

Moravian College Art Department | Fall 2008

Drawing I | ART 170 B | PM

Room 8 | T & TH | 8:30am - 11:00am | 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Jonathan Narmita | jnarmita@mac.com | 908.385.3778

Art Office | 610.861.1680

*note: this is a working syllabus and is subject to change.

Course Description

This course emphasizes formal development and critical dialogue. The course will focus on technical assignments intended to increase one's ability to manipulate different media. Through regular critiques we will move into formal investigations while allowing you to consider conceptual possibilities and your own personal and historical affinities. Because this is a Drawing I class, concentration will be heavily located in representational exercises intended to advance your skills while developing a more assertive conceptual approach. This class is an intensive look into the depiction of the physical realm and is designed to enable each artist with the basic tools that are necessary for any art you may choose to do later in life. Assignments will be seen in the context of both classical and contemporary artists who are investigating related conceptual and technical terrain.

Art Supplies

An art kit will be distributed in class; the cost will be billed to your student account.

Goals of Course

- Practice and appreciate the creative process in the fine arts.
- Explore and understand the conceptual through the pictorial.
- Demonstrate the knowledge of formal and material elements of drawing.
- Critically analyze art; both classical and contemporary.
- Apply concepts across a variety of disciplines.

Course Requirements

On time attendance for all classes

On time delivery of homework and in class projects

Participation in class discussions and critiques

Sketchbook

*note: you are expected to work a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the scheduled meeting time.

Critiques

Group critiques and discussions will be scheduled throughout the semester. Students are required to participate.

We will have a critique every Tuesday to review homework.

Homework: Unless otherwise noted, you will be expected to do a drawing every week outside of class that represents the previous week's lesson.

***note:** No working from photographs, direct observation only. ALL projects should be created from life models, still life, landscape, etc.

There will be several outside assignments due on specific dates. Due to the sequential nature of the course, all assignments MUST be completed on time with no exceptions. This will definitely affect your grade.

The Sketchbook

Due to the nature of the course material, you will be given weekly sketchbook assignments to experiment, plan, and record. Try to use your sketchbook each day and date each entry. Sometimes you may find a sketch takes you several hours, sometimes, just minutes. The point is to take what you learn in class, personalize it and experiment with it in your sketchbook. Take your sketchbook everywhere you go.

Quality of work is based on:

Completion of projects
Effort and Engagement
Understanding of various concepts
Participation and attendance
Craftsmanship

Some sketchbook brainstorming ideas

- experiment with form and variation
- note quick visual and verbal ideas
- experiment with different techniques, tools, or mediums
- develop an object or an idea through several pages of sketches
- experiment with different compositions; place objects and shapes in different juxtapositions
- record objects through sustained observation
- investigate. make preparatory drawings
- use your sketchbook as a diary or journal, recording your interests and activities
- make comments on artwork (your own and others)
- attach clippings that interest you
- draw from memory
- draw your feelings
- draw from nature
- record your dreams, both visually and verbally
- experiment with new and playful imagery

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory. Each meeting of class is considered a session. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each session. Students arriving 5-20 minutes late for any class are considered tardy. Three tardy arrivals count equal to one unexcused absence.

- Arriving more than 20 minutes late or missing an entire class session is considered an absence.
- Students who do not return to class after break or who leave early will be considered absent.
- Showing up without your supplies is also considered an absence.
- Three unexcused absences may result in your grade being decreased by one whole letter grade. Four unexcused absences is an automatic failure.
- An absence may be excused if there is a medical reason excused by a doctor's note, family emergency or extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control. The determination of whether an absence will be excused is left to the discretion of the instructor.
- Documentation is required for sports. Coach should email a note to instructor confirming matches, meets, departure time for away games, or anything that would require absence from class. Practice is not an excused absence.
- It is the responsibility of the student to ask his or her colleagues what information was missed during an absence and to make up the work missed.

Assignments/Grading:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Studio and homework | 40% |
| Participation in critiques and reading discussions | 30% |
| Sketchbook | 15% |
| Final | 15% |

Grading:

- A: Excellent, outstanding achievement and mastery of skills.
- B: Good – Average attainment – may need some minor improvements in certain areas.
- C: Adequate understanding of essentials – fulfills assignments but lacking in content, effort, and/or skill.
- D: Does not fulfill assignment and exhibits little skill, effort, and thought.
- F: Failure, no credit
- I: Incomplete

Individual meetings will be scheduled mid-term and 2 weeks before the final to assess your strengths and weaknesses. This will allow you ample time to address any issues before a final grade is submitted.

It is the responsibility of the professor to assist the student with the development of each and every segment of the class. The professor should give opinions in a helpful and collaborative manner. It is, however, the responsibility of the student to ask for help when he or she is confused, a misunderstanding exists, or there is simply a question that may hinder the student's development if not addressed. This is a safe environment where learning is the primary goal of both parties. Yet, if the student does not ask questions when help is needed, the professor has no choice but to grade accordingly. Please feel free to meet with me at any moment throughout the course. I am available to meet in person by appointment only. The best way to reach me is through email and/or by calling my cell phone, 908.385.3778.

Cell phones: Must be turned to the silent position. No text messaging, emailing, or Instant messaging during class.

Music: Music may be played in class but no headphones. I speak to the class as a whole at random times and will not compete with your Ipod. Whatever music is brought in has to be cleared with everyone in the class and kept at a reasonable volume.

Food: Please do not eat food in the classroom. You may eat on your break. Appropriate beverages are permitted.

Cleanliness: It is the job of every student to leave the studio better than the way they found it. Disrespecting your environment and those around you implies poor participation and may affect your grade.

Wear appropriate clothing: You will get some kind of art material on everything you bring into the studio. Dress accordingly.

Field Trip: There will be a field trip during the semester (tentative date Friday, November 14). It is mandatory that you attend. An assignment will be given that relates to your in class work prior to that event. You will also be expected to visit a local art show in addition to the mandatory NYC trip.

Course Calendar

- T 8/26:** Introduction, Syllabus review
HW: Purchase sketchbook for Thursday
- TH 8/28:** Still Life Drawing
HW: Observational gesture drawings
- T 9/2: Critique.** Contour Drawing/Blind Contour Drawing
HW: Organic forms
- TH 9/4:** Notional space/Measuring/Scaling
HW: Objects inside notional space
- T 9/9: Critique.** Point to point drawing
HW: Point to point observational studies
- TH 9/11:** Controlling Line/Weight of Line
HW: Dimension through line weight
- T 9/16: Critique.** Exploration of line using various media.
HW: Mixed media observational line studies
- TH 9/18:** Positive/Negative shapes
HW: positive/negative observational drawings

- T 9/23: Critique.** Value. Counter Change. Tonality. Light. Shadow
HW: 9 step value step scale
- TH 9/25:** Creating illusions
HW: 9 step value step scale & the sphere illusion
- T 9/30: Critique.** Drapery & Movement
HW: drapery value studies
- TH 10/ 2:** Zone System. Key System. Creating mood
HW: creating mood using the zone & key systems
- T 10/7: NO CLASS – Fall Break**
- TH 10/ 9: Critique.** Texture. Mark making and meaning.
HW: Research a master mark maker and their meaning.
- T 10/14: Critique.** Landscape. Ideas of texture and composition
HW: 3 levels of space
- TH 10/16:** Landscape. Mixed media texture
HW: Compose landscape using space and mixed media texture
- T 10/21: Critique.** Human Anatomy
HW: contour drawings of hands and feet
- TH 10/23:** The figure in space. Foreshortening.
HW: drawing foreshortened hands and feet (exaggerations) using basic shapes and notional space
- T 10/28: Critique.** Hands and feet in value
HW: Value studies of hands and feet
- TH 10/30:** The full figure. Measuring/Scale/Proportion
HW: drawing the figure based on proportion
- T 11/4: Critique.** Live Model - Gesture
HW: Gesture drawings of the human figure
- TH 11/6:** Live Model – Adding Value
HW: Value studies of the human figure
- T 11/11: Critique.** The human head
HW: Study proportions and relationships of the human head. Self-Portrait studies.
- TH 11/13:** The Self Portrait
HW: Self-Portrait studies (no value)
- T 11/18: Critique.** The Self-Portrait continued
HW: Self-Portrait studies with value
- TH 11/20:** Personal Still Life Final Project: Expectations and planning
HW: Still life setup and studies & complete self-portrait with value

- T 11/25: Critique.** Begin Final Project.
TH 11/27: NO CLASS – Thanksgiving Break
- T 12/2: Critique.** Work on Final Project
TH 12/4: Work on Final Project
- T 12/9: Critique. Final Projects due.**
HW: Make changes to final project for submission during final critique
TH 12/11: NO CLASS – Classes end on 12/10
- T 12/16: Final Critique - Individual**
TH 12/18: Final Critique – Individual (If needed)

Students with disabilities or special needs

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the office of learning services.

Academic Honesty Policy

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses that erode the academic environment. Moravian College and the Department of Visual Arts will condone NO form of plagiarism- Defined as the use of another’s words, ideas, visual or verbal material as one’s own without proper permission or citation. Each student has the responsibility to make sure they have a clear understanding of this important issue and how it applies to a studio class and their imagery. This includes material found on the Internet.

Students who violate the standards of academic honesty face serious disciplinary consequences, including referral before the honor council and/or immediate course failure.

Local art supply stores

*note: bring your student IDs with you. Some may offer a student discount.

Art & Drafting Connection, Westgate Mall, Bethlehem, PA, 610.882.0533

A.C. Moore, 2633 MacArthur Rd., Whitehall, PA, 610.264.4003

Dick Blick, 3152 Lehigh St., South Mall, Allentown, PA, 610.965.6051