

## Art in Angling: Teaching Critical Thinking Through Art and Angling Research

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### Abstract:

I will present on a 3-credit hour class I recently developed for Montana State University titled Angling in Art. The class teaches critical thinking skills through the examination of art as it relates to angling. The class is a multi-disciplinary class where students examine Angling from a number of different disciplines and perspectives, and its intersection with the arts. The Art of Angling is the actual art of fishing and the expression of fishing captured in literature and the visual arts. Students will learn the artistry and history of flies and about the connection between the arts and its capturing of the spirit and culture of angling. Students will review the art of angling represented through fly tying, paintings, sculpture, wood carving and the Japanese art of Gyotaku, which the students will practice on various fish caught, using both flies and traditional hand line techniques, during the international portion of the trip in Belize. I will discuss the development of the class, success with similar classes in the past, and the use of both angling and art research to develop critical thinking skills.

### Keywords:

Angling, Critical Thinking, Information Literacy, Angling Art.