

## Moravian College Studio Art

Course number and title: ART 270 Drawing 2 Section A

Semester: Spring 2013

Meeting time and location: 9am – 11:30am Tues / Thurs

Instructor: Matthew Shelley

Office Hours: Before or after class by appointment only

Instructor contact: email: shelleym@moravian.edu / matthewgshelley@gmail.com

### Course Description:

This class will cover intermediate drawing practices and introduce the basic theories commonly associated with the medium. Our coursework will expand on the methods learned in Drawing 1, while building a sense of conceptual awareness through content driven exercises and projects. Demonstrations, studio practice, and group critique will solidify formal techniques, and prepare students for advanced study in drawing. This class is designed to improve representational skills, while also providing a framework to understand drawing from a conceptual and contemporary perspective. As studio exercises build new drawing skills, class critique and discussion will examine the practice as a tool for communication, thought, and problem solving.

Additionally, this class is about learning to use the formal elements introduced in Drawing 1 simultaneously in a way that support the artwork's objectives. In some cases it will be up to individual students to select and use the formal elements that seem appropriate based on the subject in a given lesson. It is expected that students have the ability to make informed decisions regarding their work and develop it from an informed perspective. This class shares a fair amount of overlap with the curriculum that was introduced in Drawing 1. Drawing 2 involves harnessing those ideas and learning to use them in conjunction with one another in a way that re-enforces the artwork's final outcome.

### Course materials:

This course uses an art kit, which includes all materials needed for in class projects as well as take home assignments. Occasional reading will be given in the form of hand-outs and excerpts from the class textbook. The ability to participate in class discussion on these readings will impact the final participation grade.

### Course Goals:

- To advance technical drawing skills
- To develop skills in composition and design
- To increase visual literacy and vocabulary
- To analyze artwork and exercise critical thought
- To understand historical and contemporary context

### Course Requirements:

- Students are required to work a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of class
- Students must be prepared, ready to work, and focused at all times
- Students must engage coursework directly at all times with strict adherence to lesson objectives
- Students are required to participate in class discussion and critique
- Students are required to attend the art department field trip

### Attendance:

The Art Department established this department-wide attendance policy to apply to students in all art classes. For classes that meet twice a week (most full-unit studio courses, most day art history classes): After the second unexcused absence, final grade will be dropped by one full letter. After the fourth unexcused absence, students will receive a failing final grade.

### Absences:

Excused absences are given at the sole discretion of the Professor. An excused absence is one confirmed by a note from the Dean's Office, Student Services, the Learning Center, or verified with an off campus doctor's note (within 24 hours of illness). Death in family should be confirmed with Student Services. 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. Job interviews or doctor's/dentist's appointments are not to be scheduled during class.

### Missing Portions of the Class:

The following count as unexcused absences

- More than 15 minutes late for class
- Failure to bring supplies to class
- Failure to return from break
- Leaving class half an hour or more early
- Being tardy more than 3 times. Tardiness: being 5 to 15 minutes late for class
- If you are late or absent, it is your responsibility (not the professor's) to find out what you missed and to catch up in a timely manner.

### Participation:

Participation will make up a significant portion of the final grade in this course. A total of 25 points, out of the final 100, will be awarded based on participation. Participation points are earned by attention to course goals and actively focusing on lesson objectives at all times. Participation means that students are focused on the current lesson and applying that lesson to the best of their ability. Students should be able to locate and discuss their aims at all times, and state clearly how those aims apply to the current lesson. This requires that students act strategically and with purpose, working to absorb course content at all times. Points will not be earned based on technical achievement, but through an understanding of the principles and the skills introduced in each lesson. If students cannot provide adequate explanation as to how their work reflects the goals of the current lesson participation points will suffer. Homework assignments (sketchbooks and independent projects) will be graded under similar criteria, but with a greater emphasis on technical proficiency.

### Group Discussion:

Class discussion involves final critique and daily conversation. Discussion points are earned by contributing valid ideas in both the final critique and in daily conversation. Students should be comfortable addressing their work and the work of their peers. Students need to be active members of the conversation at all times, and see that their statements utilize the concepts and vocabulary covered throughout the semester. Conversations need to remain productive and respectful at all times.

\*Note: Participation relates to the drawings students make, and how accurately they reflect the course material. Discussion relates to the ideas that students put forth during critique and class conversation.\*

### Sketchbooks:

Students will be required to keep a sketchbook of organized assignments outside of class. Sketchbooks provide students with an opportunity to slow the drawing practice down, make organized decisions, and focus on technical accuracy. Sketchbook assignments will cover material similar to the lessons introduced in class. All sketchbook assignments need to be done from direct observation only (no photographic references). The criteria for sketchbooks will be outlined in a separate hand-out. Sketchbooks will be collected four times throughout the semester. After each collection sketchbooks will be returned with a grade of 0 – 5 points. After all 4 collections are complete sketchbooks represent 20% of the final grade. During weeks when independent projects are assigned students will be excused from working in sketchbooks. This should be clearly documented by recording dates and assignments in sketchbooks.

### Independent Projects:

These assignments are to be done out of class and give students the opportunity to work at a slower pace and focus on implementing the lessons covered during class demonstrations. Most independent projects will include guidelines for students to follow, although some will be free choice assignments. Independent projects are an opportunity for students to demonstrate the skills practiced in class and execute artwork with precision and craft. Presentation is a factor and it is expected that projects are carefully finished and ready for grading and critique. Unless stated otherwise, all projects should be created from live models, still life, landscape, etc. No Photographs; direct observation only.

### New York City Field Trip:

On April 5<sup>th</sup> all students will travel to New York City for a gallery / museum tour. A five-paragraph paper will be assigned as a response to the field trip. The paper is a basic report of museum activities and should consist of an introduction, a body (description of 1 to 3 artworks), and a conclusion. This assignment will contribute 5 points to the final grade. More information about the trip will be distributed prior to the trip, and look for emails from the Art Office with itineraries, bus assignments, and additional trip info. There will be an alternative trip on a weekend date to be announced for those unable to attend the April 5 trip.

### Reading:

Occasional short readings may be distributed. The material covered will be a part of class discussion and will contribute to your group discussion grade. There will be no written response for readings and the material will not appear on the mid-term or final quiz.

### Mid-Term and Final Quiz:

The mid-term and final quiz will consist of short answer questions regarding vocabulary and concepts covered during class exercises. Students will be issued a study guide to prepare for each quiz.

### Grading:

There are a total of 100 points in this class. All points will be added up and applied to the standard numeric grading scale. For example, class participation accounts for 25 points, or 25% of the final grade. Class points will be applied as follows.

Class participation = 25 points

Class discussion = 10 points

Sketchbook = 20 points

Independent projects = 20 points

Mid-term quiz = 10 points

Final quiz = 10 points

Digital portfolio = 5 points

\*No late assignments will be accepted\*

### Assignment Grading:

- Class participation: (does the artwork produced reflect the lesson plan?)  
Non-participatory = 0 - 10, Low quality = 10, Acceptable = 15, High Quality = 20, Exceptional = 25
- Group Discussion: (are comments firmly connected to course concepts?)  
On a scale of 1 – 10 points questions and comments were insightful and utilized class concepts and vocabulary
- Sketchbooks: (is the sketchbook organized and of high technical quality?)  
Unacceptable work = below 5, Low quality = 5, Acceptable = 10, High Quality = 15, Exceptional =

20

- Independent Projects: (Does the work reflect class concepts / is the work ready for presentation?)  
Each independent drawing is worth 5 points and will be rated on a scale of 1 – 5 based on clarity of purpose and effort put forth.
- Mid-term and final quiz: (are definitions for vocabulary and concepts correct?)  
10 questions each worth 1 point.
- Digital Portfolio: (is the work properly photographed and presented professionally?)  
one CD of work, 10 images, worth 5 points.

\*Instructor reserves the right to apply qualitative judgment to these assignments\*

### Saving and Disposing of Artwork / Digital Portfolio:

Students should save examples of their work from all classes (particularly beginning studio classes) for the sophomore review. The dept. requires a CD of each student's entire portfolio at the end of the semester for assessment purposes. This CD contributes to 5 points of the final grade. Drawings will also be collected and photographed by the instructor to document class progress. A demonstration on how to photograph artwork will be given.

### Disability:

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support at 1307 Main Street, or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

### 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. 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.

Cheating on exams or quizzes will not be tolerated and will result in a 0 or F. Written assignments are designed to engage students with material covered in class through visual participation and personal reaction. Papers must be your own thoughts, impressions and reactions. The Internet can provide valuable source material, but you must participate by visiting the artwork yourself, in person, and offering your own viewpoint. Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated. Be aware that I am very familiar with art websites, such as the Metropolitan Museum's, when you write your papers.

Class Schedule: Drawing 2: Spring Semester  
\*Class dates and lessons subject to change\*

Week 1:

\*January 14 Spring Semester begins\*

Jan 15: Introductions: Class syllabus, materials and warm up drawing.

Jan 17: Review: Students begin semester with an accelerated review of drawing 1 concepts: Line, gesture, visual overlap, and measurement (still life w/ any medium)

HW: Sketchbook 6 hrs: 6 free choice drawings

\*Jan 17: Payne Gallery reception for Constance Garrow Diamond *Sustainability in Painting*\*

Week 2:

\*Jan 21: MLK Day: No classes, offices open\*

Jan 22 - 24: Positive / negative space: Lessons in positive / negative space with special emphasis on composition (still life w/ any medium)

HW: Sketchbook 4 hrs: 4 still life drawings + handout reading artist interview (take notes in sketchbook)

Week 3:

Jan 29 - 31: Focal points / hierarchy: Still life exercise with emphasis on focal points, hierarchy and compositional strategies.

HW: Independent Project #1: Still life in graphite with focus on class review ( Line, gesture, visual overlap, measurement, positive / negative space, focal point, hierarchy, and COMPOSITION) due Tuesday, Feb 5<sup>th</sup>

Week 4:

\* Feb 5: Sketchbook collection 1 / Independent Project #1 due\*

Feb 5 – 7: 3 and 4-point perspective / planar analysis: Exercises in advanced perspective lend new clarity to planar analysis. (figure drawing w/ any medium).

HW: 6 hrs sketchbook: Six 3-point perspective drawings from still life in graphite.

Week 5:

Feb 12 – 14: Planar analysis / value: Lessons explore planar analysis by using other formal elements such as value to communicate planar shifts. (figure drawing w/ any medium)

HW: Sketchbook 6 hrs: Three 2 hour master copies from Cezanne in graphite

\*Study guide for mid-term quiz\*

Week 6:

\*Feb 19: Quiz and Critique: Mid-term quiz vocabulary and short answer (10 points)\*

Feb 19: Group discussion / Mid-term critique (4 to 6 pieces / student). Possible still life session.

Feb 21: Open Session: Single session still life drawing reviews course material from weeks 1 – 6 (any medium).

HW: Sketchbook 6 hrs: 6 open free choice drawings in any medium

\*Feb 21: Payne Gallery reception for Karl Stirner *Transformations*\*

Week 7:

Feb 26 – 28: Color / value / pictorial depth: Figure drawing with conte crayon explores how color, line weight, and value contribute to pictorial depth.

HW: Independent Project # 2: One 3 or 4-point perspective still life in graphite w/ value and focal point. Due Tuesday, March 12.

Week 8:

\*March 2 through March 11 off for Spring Break\*

Week 9:

\*March 12: Sketchbook Collection 2 / Independent Project #2 due\*

March 12 – 14: Texture: Still life drawings focus on how texture impacts pictorial depth (graphite powder / charcoal / pencil / graphite crayon)

HW: Sketchbook 6 hrs: 2 master copies in graphite (2 hrs each) + handout reading artist interview (take notes in sketchbook).

Week 10:

March 19 – 21: Painting / drawing / value / line: Figure drawing w/ ink wash explores the relationship between painting, drawing, value, and line with emphasis on gestural mark and expression.

HW: Sketchbook 6 hrs. 6 Still life drawings w/ ballpoint pen.

Week 11:

March 26 -28: Addition / reduction: Figure drawing w/ ink wash, ballpoint pen, and white out look at how focal points can be emphasized or reduced.

HW: Independent Project #3: 6 hour mixed media drawing. Due Tuesday, April 2.

\*March 29: Good Friday – no classes\*

Week 12:

\*April 1: Easter Monday no day classes (evening classes are held)\*

\*April 2: Sketchbook Collection 3 / Independent Project #3 due\*

April 2 – 4: Abstraction / representation / form / function: Students depart from strict representation to explore how a subject's "real world" operation can be captured through drawing. (still life w/ any medium)

HW: Sketchbook 6 hrs: 6 still life drawings (any medium).

\*April 5: New York Trip (see handout)\*

Week 13:

\*April 9: NYC paper due\*

April 9 – 11: Open Session: Landscape drawings are used to practice class concepts (any medium)

HW: Sketchbook 6 hrs: 4 landscape drawings / 2 studies for independent project #4

Week 14:

\*April 14 Payne Gallery – Senior Thesis Exhibition opening (afternoon)\*

April 16 – 18: Open Session: Still Life drawings are used to practice class concepts (any medium).

HW: Independent Project #4: Open assignment: Any subject / any media that applies to course work.

Due Thursday, April 25.

Week 15:

\*April 23: Sketchbook Collection 4 / Independent Project #4 / Digital Portfolios due\*

April 23: Final Critique (Group A). Presentation of portfolios and projects. Each student is provided with 15 – 20 minutes of peer and instructor critique. Students should be prepared to talk about their work practicing the vocabulary and concepts introduced this semester.

April 25: Final Critique (Group B). Same as above.

\*April 26: Classes end\*

Week 16:

April 30: Individual Critique (Group A). Individual 20 minute reviews.

May 2: Individual Critique (Group B). Individual 20 minute reviews

\*Portfolio Collection during individual critiques\*