Laura Strand

“Artist’s Books as a Teaching Tool”

For me, the physical library card catalog continues to resonate the search for information. In the digital age, that wonderful piece of furniture has been left behind; transiting to a search that is not only faster but also encompasses the vast array of resources within the state university system.  When the library offered me the use of a genuine card catalog with its cards in place, I altered the book arts assignment that forms a quarter of my Introduction to Textiles course. The students were assigned a to create a book as a time based object to discuss the idea of transition.  This book was built on lessons creating samples of bindings, and needed to have the catalog cards themselves as a part of the

overall completed book.

In this presentation, emphasis will be given to evidence of the cross-disciplinary practice students must use to place their own ideas about transition into a physical form.   Honoring the time-based media that defines a book requires sensitivity to building compositions within a series that in sequence transmits information. The demands of this assignment motivates students to ask questions and seek answers utilizing all of their intellectual and art making skills.