

# VA 402 Semester Plan

**Due:** Sunday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, 11:59 pm via email

**Value:** 15%

**Format:** Easily readable typeface, 10 – 12 font, .docx preferred

**Citation Style:** MLA format

**Background:** In the week following your Final Critique, you will submit a Final Report reflecting on the term and your project at the conclusion of the course.

**Rationale:** The Final Report contains three elements, an artist statement, documentation of progress, and a short reflection. The artist statement is a place where you can demonstrate the breadth of the research you have conducted in the course, integrating key ideas, scholars, and influences as well as thoughtfully describing the formal, critical and technical components of your practice. This artist statement is a living document that you can carry forward and revisit as your work progresses this year. In this sense, the artist statement is both a marker of the progress you have made this term and also a practical tool to carry forward into the next semester. The documentation of progress consolidates your workflow productivity and total Studio Project(s) realization for the term through progress pictures. The short reflection offers a selection of ways that the student may document their growth this term, in their own terms.

**Organization:** In an effort to make this document as useful as possible and easy to produce, I have created a clear template for you. You should be citing research in key moments to demonstrate how the ideas you are expressing connect to other work in your field, critical theory, history, practice, etc. In-text citations will follow MLA style. Footnotes are permitted and encouraged where useful. All ideas taken from other sources must be referenced, even when they are reinterpreted in your own words. A plagiarism checking software will be used during grading.

Write meticulously. Your sentences and paragraphs should follow the logical progression of an idea. All writing should be doing “work” for your argument. Cut anything that acts as filler. You must choose words carefully for both clarity and precision. Leave time to edit thoroughly.

**Do:**

- Take a breath and reflect on how far you have come this term while dealing with unimaginable circumstances. You are here. You did it.
- Treat this document with the devotion it deserves. It is the final word on everything you have accomplished.
- Review the lecture on how to write an artist statement before you begin

**Do not:**

- Recycle ideas from your semester plan. Your Final Report should show movement.

# Final Report Template

The following Final Report Template provides prompts and instructions. The reflection portion offers several modes you may select from to demonstrate your growth. Think of the reflection as an open letter to your professor, self, and peers that expresses or emotes something of the expansion you have felt in your practice, ways of thinking, and feeling this term. If you desire a mode of expression you do not see listed, please contact your professor with an alternative proposal. There is no word count for this portion, only an objective. The artist statement segment is 500 – 1000 words and must address all prompts listed in the template. Write clearly and remember to impress your reader with your ability to convey complex ideas simply. Do not seek to impress your reader by confounding them with complex language that masks an unsophisticated idea. When documenting your work, especially in your final images, feel free to make images full page and use high resolution.

**\*Note:** your work will be checked for originality and plagiarism. UFV takes plagiarism seriously. Lifting ideas and text from the class sources or external sources without proper citation may result in one or more of the penalties as listed in the Student Conduct Policy 310.12: a score of zero, a report filed with the Student Conduct Registry, the requirement that the student withdraws from the course and or suspension from UFV. See:

<https://www.ufv.ca/media/assets/counselling/Plagiarism+and+Academic+Integrity.pdf>

## Reflection

Under the Reflection heading, indicate your choice from the options below by including the text of the selection, followed by your submission. If you proposed an alternative reflection, include the text your professor approved, followed by your submission.

1	Write an informal letter to your professor outlining significant moments this term and how they shaped your progress and ways of thinking about the world, your work, academia, etc.
2	Create a poem, song, or other creative output that focuses on your most significant breakthrough, challenge, etc., this term.
3	Compile sketches and notes from your sketchbook demonstrating problem-solving steps that you engaged in this term. Find a narrative or poetic way to assemble them for submission.
4	Select the most powerful positive or negative feedback you received from a critique. Find a way to document how that comment sat with you and changed you through creative writing, a diary entry, comic strip or other means.
5	Think about a moment this term where you felt frozen, creatively drained, not smart enough, or not good enough. Write a step by step guide as if you were speaking to yourself back in time, or to a younger artist, providing them with a manual for concretely pushing past those feelings. List at least ten steps that pushed you forward this term (steps can be repeated). Do something with the list. Document the list and what you did with it.

**Documentation of Progress**

Under the Documentation of Progress heading, include images that clearly demonstrate progress through the module weeks using subheadings as a timestamp. Depending on the scope and mode of your artistic practice, you may need more or fewer images than the template demonstrates.

Weeks 1-2

Progress image	Progress image
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Weeks 3-4

Progress image	Progress image	Progress image
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Weeks 5-6

Progress image	Progress image	Progress image	Progress image
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Weeks 7-8

Progress image	Progress image	Progress image	Progress image
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Weeks 9-10

Progress image	Progress image	Progress image	Progress image
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Weeks 11-12

Progress image	Progress image	Progress image	Progress image
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Final Studio Project Images

Final image	Final image	Final image	Final image
Final image	Final image	Final image	Final image

## Artist Statement

Before you begin, revisit your semester plan, and the prompts listed therein. Think about what has changed. Ensure your artist statement accomplishes the following:

1. Describes your work, including medium, size and technique
2. Justifies and contextualizes your ideas
3. Fits your work into a larger artistic tradition, conversation or movement
4. Fits your work into a broader conceptual, historical, political or theoretical relationship
5. Considers the viewer
6. Considers the 'work' of the work of art
7. Includes ideas, artists or other sources of influence that are adequately cited or noted
8. Follows a logical organization where one idea leads naturally into the next
9. Avoids cliché, flowery language ("the drawing degraded into a hegemony of covetousness"), hyperbolic assessment ("my work pushes the theoretical limits of the mind"), shallow assessment ("I paint beautiful flowers to inspire joy in my viewer"), or hollow sentimentality ("ever since I was a little girl, I've loved...")

## Final Report Rubric:

	Beginning	Developing	Accomplished
<b>Content</b>	Student shows very little understanding of the subject matter and thoroughly misinterprets the requirements for the assignment. The student struggles to show progress for their studio practice. Student is unaware of where their research fits into current knowledge and/or struggles with connecting their work to larger concerns. Content is lacking.	Student shows understanding of the subject matter. The student shows adequate progress for their studio practice. Student is aware of where their research fits into current knowledge and is able to form some connections with larger concerns. Content is developing.	Student shows an understanding of the subject matter, and it is evident in the execution. Statement shows an integration of advanced concepts. The student is able to clearly fit their work into current knowledge. Development is clear. Methodology is strong as is content.
<b>Creativity and Ambition</b>	The submission shows little creative effort or is not particularly ambitious. Workflow not demonstrated. Progress not demonstrated effectively.	The submission shows good creative effort and ambition. Workflow demonstrated. Progress is demonstrated effectively.	The submission is original, creative and ambitious. Workflow and progress were ambitious and strongly demonstrated.
<b>Organization &amp; Structure</b>	Organization and structure detract from the message. Paragraphs are disjointed and lack transition of thoughts. Some prompts are not addressed. Headings are not present or incorrect.	Submission is easy to follow. Paragraph transitions are present. Prompts are addressed logically. Responses demonstrate some concision or clarity.	Submission is easy to follow. Paragraphs transition with a strong sense of flow, leading to a feeling of conclusion. Responses address questions logically, clearly and concisely.
<b>Grammar, Punctuation &amp; Spelling, Style</b>	The paper contains numerous grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors. The language uses jargon, flowery language or other stylistic issues. The student is inconsistent in the correct use of MLA format. Several formatting errors.	The paper contains few grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors. Language has clarity and mostly avoids the use of jargon, flowery language or other stylistic problems. The student is consistent in the correct use of MLA format, with a few formatting errors.	The student demonstrates consistent correct use of the rules of grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling. The student is consistent in the correct use of MLA format. Language is clear and precise; sentences display consistently strong, varied structure.

## Studio Projects Rubric:

	Beginning	Developing	Accomplished
<b>Technical Skill and Design</b>	Student shows a level of technical skill and formal knowledge that is in need of significant development. Some errors or choices detract from the overall appearance of the work.	Student shows a level of technical skill and formal knowledge that is solid. Choices mostly enhance the overall appearance of the work.	Student shows a high level of technical skill and formal knowledge. Sophisticated choices strongly enhance the overall appearance of the work.
<b>Creativity and Ambition</b>	The submission shows little creative effort or is not particularly ambitious. Workflow not demonstrated. Progress not demonstrated effectively.	The submission shows good creative effort and ambition. Workflow demonstrated. Progress demonstrated effectively.	The submission is original, creative and ambitious. Workflow and progress were strongly demonstrated.
<b>Conceptual Considerations</b>	The work does not connect strongly with contemporary practice or lacks focus. The work does not push conceptual considerations or does not convey the ideas that inform it.	The work connects in conversation with contemporary practice. The work taps conceptual considerations and manages to convey ideas through execution.	The work is in deep conversation with contemporary practice and is strongly focused. Conceptual considerations are deeply developed and executed.
<b>Personal Growth and Development</b>	Workflow was not adequately met. Ideas or execution lack evidence of personal growth.	Workflow was met. Ideas or execution show evidence of personal growth.	Workflow met or exceeded. Ideas and execution show exemplary personal growth.

