

MORAVIAN COLLEGE  
DRAWING 1 (Art 170)  
SYLLABUS / FALL 2011

INSTRUCTOR: Michael Burmeister  
DAYS / TIME / CLASSROOM: M-W / 6:30 - 9:00 pm/Room 9  
E-MAIL:  
OFFICE HOURS: Before or after class (by appointment)  
CELL:

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course serves as an introduction to the theory and application of drawing as it applies to the creation of pictorial space. Students will be guided through a series of weekly and bi-weekly projects in visual expression. These projects will introduce them to the formal elements of drawing: line, shape, value, color, and space, as well as many conceptual possibilities. This course is an introductory level drawing class, therefore we will focus largely on representational art making from objects, interiors/exterior, and spaces physically seen. Lastly, drawing is a very flexible avenue in the Arts, hence there will be many opportunities for exploration both in media and the physicality of the object itself.

**COURSE GOALS:**

- To advance one's representational drawing skills.
- To realize the conceptual through the pictorial.
- To promote visual thinking.
- To introduce a critical framework for thinking about and looking at art.
- To develop a knowledge of drawing's formal and material elements.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Students are required to work a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of class.
- Students are required to actively use their sketchbooks to develop their skills.
- Students are required to be on time for all classes.
- Students are required to be engaged in class discussions and critiques.
- Students are required to attend the department field trip.

**HOMEWORK:** As stated above, you will be expected to put six hours (at a minimum!) of work into your sketchbook assignments, readings, and studio work outside of class. Getting behind WILL be a problem for you in terms of your grade and your work. All assignments must be completed on time - there are no exceptions unless otherwise discussed with me. Pay attention to your course outline and don't lose it!

**SKETCHBOOKS:** Sketchbook assignments (SA's) will go hand-in-hand with Homework Assignments (HW's). These assignments could take a few minutes or an hour, so remember the amount of time dedicated to a sketch should be based on your level of achievement. You will be asked to make preliminarily sketches and "official sketches" for an assignment, but I would also like you to feel the sketchbook is there for doodles, musings, and loose ideas about anything. It should be the thing to write and draw into....have it with you at each class. You will be graded for the work done in your sketchbook.

**TEXTBOOK:** Drawing 1 students are required to purchase the textbook. Textbooks are available in the Moravian bookstore. Textbook: *Drawing Essentials: A guide drawing from observation* by Deborah Rockman. Readings will be assigned throughout the course of the term.

**ATTENDANCE:** All students must attend all classes. Your final grade will be influenced by how well you prepare for class, your work during class time, and participation in critiques and discussions. Work that is late due to illness, or other emergencies, will not be penalized. An excused absence is one confirmed by a note from the Dean's Office, Student Services, the Learning Center, or verified with a doctor's note (upon your return to class). Without some form of written excuse you will receive an unexcused absence. Documentation is required for all sports. Your coach, or you, should e-mail me ahead of time for anything that would require your absence from class. Students, not the professor, are responsible for obtaining assignments given on a day when class is missed.

The following also count as unexcused absences:

- After the third arrival to class more than 10 minutes late
- Failure to bring supplies to class
- Leaving class early unless otherwise discussed with professor

After the second unexcused absence, the student's final grade will be dropped by one full letter grade.

After the third unexcused absence, the student will receive a failing final grade.

This attendance information is Art Department policy and will be strictly enforced.

**GRADING:** Each project must be successfully completed in order to receive credit for the course. Grades on individual projects will be based on: work done both in and out of class, meeting the project's objectives, level of achievement, creativity and imagination, craftsmanship, and presentation. Class participation and attendance are major considerations when assigning grades. How well you prepare for class, work during class, and active participation in critiques and discussions will influence your grade.

Studio projects & homework assignments	50%
Sketchbook, quizzes, & NYC/Brooklyn Rail response paper(s)	20%
Attendance, work ethic in class, & class participation	20%
Final project	10%

Grades are a simple way to evaluate submitted work. They are not a reflection of your personal worth or promise as an artist. Grades should never be taken personally. If you are not happy with your grade, ask me why you received the grade you did and what you can do differently in the future. All graded assignments may be resubmitted. If you choose to rework them, you have two weeks to do so. Lastly, I will not be focusing on grading each project promptly and returning projects graded at the next class. There is a flow and pace to the class, so I am more interested in your development and implementation of methods. Grades will be given out every couple of weeks.

#### **CRITERIA FOR GRADES ARE DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS:**

##### A: Superior

- Exceeding requirements of the assignment, showing independent resourcefulness
- Highly beneficial to the overall class environment, a positive addition to class
- Continually pushing and developing one's work and ideas

##### B: Good

- Meeting requirements of assignments
- Beneficial to class
- Shows signs of progress, responds positively to criticism, and changes accordingly

##### C: Average

- Barely meeting requirements of instructor
- Showing little sign of progress and rarely responds to criticism

D: Below average, yet passing  
-Not meeting requirements of instructor

I: Incomplete  
-Only given in extreme circumstances

**DISABILITIES:** Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should speak with me during the first two weeks of class. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the office of Learning Services. All discussions will remain confidential.

**MATERIALS LIST:** Students will be provided with all materials required for this class. The cost of materials will be billed to each student's Moravian account. You may find that you want to add to your materials, but this must be done on your own time and at your own expense. I can discuss with you any additional materials you may want to purchase - just ask!

SUPPLIERS:                 Dick Blick Art Materials  
                                  South Mall  
                                  3152 Lehigh Street  
                                  Allentown, PA 18103  
                                  Phone: 610-791-7576

Area art supply stores may give a 10% student discount. Bring your student I.D.

**CRITIQUES:** Toward the end of each project there will be an entire class critique. The critiques are intended for you to respond to your peers' work and to your own. It is not a platform for me to speak solely, everyone is to be involved. Learning to analyze one's own work and the work of others is an extremely important skill for any student to develop. ATTENDANCE AT ALL CRITIQUES IS MANDATORY. Again, if you are absent without a doctor's excuse or written documentation from student services, your grade will be negatively affected.

LECTURES and TRIPS:

Date for Bus Trip: November 11th  
Response paper: November 28th

**PAPERS:** I must receive your response papers as hard copies, **not** as email attachments. Papers will receive a grade, and count toward your overall grade - do your very best! Not handing in a paper will negatively affect this portion of your grade. These papers are intended to offer you a space to share your ideas and viewpoint. There is no need for plagiarism from a catalog, magazine, book, or web resource. It's easy to read a change in your speaking and writing style, and enter the world of plagiarism.

**STUDIO:** Students are responsible for the studio (Room 9) and equipment. Please get into the habit of cleaning up after yourself at the end of each work session. Turn cell phones to the "silent" position before class begins. No TEXTING during class! Text during break. Texting will negatively affect the class participation portion of your grade. You may drink (non-alcoholic beverages) in class: coffee, soda, but you may not bring your dinner to class. A snack is fine, a steak is not. Bring in old clothes for rags and studio attire. Have a second set of studio shirts, pants, and shoes! All of these items should and will get dirty. Don't let D&G hold you back from making greatness.

**SAFETY PROCEDURES:**

1. Please wear the appropriate clothing to class, art materials will unfortunately always find a way of getting onto your clothes.
2. Spray paint, aerosol glues, and fixatives are extremely flammable. Don't use these products near an open flame and if you are going to use these at home, spray outside or wear a high-quality respirator.
3. Only use aerosols in the spray booths provided in the studios or outside.
4. Turn on the spray booth first and follow the instructions on the can. Avoid breathing these vapors as they are a health hazard. After the work has dried, discard scrap papers in the metal cans provided. When finished, turn off spray booth and store spray cans in fireproof metal cabinet with other flammable supplies.
5. Report any unusual incident with materials, tools or equipment immediately to the instructor and to the College Health Center, 610-861-1567 (evenings, to Campus Safety Office, 610-861-1421).