

College: Arts and Communications
Department/Unit/Discipline: Art
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The obsessive-compulsive disorder of hoarding is a branch of obsessive-compulsive disorders that has not been heavily researched. Through my own experiences with family member's that are at different degrees of hoarding, I have noticed that resources and knowledge for the understanding of this disorder is limited. "By one estimate, one third of adults in the United States collect something, and two thirds of all households have at least one collector in residence" (Frost, 2010). This disorder is widely suffered by people in The United States and needs to retain a better understanding.

I will research the attachment, accumulation, and meaning of objects non-hoarders would typically discard. I will investigate this by going through the routine of a hoarder through artistic processes. I will make three large drawings of spaces within a home. I will then make small drawings and paintings of specific items and sew them onto the surface of the room space. This stacking of objects is a way hoarders spatially organize space that non-hoarders do not completely understand. Also when submerging myself into this process I will mentally be attaching myself to each drawing and painting and therefore be mentally attaching myself to each specific object. During the process of sewing the smaller drawings and paintings onto the surface of the larger drawing I will also become spatially attached to where items belong. Through my investigation I will be documenting the feelings and stories behind the objects and record them physically onto the surface of the drawing itself. By researching this disorder visually I will be able to bring understanding to the mentality and process of this obsessive-compulsive disorder. Along side of my research of hoarding I will also be researching the methods of research-led artistic practices by dissecting the book Art practice as Research by Graeme Sullivan with my mentor.

R1: Good to include reference/citation. The complete bibliography list should be included in the designated section (separate from the body proposal).

R1: Define 'widely' to bolster argument.

R4: I'm not sure what this sentence means.

R1: Project goal stated.

R1: Methodology specified.

R1: Provide a clearer explanation on how you arrive to this conclusion. Is it based on specific references? Personal experiences?

R4: Is there a resource/citations that can be referenced for this kind of phenomenon/art/embodiment study? It would be helpful to have a sense of this connects to arts based research practices.

R3: Not sure how this will be achieved, or how this can achieve the goal

R1: Is this any different from a normal/routine process during an artistic creation or is this more deliberate?

R4: compulsive?

R1: This feels like tagging on a second project onto the first without a clear explanation on why/how and the connection between the first and the second. If this investigation is an inherent part of the creative project, then it should be described and explained earlier in the proposal.

R4: Please include this citation earlier.

R3: Clear objective statement.

R4: Using your objectives in the table below - clearly state your two objectives : lit review, 3 phase art project. Then you need to clearly articulate the goal "art as method to better understand a psycho/social phenomenon? "

R3: The project is feasible, and it is likely that some outcome will be produced, but I'm not sure how the proposed activities are related to the goal

R4: Cite this earlier in the proposal

R1: If this is important to the project then this part of the proposal should be carried at the very beginning of the project to help frame and inform the rest of the work.

Timeline (dates)	Goals and Objectives	Actions:	How Actions Support Goals and Objectives
Goal I literature review and first experiment:			
July 2014-August 2014	First objective: Literature review of <u>Stuff</u> by Randy Frost and Gail Steketee	Read and review book	<u>Stuff</u> is a book that is written by two psychologists and their research of hoarding. This will reinforce my understanding of the disorder
July 2014-August 2014	Second objective: Finish first project	Begin and finish the first drawing/ experiment	This will be the first experiment in understanding this disorder first hand
Goal II continued literature review and second experiment			
September 2014- December 2014	First objective: Literature Review of Art Practice as Research	Read first section of the book and discuss with mentor	This will strengthen my understanding of my projects being a medium of research
September 2014- December 2014	Second objective: Finish second project	Begin and finish the second drawing/ experiment	This will be my continued research in understanding the disorder first hand
Goal III final literature review and third experiment:			

January 2015- February 2015	First objective: Literature Review of Art Practice as Research	Read and discuss second half of book with mentor	This will strengthen my understanding of my projects being a medium of research
January 2015— February 2015	Second objective: Finish third project	Begin and finish the last drawing/ experiment	This will continue my research in the disorder first hand
Goal IV* dissemination of results at UWW Undergrad. Research Day and NCUR/UW-System:			
March 2015- April 2015	First objective: Organize presentation	Organize a PowerPoint presentation	Clearly representing my experimental research to an audience
March 2015- April 2015	Second objective: Organize the display of projects	Figure out the best method to display objects	Clearly representing my experiments in an organized fashion for display will articulate my research clearly

[R4: The table is helpful - need to more clearly articulate these goals in the narrative.](#)

[R2: This project seems to be about "Awareness". The goals and outcomes seem disconnected because the goal, as it is stated, is to understand and organize space like a "hoarder" when the outcome is actually a conceptual representation of those acts. The researcher may be able to project an emotion through the drawings and document her understanding of it. Maybe, it would be a better project, if it were clear that the goal is not a universal understanding, but rather an individual pursuit that will add to greater dialogue of art/theory surrounding this subject.](#)

Evaluation:

- 1) Are project activities and outcomes connected to the stated goals and objectives? **Agree. Partly because of some gaps in the methodology (and rationale thereof), the connection between project activities/outcomes to stated goals/objectives are not as clear as they can be.**
- 2) Project feasibility. How realistic and appropriate is the study for this student in the time available? **Very appropriate.**
- 3) Likelihood of project outcomes. Is the project likely to result in a data set, creative performance, art object, or academic project that can be presented and/or published? **Very likely.**