

Spring Semester 2011, (01/24/2011-05/02/2011) **ARTS 1101 DRAWING**, sec 005
Regis Center for Art, W270
Monday: 5:30pm-9:30pm
Instructor: Avigail Manneberg
email: amanneberg@umn.edu (email is the best way to contact me).
Office hours: by appointment only

Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.
-Scott Adams, American cartoonist

"The more I draw, the better I see and the more I understand."
-Richard Serra

OVERVIEW OF OBJECTIVES:

Beginning Drawing is a studio art course introducing basic drawing skills and techniques. The foremost objective of this course is to acquaint you with the possibilities and approaches for developing visual ideas through drawing and to provide you with the opportunity to explore and enjoy the process of drawing as a means of self-expression.

Beginning Drawing intends to develop your technical proficiency and visual insight through direct practice. Work will be produced in class with supervision and presented for discussion at class meetings. Independent research will be regularly assigned through weekly homework, and the development of a personal sketchbook, as well as an ongoing research assignment that will culminate in a final project.

You will be expected to develop an understanding of the terminology, approaches, concepts and tools introduced in the course. These will include, but not be limited to:

Line- examination of contour and gesture

Value- dark/light tonalities

Texture and shape- two dimensional surface treatments and the creation of **illusionistic space- Perspective.**

PREPARATION, REQUIREMENTS/PROJECTS:

We will explore the following areas: Still Life, Perspective Drawing, Gesture Drawing, Self-Directed Projects, and Final Project. Most homework assignments will be designed for your drawing pad, rather than your newsprint pad. Please bring all your materials to every class as you may choose to change materials between class exercises. You may store your materials in the class cabinets, or you may rent a locker from the Art Department.

There will be **field trips** to the Walker, MIA and or the Bell Museum as Self-Directed Projects according to class progress.

IN-CLASS WORK, HOMEWORK AND PORTFOLIO:

Weekly homework projects will correlate with in-class work, your ongoing research project or both. Because this class meets once a week, you will be expected to spend a minimum of **six hours** a week on your assignments. Unless instructed otherwise, assignments will be due one week from when assigned. Late work will result in a lowering of your grade for that assignment. All in-class work and homework must be completed and compiled in a portfolio for instructor reviews. **Portfolios will be reviewed both at mid-term and at the end of the semester.** The course has a Moodle website that students can access through the www.myu.umn.edu portal. The Moodle site will have weekly class information, reading assignments as well as a forum for posting your weekly responses to a video which will be graded weekly with no late submission availability.

If you are having difficulty with an assignment, or have any questions about any assignment, please contact me about it ahead of time. Typically, I will answer an email the day you send it. If a schedule conflict arises, please inform me **before** the class meeting.

SKETCHBOOK/JOURNAL:

A sketchbook/journal will be kept in order to provide you a personal site for experimentation and an ongoing reference for the development of your ideas. The sketchbook should be fun and you can approach it any way you want to; however it needs to include (but not be limited to):

- Inspiring words/sentences, ideas from weekly moodle video watching
- Notes made in class, writing in-class critiques
- Writing about paintings you have observed at art museums and galleries
- Occasional assignments to be done in sketchbook
- Clippings and found images to use as reference
- Sketching and generating painting ideas
- Miscellaneous and spontaneous, creative declarations which relate to class

Pages from the sketchbook can be submitted as part of your portfolio; these pages should be labeled and dated.

PORTFOLIO AND CRITIQUES:

There will be two portfolio critiques – at midterm and finals. Please keep all of your drawings safe throughout the semester. The first portfolio will be due at midterm and will be composed of **seven** drawings of your choice, which you feel demonstrate your ability and your progress thus far. The second portfolio will be due on the last day of class and be composed of **ten** pieces of work throughout the semester that show your ability and progress, as well as a final project.

Homework will be critiqued on a weekly basis.

FINAL PROJECT:

The final project will be a research drawing. The subject, the way you investigate it and the way you deal with it visually is up to you. This is to be an ongoing investigation you will present at the end of the semester. You will be working on this project at the end of the course and its development will be largely on your own terms. You will submit a research proposal of 600 words, printed and stapled, on an artist (or two) who will inspire you for your project. This final project is to be based on research and should demonstrate thoughtful inquiry as well as development in your critical thinking skills as well as drawing proficiency.

GRADING STANDARDS:

You will be expected to challenge yourself and show improvement by the end of the semester. You will be graded based upon the amount of effort applied to your work, your ability to generate your own ideas, as well as the technical execution of your drawings. Students should show an interested exploration of the material and an appropriate technique to convey the idea of their choice.

Grading:

Attendance/Participation/Labs (10%)

Moodle video reactions (10%)

In-Class Work (20%)

Assignments (25%)

Midterm Portfolio (15%)

Final Project (20%)

Letter grades for each assignment will be determined as follows:

“A” Superior performance, advanced study, skill development and execution evident

“B” Above average performance, additional work, care and thought evident.

“C” Average performance, adequately fulfills all the requirements of the assignment

“D” Below average performance. Goals attempted but not adequately fulfilled.

“F” Does not fulfill requirements.

“I” (Incomplete)-Extraordinary circumstances (hospitalization, etc.) that prevent a student in good standing from completing the work. *Student must have a note from dean of students or a faculty advisor regarding the circumstances.*

In determining your midterm and final grades I consider:

Improved observational and conceptual skills as demonstrated by drawings

Understanding the visual organization of elements in own drawings and drawings of others

Experimentation and risk-taking within the creative process (personal expression)

Development of critical analysis skills (how you speak about the work within critiques)

In-class work

Out of class assignments

Participation, attitude, effort and attendance

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is critical to your success in this class. Two absences (excused or unexcused) lower your grade, and three absences will drop a grade one letter (an A turns into a B). 5 absences will result in an F grade. **If a class is missed, it is your responsibility to know what was covered and to make up any drawings.**

If you are taking the class for S or N credit, you must not incur more than two absences during the course, or risk an “N” grade.

*Late arrivals and early departures will be counted as ½ absence.

*Late homework assignments must be shown the following week to get credit. After the week passes no credit is received for homework assignments.

DRAWING LABS: Labs are a time when you can work in the drawing studios with assistance from myself or other drawing instructors. **You will be required to attend at least 3 lab** sessions throughout the semester, in addition to regular class times. These are 2 labs that are open to all Art students to attend: a life model lab and an open lab. Make sure to sign in!

Open Lab: Tuesday 5:30pm-7:30pm, room W270

Model Lab: Monday 6-9pm and Saturday 9-12am, room W244

SCHEDULE:

*Please note schedule is subject to changed based on class progress and weather.

1/31- **Introduction**, Review Syllabus, Contour/Gesture drawing, sighting

2/7- **Space:** sighting, measuring, positive and negative space, size and scale

2/14- **Value and Tone:** additive and subtractive methods, value scales, strong contrasts

2/21- **Light, Shadow, Shape in Relation to Subject:** experimenting with mediums and grounds

2/28- **Composition**

3/7- **Midterm Critique, MIDTERM PORTFOLIOS DUE:** Please keep all class work and homework neat, flat, dated and signed (on back) and in order for midterm and final reviews.

3/14- **SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS**

3/21- **Intro to Perspective** guest artist Bly Pope

3/28- **Perspective** Guest artist Rowan Pope presentation

4/4- **Self-Portraits** Guest artist Robin Schwartzman presentation: Imagination/Narrative

4/11- **Intro to The Figure**

4/18- **The Figure**

4/25- **The Figure** Perspective/Foreshortening

5/2- Final project presentation

Finals week- No class