

СЕКЦІЯ XXV. КУЛЬТУРА ТА МИСТЕЦТВО

USE OF DISTANCE LEARNING IN NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE

Bratus Amalia

ORCID ID: 0009-0003-1109-0531

Student

National Academy of Visual Arts and Architecture, Ukraine

Exchange student

Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Denmark

Art education is not going through the best of times today. I believe that distance learning brings many problems. It is difficult for an artist to demonstrate many important features of the painting process on the Internet. But starting from 2020, art education in Ukraine received a new reality. First, the epidemic of COVID-19, then the full-scale invasion of Russia became a prerequisite for the restructuring of NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE (NAFAA) education. Artists had to master modern means of education.

At the time of the beginning of the COVID-19 epidemic, I studied at the Kyiv State Art Lyceum named after T.G. Shevchenko. Online education has become a big problem for the school and us. Sometimes the teachers just told us over the phone what to do and we sent photos of the work. Some teachers did not use a computer and had simple non-touch phones. Only later the quality of online education was established in our school and we began to combine it with online education. It was during these times that I visited NAFAA- I learned about the possibilities of admission in the next year. I was impressed that many students worked in the workshops. I understood that NAFAA combines online training with offline classes. I really liked this concept.

In 2021, I entered the first year of NAFAA, majoring in "Scenography and Cinematography". I am glad that I managed to study at the state expense, because I got relatively high marks. For many who pay their money, the question of distance education often arose especially sharply - students asked "what are we paying for?". I was afraid that NAFAA would not offer good options for online learning, because I did not even imagine the amount and quality of the necessary information.

But from the first weeks of study, my fears disappeared – NAFAA teachers made every effort to reach the majority of students. Google Classroom became the main platform where the necessary materials were taught. The schedule was made in such a way that on some days we conducted distance learning, and on some days we had offline classes in the educational buildings of NAFAA. Teachers used Google Meet and Zoom for online lectures and seminars. In the Google classroom, I could watch a lecture and receive an assignment (Fig. 1). I got access to all resources with the help of corporate mail, which has the domain@naoma.edu.ua and is built on the basis of <https://mail.google.com/>. It is very convenient, because Google is the most technological mail in the world today, and every student and teacher immediately receives a great tool for learning.

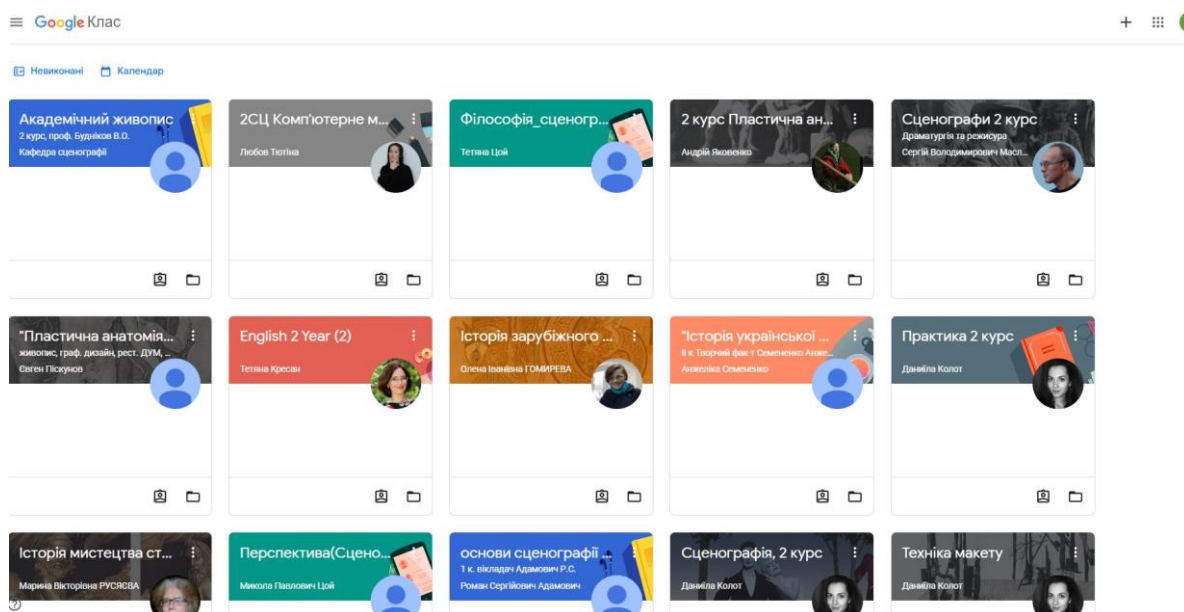


Fig. 1. My Classroom

All assignments from the first course are stored in Classroom, which is very convenient. There, students can see their grades and read teachers' comments and ask questions. All academic subjects and materials are provided in the official Ukrainian language.

During the quarantine, such a system minimized the accumulation of large masses of people (especially at streaming lectures - some couples were at the same time for the entire first course). Hundreds of people would have to be in one auditorium, which could cause a wave of diseases. Many people were sick and were able to work from home or even the hospital (if their condition allowed). Therefore, it was not necessary to complete many tasks after the illness, as it was before. But we did artistic disciplines offline - in the audience. Some of the events were displayed in the Google calendar (Fig. 2).

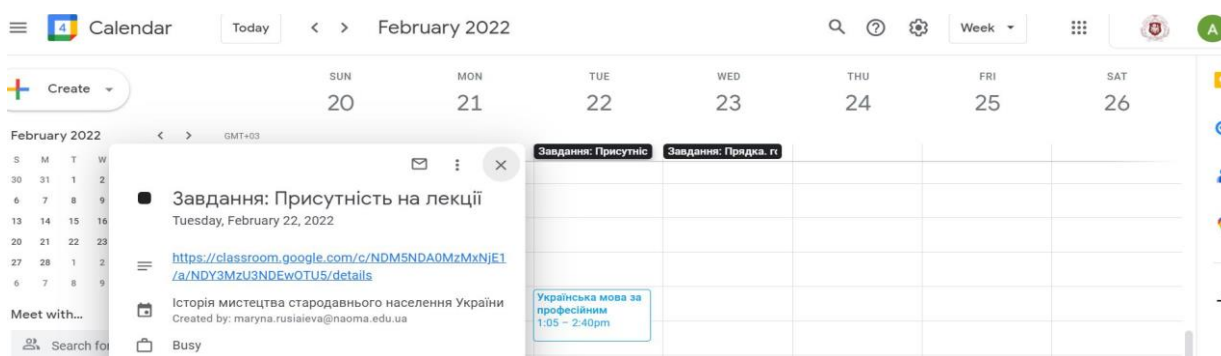


Fig. 2. Google calendar. February 24, 2022 - the beginning of the war

My google calendar saved the week of school when the war started. The first time in Kyiv there was a problem with the organization of training. Some teachers and students left, some found themselves under occupation, some were wounded, some with weapons in their hands began to defend our state from Russian aggression. There was a particular danger in the blocked Mariupol - there was a NAFAA branch.

On March 21, 2022, we were happy to read that "Dear NAFAA family, we are very happy to inform you that the head of the Mariupol Branch of the National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture, Galina Ivanovna Batycho, managed to evacuate from occupied Mariupol" [2]. It was a real miracle - "according to data confirmed by the city authorities, more than 20,000 people died in the destroyed and Russian-occupied Mariupol, Mayor Vadym Boychenko said in

an interview with Radio Liberty... Russian troops occupied Mariupol in May 2022 after bloody battles and a long blockade. During Russia's military invasion of Ukraine, Mariupol was almost completely destroyed by shelling. According to UN estimates, about 90% of high-rise residential buildings and about 60% of private houses in the city have been destroyed or damaged. [3].

From March 2022, NAFAA resumed full training. It all took place in a remote format - the Russian troops were only a few tens of kilometers from NAFAA. The rector issued the relevant order "In connection with the armed aggression of the Russian Federation and the introduction of martial law on the territory of Ukraine in accordance with the Decree of the President of Ukraine dated February 24, 2022 No. 64/2022 "On the introduction of martial law in Ukraine", based on Article 60 of the Code of Laws about the work of Ukraine I ORDER: 1. From March 14, 2022, to introduce remote work for all employees of the National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture. During remote work, the employee independently chooses the place of work, about which he informs his immediate supervisor by means of electronic communication" [4]. Part of the students and teachers defended the walls of NAFAA during this difficult time (Fig. 3.)



Fig. 3. Part of the students and teachers defended the walls of NAFAA (facebook)

I managed to move to Denmark, from where I continued my studies at NAFAA online. Thanks to European support, I was accepted by the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts. Already in the 2022/23 academic year, I studied simultaneously at two higher art institutions. Online learning has proven to be effective even in wartime conditions. The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts is a powerful art educational institution in Denmark. I was surprised that many institutions in Denmark have the word "royal" in their name. In Ukraine, a consequence of Soviet times was that such a word is not used anywhere (more often state, people, national, etc.). The Royal Academy of Arts met me for my Motherland in a difficult hour. And for me, the royal became a symbol of kindness. Kings of kindness - that's how I would call the activities of the Royal Academy of Arts in Copenhagen.

It can be said that online education has prospects even for artists. The epidemics of COVID-19 and the full-scale war with Russia failed to destroy art education in Ukraine. Thanks to modern means of education, distance learning at NAFAA has significant prospects and helps to obtain quality art education in any place of the world.

References:

1. <http://dergartschool.kiev.ua/>
2. <https://naoma.edu.ua/news/14645/>
3. <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/news-mariupol-zahybli/32363334.html>
4. <https://naoma.edu.ua/news/navchannia/nakaz-pro-zaprovadzhennya-dystancijnoyi-roboty/>