

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith**  
**5210 Grand Avenue**  
**P. O. Box 3649**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649**  
**479-788-7000**

### **General Syllabus**

#### **ART 2403 Introduction to Book Arts**

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 2

Studio Hours: 4

Prerequisite(s): None.

Effective Catalog: 2019-20

#### **I. Course Information**

##### **A. Catalog Description**

Introduces the traditions and methods of the handmade book, as well as the expressive possibilities available with books as an art form.

#### **II. Student Learning Outcomes**

##### **A. Subject Matter**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply basic skills and techniques of bookbinding to create several different book structures, as well as, various types of enclosures.
2. Use innovative image and text-making techniques, including letterpress, Xerox transfers, paste papers, and others.
3. Identify historic trends in bookbinding and how they affect contemporary structures.
4. Demonstrate competence in the relationship of textual, visual and structural contents in books and how they can enhance content.

##### **B. University Learning Outcomes**

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

###### **Communication Skills (Oral and Written)**

Students will combine visual and tactile communication and how the vocabulary of materials can enhance content.

**Analytical Skills**  
**Critical Thinking**

Students will analyze book structures to discover how they work. They also analyze and develop a sharp eye for fine typography and craftsmanship.

**III. Major Course Topics**

- A. Terminology of bookbinding and book making
- B. The structures of traditional and contemporary books
- C. How books can become a unique art form
- D. Exploring a variety of book formats and binding methods
- E. Choosing and working with fine printing papers and other bookbinding
- F. materials
- G. Safe and skilled operation of hand-operated printing presses and other
- H. equipment
- I. Planning and producing simple limited edition printed books