

Moravian College
ART 270 Section B Drawing II
Monday/Wednesday 1pm-3pm
Room:
Spring 2009
Office hours: M/W
Art Office:
Instructor: Aron Johnston
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Course Description:

This course emphasizes formal development and critical dialogue. The course will focus on technical assignments intended to increase ones 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 II 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.

Text:

Assorted handouts and reading materials will be assigned though out the semester. A textbooks will not be required.

Course Goals:

Developing conceptual understanding through the pictorial.
Knowledge of the formal and material elements of Drawing.
Critical analysis of art and its intention.
Understanding the persuasiveness of images.
Introducing a critical framework for thinking and looking at images with increased attention to emerging media and new technologies.

Course requirements-

On time attendance for all classes
On time delivery of homework and in class projects
A minimum of 6 hrs work outside of class
Participation in class discussions and critiques
Readings, quizzes and papers.
Sketchbook
Field Trip (date: _____)

Homework- 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 absolutely affect your grade. You are expected to work a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the scheduled meeting time.

Critiques- Critiques will be held on Mondays at the beginning of class to look at your work, homework or projects from the previous week. In addition to reading assignments and outside studio work, you are expected to be regularly involved in critiques, and document your work in slide/digital form at the end of the semester. Missing a critique is equivalent to missing an exam and will affect your grade accordingly.

Sketchbook- due to the nature of the course material, you will be given weekly sketchbook assignments to experiment, plan, and record. Try to use it each day and date each entry. Sometimes you may find that 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 it with you everywhere you go. Find a book that suits your personality; something you want to have on you at all times. Be fetishistic about it. It should become your best friend. A place to develop ideas, record thoughts . . . it should become a visual diary of your life and something that you will be able to return to again and again for inspiration or previously thought, but never carried out, projects. Can you tell I think this is important? Also, you will be graded on this and you must have it in class with you at all times. If it is missing it will be marked against you.

Assignments / Grading

Studio and Homework	30%
Participation in critiques, and reading discussions	30%
Readings, papers and quizzes	10%
Sketchbook	15%
Final	15%

Quality of work is based on

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

Grading-

Due to the volume of material to be covered, it is essential you be in class every class (unless an excuse has been presented and permitted), have completed the homework, and are prepared to fully engage in class discussion. This is a secure space where every idea, comment or question will be addressed with respect.

You will be graded on participation, intent, creativity, and technique. Work that is truly exceptional and moves beyond expectation will be graded in the A range. Work that is interesting and moves beyond average will be graded in the B range and work that exhibits good / average quality will be within the C range. 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 (i.e. the professor is not a mind reader and will assign a grade based on the criteria above). Please feel free to meet with me at any moment throughout the course. I have posted office hours but am also available by appointment.

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

Cell Phones- must be turned to the Silent position.

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... it just happens.

Disability- Any student with documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with me during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities should also contact Disabled Student Services.

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 session are considered tardy. Three tardy counts equal one un-excused 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 one whole letter. Four un-excused absences is automatic failure.

-An absence may be excused if there is a medical reason, 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.

-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.

Academics Honesty (issues of plagiarism)

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. Any and all image appropriation needs to be discussed with the professor prior to usage. 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.

Syllabus

01/19: *Intro, syllabus review. HW- still life drawing*

- 01/21: Still life drawing Critique. Slide discussion. Written still life understanding language of a still life
- 01/26: GROUP 1 Critique. Spatial elements: Shallow- Dry. Bright
HW- still life and identity
- 01/28: Timed drawings, still life: contours open closed
- 02/2: GROUP 2 defining the elements of space general to specific
- 02/4: Spatial elements: Depth- Cavernous. Dark. Echo. HW- 3 different levels of space
- 02/09: GROUP 3 Critique. Balance: Symmetrical- Quiet. Insecure. Plush.
- 02/11: Balance: Asymmetrical- Nervous. Edgy. Raw. HW- balance- asymmetrical or symmetrical
- 02/16: GROUP 4 Critique. Shape- Harsh. Wild
- 02/18: Introduction of midterm project selection. HW- collage using adjectives.
- 02/23: timed drawing and skill building Value: Muted/ Compressed
- 02/25: Sustained still life,
- 03/02: **spring break**
- 03/04: **spring break**
- 03/09: Individual Critique. (1&3) Exploration of line.: Mechanical- Cold. Steely..
- 03/11: Individual Critiques (2&4) Mid-Term due. Exploration of line.: Calligraphic. Lyrical. Fluid. Serpentine. HW- Line
- 03/16: Midterm Critique. Rhythm/ movement- Bold. Aggressive. Forceful
- 03/18: Midterm critiques Texture. Mark making and meaning. Hairy. Course. Scratchy. HW- Mark Making
- 03/23: landscape conte ideas of texture and composition.
- 03/25: landscape conte Interior. HW- Landscape.
- 03/30: Critique. Proposal for final project due.
- 04/01: Self-portraits. HW- Draw hands and feet. Opening faculty show
- 04/25: Figure- Gesture.
- 03/27: Figure. HW-portrait of drawing partner.
- 04/01: Critique. Figure.
- 04/06: Figure
- 04/08: Figure.
- 04/13: Figure. HW- Begin final. 3 x 4 ft.
- 04/15: work on final
- 04/20: work on final crit in class
- 04/22: work on final
- 04/27: Final critique- individual.
- 04/29: Final critique. All assignments due... also extremely interesting conversation and delicious snacks.

*** Note: this is a working syllabus subject to change.**

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