03 / CAMPUS RESOURCES

In this section we will describe where you can go on campus for equipment and more. We will also present specific support roles that faculty and staff have so you know who to approach when you need help. Always check SF.MassArt.edu for the most up to date information about locations, hours and offerings.

FACULTY & STAFF

Everyone you come across will influence you in different ways, however, professors, instructors, and staff have specific roles in the context of your experience in the Studio Foundation department.

Professors are here to organize your learning through their experience as teachers and artists. They design lessons around outcomes to give you a unique experience. They also offer their expertise in evaluating your progress in class.

Digital Media Workshop Instructors are technical experts who focus on helping you use tools and software related to your class. Many instructors are also working artists, but their focus is helping you through the technical side of your learning.

Studio Foundation Cage Monitors provide access to the equipment you will need. Monitors are responsible for understanding current policy and checking equipment to make sure it is working. Many of them are students and often have more knowledge then they have time to explain. Be polite and persistent and timely and they are an amazing resource.

The role of your peers will be discussed at the end of this section.

LOCATIONS

Cages¹ are the locations on campus that store equipment for student use, different departments have different equipment and slightly different policies to support that equipment and you. The Studio Foundation cage in South 306 provides equipment to support your work in Studio Foundation classes. Video, photo and audio equipment, along with tool

¹Tower Building: labs and cages. Photo by Sal Adin.

03 Campus Resources
boxes, sewing machines, and more, are all available for you to use.

**ONE TO ONE SUPPORT**
Check with the SF Cage (South 306) to see if individual support is available. If the Cage Monitor is not able to help you, they can arrange for assistance from one of the two Studio Managers in the department. The folks working in Studio Foundation have lots of experience to offer and can provide you with help that is hard to find elsewhere, so take advantage of this resource! To get the most out of a support session, come prepared with some questions to get things going.

**TECH CENTRAL**
Located in the Tower Building. It is the headquarters for the MassArt help desk and maintains a cage with equipment available to all departments. Questions about NET ID, network and wireless access, your school email and supported software can be directed here. They also provide workstations for documenting 2D and 3D work.

**COMPUTER LABS**
Throughout the campus you will find various computer and printing labs. Often workshops are scheduled throughout the year to address new software or specific needs.

**LIBRARY**
Above it all sits the MassArt library which houses a unique collection of books and media as well as an amazing collection of artist’s books and one of the best views of Boston.

**SO MANY OPTIONS**
Making sense of all of these resources can be challenging so start with your teacher who will help guide you through the range of support options most appropriate to your needs.

**MAPPING RESOURCES**
Resources change regularly and usually for the better. Let’s take some time now to find out what you can take advantage of. If you find something interesting add it to your calendar or set a reminder to follow up.

**YOU WILL NEED:**
Your notes, Internet access, your course syllabus, and your calendar/reminders list.

**STEPS:**
1. Examine your syllabus.
2. What is your Professor’s policy on contacting them? Add their information to your contacts and make a note of the best (or worst) ways to contact them.
3. Think about what you’d like to accomplish: creatively, professionally, or any other way. How might this class or your teacher’s experience support these goals?
4. Write three specific questions and set a reminder to ask them at some point in your class.
5. Visit the Studio Foundation website. Scan for general resources. Then scan for resources specific to your class.

6. What workshops are currently available? When are they happening?

7. Did you notice anything that surprised you in looking over these materials? If not what do you like to see available?

**PEERS & QUESTIONS**

Other students provide support and challenges as they engage with the same material. As you progress through your Studio Foundation experience, see if you notice what questions come up frequently. By listening for patterns in what is exciting or frustrating you can often think of questions to get the support needed.

Do **NOT** assume teachers and staff know what you are struggling with or are excited to know more about. Specific sincere questions often trigger a chain reaction that improves class, starts conversations and prevents problems. Also remember that feeling lost is an important part of this process. Getting lost2 is how you find things you weren’t looking for. We hope just hope some of this information gets you back safely.

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2 Tunnel to Tower: photo by Sal Adin.