

Moravian College Studio Art

Course number and section: ART 170

Course Title: Drawing 1: Section A / B

Semester: Fall 2014

Instructor: Matthew Shelley

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

1:15pm – 3:45pm Tues / Thurs – Section B

Office Hour: Before or after class by appointment only

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

Course Description:

This class will cover the basic principles and disciplines of drawing. Over the course of this semester, students will work with the core ideas needed to observe, critique, and create dynamic and skillful drawings. Demonstrations and group critique will solidify formal skills and prepare students for intermediate and advanced study in drawing and painting. Through weekly lessons students will build representational skills in line, shape, space, composition, value, and accuracy. This class is designed to provide students with the tools necessary to approach drawing from a well-rounded and confident perspective, focusing on the formal and conceptual elements that define the medium.

Course Materials:

This course uses an art kit that 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. The ability to participate in class discussion on these readings will impact the final group discussion 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 20 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 a thorough 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 exercise full artistic freedom. These projects can be done in any medium practiced in class and feature any subject or content as long as direct observation is involved when drawing. Although students are free to explore any subject in any media, there will occasionally be a project topic. All projects should be created from live models, still life, landscape, etc. No Photographs; direct observation only.

New York City Field Trip:

November 7th all students will travel to NYC for a gallery / museum tour. A five paragraph paper will be assigned as a response to the field trip. Students can visit a single museum or tour multiple museums and galleries. The paper can cover any number of works viewed, or focus on a single piece or artist. The paper will contribute 5 points to the final participation grade.

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 can reference class handouts and will be issued a study guide to prepare for each quiz. Notes, handouts, and textbooks will not be allowed during midterm and final exams.

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 20 points, or 20% 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

Mid-term quiz = 10 points

Final quiz = 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, Low quality = 10, Acceptable = 15, High Quality = 20
- 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?)
Each collection will be graded on a scale of 0 – 5 depending on the quality of the work. All 4 collections will add up to 20% of the final grade.
- Independent Projects: (is it technically proficient and compositionally sound?)
Each project will be graded on a scale of 0 – 5 depending on the quality of the work. All 4 projects will add up to 20% of the final grade.
- Mid-term and final quiz: (are definitions for vocabulary and concepts correct?)
10 questions worth 1 point each.
- 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:

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.

Class Schedule: Drawing 1: Section 1: Fall Semester

Class dates and lessons subject to change

Week 1:

August 21st: College Colloquium

August 25th Fall Semester begins

Aug 26 - 28th: Introductions, class syllabi, contour drawing, line widths, breaking the outline

Week 2:

Sep 2nd: Last day to add / drop classes

Sept 3 - Aron Johnston's HUB show opening at 4:30

Sep 2 - 4th: Shape. Format / measurement / visual overlap / scale

Week 3:

September 9th: Sketchbook Collection #1

* September 11 - InFocus Colloquium - students will be asked to attend the colloquium up North during the morning*

September 9 - 11th: Independent Project #1 (no sketchbook assignment for week 3)

September 9 - 11th: Introducing figure drawing Recall Semi Blind Contour / 3 line widths / weights / format / visual overlap

Week 4:

September 16th: Independent Project #1 Due

September 16th: Sketchbooks returned

Sep 16 – 18th: Composition / positive space / negative space / visual energy / focal points / value (break down the composition into 7 distinct values) / locate 3 focal points through pattern

Week 5:

September 23 – 25th: Value (still life) / using charcoal as a ground / moving value in both directions light and dark

September 25th: Review for mid-term w/ study guide

Week 6:

September 30th: Mid-term quiz. Vocabulary and short answer. 10 points.

Sep 30 - 2nd: Value (still life) / using charcoal as a ground / moving value in both directions light and dark

Week 7:

October 7th: Sketchbook Collection #2

October 7th: Independent Project #2 (no sketchbook assignment for week 7)

October 7th: Open Session / figure drawing practice

Week 8:

October 13 - 14th: Fall Break. No Classes.

October 16: Independent Project #2 due

October 16: Sketchbooks Returned

October 16: Planar Analysis / volume / vanishing points

Week 9:

October 21 – 23th: Planar Analysis / volume / vanishing points

Week 10:

October 28 – 30st: Rhythm / Economy / Harmony (Figure Drawing)

October 31st: Last day to withdraw

Week 11:

Nov 4 - HUB reception and artist talk for Invision Photo Show, alum Lindsay (Sampson) Woodruff, curated by Kris Kotsch, 4:30

November 4th: Sketchbook Collection #3

November 4th: Independent Project #3 (no sketchbook assignments for week 11)

Nov 4– 6th: Anatomy and figure drawing / weight distribution and contrapposto / proportions and divisions / Working light to dark

November 7th: NYC Field Trip. Handout will cover assignment requirements

Week 12:

November 11th: NYC paper due

November 11 – 13th: Atmospheric Perspective / 5 landscape drawings

November 15th: Sophomore Review

Week 13:

November 18th: Independent Project #4 (no sketchbook assignment for week 13)

November 18 – 20th: Large Scale Group Project / Collaborative Projection on Paper / Portfolio preparation for final critiques / grade check / optional individual meetings

November 23 – December 1st. Thanksgiving Break. No Classes

Week 14:

November 25th: Independent Project #4 due

November 25th: Open session figure drawing

Nov 26 – 30th: Thanksgiving Break – No Classes

November 26 – November 30th: Prepare Sketchbooks for Collection #4

November 26 – November 30th: Prepare portfolios for Final Review December 3 - 5th

Week 15:

December 2nd: Independent Project #4 Due

December 2nd: Sketchbook Collection #4

December 2nd: Final quiz. Vocabulary and short answer. 10 points.

December 2nd: Bring Portfolios for Final Critique.

Dec 2nd: Group 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.

Dec 4th: Group Critique (Group B). Same as above

December 5th: Classes End

Week 16:

December 9 – 11th: Individual Final Critiques

End of Semester

Additional Information:

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, lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. 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 1 Sections A / B Art 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