

## Sabbatical Leave Application (2021-2022)

NOTE: If submitting two plans, you are required to submit two separate applications titled Plan A and Plan B. If submitting a second application because you are unsure the first one will work out, please title your preferred application, Plan A and the second application, Plan B.

Email address \*

dramos@miracosta.edu

### PART I - Signature Page

A hard copy with signatures to be submitted to the SLC Administrative Assistant separately. Download and print the Signature page here.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jntUnjYo3ohXCkxS6JBpgM3hJmArMbm/view?usp=sharing>

Name \*

Dean Ramos

Department \*

Art

Date Submitted: \*

MM DD YYYY

09 / 14 / 2020

Full-time Hire Date (semester and year): \*

Fall 2006

Academic School year of sabbatical leave requested (for example: 2019-2020): \*

2021-2022

Select the period of sabbatical leave requested: \*

- One semester
- One-year at 50% compensation (do not include unbanking)
- Variable (approval of Superintendent/President required prior to submission of application).

Indicate semester of preference \*

- Fall
- Spring

Date of proposed return to full-time service (if unbanking):

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Prior to submitting your application, perform the following steps. Check off each one to acknowledge that you have: \*

- Step 1: Notify your Department Chairperson (or equivalent) of your intent to request a sabbatical leave, giving him/her the opportunity to consider staffing, budgets, previous evaluations and other issues.
- Step 2: Notify your Dean (or equivalent) of your intent to request
- Step 3: Notify your Vice President (or equivalent) of your intent to request a sabbatical leave, giving him/her the opportunity to consider staffing, budgets, previous evaluations, SLO assessment calendar, and other issues.
- Step 4: Submit a hard copy of Sabbatical Leave Application Signature Page with original signatures to SLC Administrative Secretary prior to deadline. SLC will review applications and make recommendations for revisions.

## PART II - Abstract of Sabbatical Leave Application

Check the type of sabbatical leave: \*

- Advanced Academic Studies (Select Advanced Academic Studies only if all 12 semester/18 quarter units are upper division/graduate credit. Otherwise, choose Self-directed studies.):
- Self-directed studies

Abstract: In the box below, clearly state the purpose(s) of the proposed sabbatical leave (try to keep the abstract 200 words or less). \*

I propose to use contemporary materials and techniques to create 3-5 large scale outdoor figure sculptures. I will record and later edit videos and photos demonstrating creative processes. These recordings will be applicable to Art 217 and 219, Figure Sculpture 1 and 2, and they will be used for both on-ground and distance education.

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## PART III - Identification of Objectives, Description of Proposed Activities & Documentation

OBJECTIVE #1: \*

a) My objective:

Research and perform initial material mixing and application tests to ensure that the sculptures I make are durable and lasting and that the selected materials are easy to work with, lightweight, and suitable for classroom instruction.

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b) How I plan to accomplish my objective and anticipated outcome:

I plan to learn and practice contemporary processes for producing durable outdoor sculptures with the intent of teaching them to students enrolled in Art 217 and 219, figure sculpture 1 and 2. I plan to create 3-5 outdoor sculptures using materials that are light, strong, and larger in scale than I have worked with before. Two of the materials that I am considering for this project are: Glass Fiber Reinforced Concrete (GFRC) and Buddy Rhodes Vertical Mix. GFRC mixes are strong, thin and lightweight concrete mixes, somewhat like stucco but more durable. Mixes of this type are often used to make concrete countertops. Buddy Rhodes Vertical Mix is a strong lightweight cement-based sculpture mix that can be carved and stamped with textures. Before I begin sculpting, I plan to test a variety of cement/stucco-based mixes, the two I've mentioned and others. I will run these tests to ensure that the sculptures I make are durable and lasting and that the selected materials are easy to work with, lightweight, and suitable for classroom instruction. In addition to cement-based materials I am considering creating one sculpture using fiberglass resin, often used in the auto and surfboard industries. Although I wouldn't want to expose students to toxic resins and itchy fiberglass, producing an instructional video will demonstrate how durable, versatile, and lightweight, this material is.

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c) Documentation and estimation of time spent on my activity:

I will provide the sabbatical committee with videos, video stills, and/or photos documenting this activity. I estimate spending 40 hours on this activity.

OBJECTIVE #2 (if applicable):

a) My objective:

Create 3-5 large scale outdoor figure sculptures using contemporary materials and record and manage digital photos and videos of the creative processes.

b) How I plan to accomplish my objective and anticipated outcome:

Having completed objective one. I will begin constructing the sculptures. As with any creative endeavor, precise outcomes can be difficult to predict. The creative process itself should be allowed to guide decisions and the final outcome often differs from the original vision. Regardless, I expect that I will make between 3-5 sculptures that are a minimum of 4 foot long in their widest dimension. I will photograph and take videos of the creative process through these stages:

1. Initial sketches and maquettes (this will be completed before the sabbatical begins)
2. Building and forming underlying structures
3. Mixing, applying, and shaping the surface material/s
4. Surface finishing
5. Possibly making a mold and casting one sculpture – this would be a good process to record but it could be cost prohibitive

Management of files and recording devices will be an ongoing process. Cameras will need to be setup and adjusted, audio recording devices will need to be considered, files will need to be constantly moved and stored on hard drives.

c) Documentation and estimation of time spent on my activity:

I will provide the sabbatical committee with videos, video stills, and/or photos documenting this activity. I estimate that I will spend 450 hours working on this objective.

OBJECTIVE #3 (if applicable):

a) My objective:

Edit video footage and photographs taken during objectives 1 and 2 to make them usable for instruction.

b) How I plan to accomplish my objective and anticipated outcome:

I will use Adobe Photoshop to edit photographs and DaVinci Resolve to edit video footage. I will need to familiarize myself with Resolve as I haven't used it before. I propose to use Resolve because it offers a good deal of editorial control and this will be important as I plan to film using multiple cameras at varying locations. Once edited I will use the video footage and photos to supplement lessons both on-ground and online.

c) Documentation and estimation of time spent on my activity:

I will provide the sabbatical committee with videos, video stills, and/or photos documenting this activity. I estimate that I will spend 100 hours working on this activity.

## OBJECTIVE #4 (if applicable):

a) My objective:

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b) How I plan to accomplish my objective and anticipated outcome:

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c) Documentation and estimation of time spent on my activity:

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Total Estimate of Hours for all objectives (minimum of 576 hours) =

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## PART IV. - Explanation of Contribution to District

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A. Explanation of how my activities will contribute to my professional development:

By gaining new instructional skills, developing instructional materials, and practicing what I teach, I develop as an instructor.

Through the process of making 3-5 largescale outdoor sculptures. I will learn how to use durable, lightweight, contemporary art materials that I haven't used before. I plan to teach these methods and techniques to students enrolled in my figure sculpture courses.

My third sabbatical objective is editing the raw video footage that I record in my first two objectives. By learning to use more advanced video editing software, such as Davinci Resolve, I will be able to create more professional instructional videos. My edited sabbatical footage and all future instructional recordings that I make will benefit from this.

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B. Explanation of the anticipated short- and/or long-term benefits of your project on the following groups: students, department, college, and/or community. Include specific information on SLOs, PSLOs, Core Competencies and/or equity, diversity and inclusion.

The art department fulltime faculty job descriptions state that faculty must be active contemporary artists. In addition to working to be an effective instructor and a contributing member of the art department, I continue to produce artworks and my skills and experiences positively influence my classroom instruction.

The first SLO for both Art 217 and 219 states 'students will demonstrate a knowledge and mastery of figure sculpting'. As an art instructor I must continue to learn new skills and hone those that I have, to help students achieve the highest level of proficiency possible.

Outdoor sculpture often has greater visibility than works displayed indoors. This provides opportunities for diverse viewpoints to be expressed publicly. Discussions and lessons on how such sculptures are made and how they influence societies are an important part of an art education. This is especially relevant to figurative sculptures which often confronts social issues.

The skills and knowledge that I gain documenting my sabbatical will help me better prepare students to effectively document their own artwork. The importance of good documentation is discussed in many studio art courses and is covered in greater depth in Art 295, Visual Art & Professional Practice, which stresses portfolio development. As the department is considering rotating the instruction of Art 295 between full-time art faculty, having extensive knowledge of documentation methods is vital.

I have given presentations about my past art projects in colleagues classes, at career pathway events and I will present documentation of this sabbatical on future occasions.

I intend for artworks made during this sabbatical to be exhibited in San Diego county and I will make certain my affiliation as a MiraCosta art instructor is noted in exhibition statements and publications.

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THIS IS THE END OF THE SABBATICAL LEAVE APPLICATION

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