

## Moravian College Studio Art

Course number and title: ART 270 Drawing 2

Semester: Spring 2014

Meeting time and location: 1:15 – 3:45pm 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: 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.

### Vocabulary, Concepts, and Group Discussion:

This class involves specific vocabulary and concepts that need to be applied by students on a daily basis. Vocabulary and drawing concepts will be outlined in regular handouts. It is absolutely vital that students study these handouts and apply it directly to coursework. Class critique will happen on a regular basis and students are expected to contribute to the conversation. The expectation for this discussion will be reasonable, but students should be capable of utilizing class concepts and vocabulary.

\*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. Each week students will be responsible for 6 homework drawings. Depending on the week, drawings will be either free choice, or have a theme assigned to them. Sketchbooks will be collected 4 times throughout the semester. Each collection is worth 5 points. Ultimately, sketchbooks will contribute 20 points total, or 20% of the final grade. During weeks when independent projects are given students will be excused from working in sketchbooks. This should be clearly documented by recording dates and assignments in sketchbooks. Students are responsible for maintaining an ordered sketchbook, with clear dates and assignment details. I use these dates when grading and rely on them to keep a record of work done both inside, and outside of the sketchbook. Sketchbook grades will suffer if assignment dates are not clearly marked and work is not legible. Your sketchbook is a tool for recording the work that you do outside of class and should reflect your research and study of drawing.

### 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 4<sup>th</sup> all students will travel to New York City for a gallery / museum tour. Drawing 270 will visit the MET and the Whitney Biennial. A five-paragraph paper will be assigned as a response to the field trip. The paper will be based on a single painting or drawing on observed during the trip. 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 the Vocabulary, Concepts, and Group Discussion grade. There will be no written response for readings and the material will not appear on the mid-term or final quiz.

### Quiz 1 and Quiz 2:

We will have two quizzes this semester. Each will consist of 20 vocabulary and short answer questions. Students will be given a study guide to prepare for each quiz. Terms and definitions will be taken from the textbook glossary.

### 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 = 20 points

Class discussion = 10 points

Sketchbook = 20 points

Independent projects = 20 points

Quiz 1 = 10 points

Quiz 2 = 10 points

NYC paper = 5 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 it reflect class concepts / is it 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 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.

### Expected Credit Hours for Drawing 170:

Class Time (excluding holiday breaks) = 70 hours

Readings and Homework = 91 hours

On campus gallery receptions = 3 hours

Field Trip = 10 hours

Total expected credit hours = 174 Hours

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

Week 1:

\*January 13 Spring Semester begins\*

Jan 14: Introductions: Class syllabus, materials, and conversation.

Jan 16: Research assignment: Students independently locate 10 drawing influences. See Handout

\*Jan 16: Payne Gallery Opening - EAT Experiments in Art and Technology\*

HW: 6 sketchbook drawings

Week 2:

\*Jan 20: MLK Day: No classes, offices open\*

\*January 21: Research assignment due / class discussion\*

Jan 21 - 23: Review: Students begin semester with a accelerated review of drawing 1 concepts: Line, gesture, visual overlap, and measurement (still life w/ any medium). Class discussion / slide show on the principles of composition.

HW: 6 sketchbook drawings

Week 3:

\*Quiz #1: Vocabulary and short answer 20 questions worth ½ point each\*

\*Sketchbook collection #1\*

Jan 28 - 30: 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:

\*Independent Project #1 due\*

Feb 4 – 6: Spatial thinking and visualization. 3 and 4-point perspective / advanced planar analysis: Constructing space and shapes with advanced perspective lend new clarity to planar analysis.

HW: 6 Sketchbook drawings

Week 5:

Feb 11 – 13: Open figure drawing session: Essential principles in figure drawing / advanced anatomy with group review. Class discussion on key questions for critiquing work.

HW: 6 sketchbook drawings / prepare for midterm critiques

Week 6:

Feb 18: Group discussion / Mid-term critique (4 to 6 pieces / student).

Feb 20: Group discussion / still life drawing: Developing ideas, resolving problems, and evaluating results.

HW: 6 Sketchbook drawings

Week 7:

Sketchbook Collection #2

Feb 25: Color / value / pictorial depth: Drawing classroom interior w/ color, line weight, and value contribute to pictorial depth.

Feb 27: Drawing single still life object at close range w/ color, line weight, and value contribute to pictorial depth.

HW: Independent Project #2

Week 8:

\*March 1 through March 9 off for Spring Break\*

Week 9:

\*Independent Project #2 Due\*

March 11: Narrative: Still life exercise creating narrative across multiple frames at several scales.

March 13: Suggesting narrative within a single frame with a self designed still life.

\*March 13: Faculty Show Payne Gallery – mandatory attendance\*

HW: 6 sketchbook drawings

Week 10:

March 18 – 20: Abstraction: Increasing scale in a single object to generate a non-objective image. Class discussion on the link between material, handling, and subject.

HW: 6 sketchbook drawings

Week 11:

March 25 -27: Open figure drawing session: Figure drawing to review class concepts.

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

Week 12:

\*Sketchbook Collection #3\*

April 1 – 3: Abstraction / invention: Negative space and repeating pattern turn an observed subject into an abstract image to challenge representation and figure ground relationships.

HW: Independent Project #3

\*April 4: New York Trip (see handout)\*

\*Last day to withdraw\*

Week 13:

\*April 9: NYC paper due\*

April 8 – 10: Figure and environment: Figure drawing session with added emphasis on describing the environment that contains the form.

HW: 6 sketchbook drawings

\*April 11: Sophomore Review\*

\*April 12: Presidents Inauguration\*

Week 14:

\*April 13 Payne Gallery – Senior Thesis Exhibition opening (afternoon) – mandatory attendance\*

April 15 – 17: Open Session: Still Life drawings are used to practice class concepts (any medium). Class discussion on self generated problems, influences, and finding creative solutions.

HW: Independent Project #4:

\*April 18: Good Friday no classes\*

Week 15:

\*April 21: Easter Monday no classes (evening classes held)\*

\*April 22: Sketchbook Collection 4 / Independent Project #4 / Digital Portfolios due\*

\*Quiz #2: Vocabulary and short answer 20 questions worth ½ point each

April 22: 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 24: Final Critique (Group B). Same as above.

\*April 25: Classes end\*

Week 16:

April 29: Individual Critique (Group A). Individual 20 minute reviews.

May 1: Individual Critique (Group B). Individual 20 minute reviews