye - travis.vermilye@ucdenver.edu