





Faculty Member Contact Information

Name	Mrs. Aimee Clinger
Contact Info	
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Campus Box	1774
Department	Art and Design

1 Funded, URCA Assistant

	This position is ONLY open to students who have declared a major in this discipline.	M
	This project deals with social justice issues.	
	This project deals with sustainability (green) issues.	
	This project deals with human health and wellness issues.	
	This project deals with community outreach.	
	This mentor's project is interdisciplinary in nature.	I

Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?

- No

How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?

(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

- 6 if not taking for course credit, 9 if receiving course credit

Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?

- Yes, 3 credit hours of ART 430-008

Location of research/creative activities:

- Art and Design - Room 1209 (Metalsmithing Studio)

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?

The URCA Assistant will be working with me to create 1 – 3 new wearable artworks in a series titled “Uneasy Adornment”. To produce these new pieces, we will be working in tandem using traditional metalsmithing skills such as sheet metal construction, enameling, and small-scale casting and mold making.

In addition to acquiring new technical skills, the URCA Assistant will also be privy to, and involved with, my design and ideation process as we will work to conceptually address the themes of faith, protection, and healing for this proposed body of work. The proposed 1 – 3 new wearable pieces will be designed to serve as contemporary amulets. Found across numerous cultures and rooted in various faiths, amulets have historically served as a type of protective device; carried on the body as a preventative measure against illness and injury. The URCA student and I will be working on modern wearable artworks inspired by this concept of an amulet. These new pieces will reflect on the fact that those who are pre-disposed or diagnosed with a serious medical ailment are subjected to a regular tests and procedures to facilitate the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment processes. The exterior design of each contemporary amulet will be reminiscent of the formal qualities and architectural details found in the religious buildings such as temples, mosques, and cathedrals. These designs will reference notions of reflection, meditation, and contemplation; subjects which often arise in conjunction with illness. Inside each piece, the viewer will be able to see (potentially multiple of) the same ubiquitous health tool. Thus, the proposed contemporary amulet works created during the Spring 2025 URCA semester will address the notion of providing a form of defense and offering hope in the face of illness.

Brief description of student responsibilities?

The URCA student will be building upon their previously established metalsmithing skills, while also learning new skills, to aid in the creation of prototypes and samples/test tiles (as needed) and to assist in the production of the proposed 1 – 3 new wearable artworks. Specific processes that are likely to be utilized (ultimately determined after designs are finalized) will include sawing and piercing, sheet metal construction, enameling, and small-scale casting. The works created during the URCA semester will be detail oriented, so a commitment to craft will be essential. If awarded, applicants will not be expected to know all of these techniques, but they should have a strong foundation in sawing/piercing, a readiness to assist in producing elements that have refined details and are finely crafted, and a willingness to learn new metalsmithing processes as needed.

URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

The student will participate in a creative activities experience by honing their previously established artmaking skills and learning new metalsmithing skills. They will also gain insight into the process of moving from design conception to completion of a work, in a medium in which order of operations is critical. Additionally, the URCA Assistant will gain insight into artist professional practices, including photographing and documentation of artwork, research of exhibition opportunities, information on the actual exhibition application process, and best practices on shipping artwork.

Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours) please indicate all required days and times:

- I can only select students who have availability in the follow windows:
 - M/W/F from 8:30am – 12:00pm
 - T/Th from 8:30am – 10:30am
 - T/Th from 3:00pm – 4:30pm

If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?

- N/A

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

- Students must have taken ART 202G and received an "A" in the course.

Other requirements or notes to applicants:

- None