

# Arts 110-10: Drawing 1: Visual Language

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Summer 2017

Class Time: M/Tu/W/Th 3:15pm- 5:15pm | Room: Walsh 395 | Instructor: Mark Anderson

E-mail: mta68@georgetown.edu | Office Hours: Before and after class, or by appointment.

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## Course Content

This is an introductory course in drawing. No previous art class experience is needed. This course will begin with the basic principles of perceptual drawing, allowing all students to develop a stable foundation. Some of the topics that will be covered are linear structure (describing forms with line), composition, linear perspective (one and two point), and value structure (shading). Subjects that will be covered include still life, landscape, portraiture, and figure drawing. A variety of black and white media will be explored. The work of old and contemporary masters will be referenced via image files and videos.

In this course students will study the human condition and engage in self-reflection. Work will be developed that is personally significant. Students will examine and compare environments and cultures while questioning their values, these thoughts will be translated into visual form. Students will use a sketchbook to develop visual narratives and to record and collect things of interest. Inspiration may come from ones personal history, environments, passions, concerns, hobbies, insecurities, etc. In essence, the paintings that are developed will be autobiographical.

## Attendance

It is very important that students try not to miss class during the first three weeks of class to keep from missing essential foundational instruction for the course. Attendance is mandatory and will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students are allowed Two absences without a grade reduction. Each additional absence will result in two full letter grade deduction from the final class grade. There are no excused absences and all absences will be counted. Students will receive a failing grade after four absences, regardless of class performance. It is expected that students send me an email before a missed class session, or soon after in an emergency situation.

If a student is not in class when I take roll then they are marked absent. Quiet late arrivals of fifteen minutes or less will be counted as a tardy. A tardy is equal to half of an absence. Lateness of more than fifteen minutes and leaving class early without prior notice will count as an absence. I encourage students to show up to class even if they are going to be late. There are no scheduled breaks during class. Restroom breaks should be taken during open work sessions and avoided during lectures and demonstrations. Talking in the hall during class time is not permitted. Leaving class early is not permitted. If a student needs to leave early they must let me know before class begins. No end of class clean up until I say it is time to do so.

## Classroom Rules and Responsibilities

- All drawings, both in class and homework, are to be done from direct observation. No photographic or computer recourses are permitted.
- Texting during class will result in an absence for the day. Please turn off and put away your phones. No electronic devices are to be used at any time during class. Working on assignments from other courses is not permitted during class.
- Music headsets are not permitted, as it may be beneficial for students to hear the advice that I am giving other students. I will provide music for the class; requests are welcomed, so long as the music is calm and non-offensive.
- No visitors are allowed to visit the class out of respect for other students. If this is unavoidable, students are to exit the classroom before having the conversation and then promptly return to class.

- Do not enter the classroom while other classes are in session, not even just for a second. This rule is out of respect for the instructors, students, and models.
- There will be 5 minutes of clean up time at the end of class. The studio is to be left as clean as it was found. Students are to throw away paper scraps, rinse out jars/brushes, clean up charcoal, collect pencil shavings, sweep the floor, peel up old tape, and wipe down drawing tables and horses before leaving class.
- Expect that I may adjust student in class drawings. Accurately translating a three dimensional form onto a two dimensional surface using perceptual drawing skills is a developmental process. It may sometimes be beneficial for me to show students what I see, in addition to explaining it to them.
- Be curious and take risks. I reward students who are ambitious and who work beyond their comfort zone, even when the work fails.

### Critiques

Critiques will be held for homework assignments. These group discussions are an important part of the learning experience. Critiques provide students the opportunity to share their unique perspective and approach to an assignment, and there is a chance to learn how others respond differently to the same assignment. Full participation in all critiques is required. Critiques begin 3 minutes after the start of class. Students are to assist their fellow classmates in hanging completed homework drawings together neatly on the critique wall. No drawings are to be hung once the critique has started. Drawings that are not hung in time for the critique will be considered late.

### Homework

The final homework assignment can not be turned in late. Homework assignments make up a large portion of the final course grade. Late or underdeveloped homework will receive a 50% grade deduction on that assignment. Late homework assignments will be accepted no later than the beginning of the next class session. Begin working on homework assignments as soon as they are assigned. At minimum, each in-class hour should be matched with a homework hour. Homework drawings are to be submitted without thumbtack holes, wrinkles or tears. Each homework assignment is to be labeled on the back lower left in pencil with the student's name and assignment number.

### In-Class Portfolios

In-class portfolios are due at the beginning on Monday of week 5. In-class portfolio drawings will be part of your in-class participation and progress grade and they will be judged on the level of effort and comprehension of the drawing topic and technique. Be sure to make up in-class assignments that you miss due to absence. A proper portfolio submission is arranged in chronological order with paper fringes removed. Portfolios are to be submitted free of the portfolio case and held together with a drawing clip. Once the portfolio has been submitted, no late drawings will be accepted. Make sure that all drawings are accounted for before submitting the portfolio. All assignments are to be labeled on the back lower left in pencil with the student's name and the assignment number. Portfolios improperly submitted will receive a 50-point grade deduction. Late in class portfolios will be accepted no more than one scheduled class late with a one letter grade deduction on the portfolio. If a student is going to be absent on portfolio submission day then they need to arrange an early submission with me. Students should label their portfolio cases with contact information so that it can be returned if lost.

### Receiving Feedback

I encourage students to show me their drawings as often as possible so that I can better understand how their work is developing. I am available before, during and after class to give feedback on in class and homework assignments. For drawings done outside of class, please take a clear cell phone picture of the subject from the exact vantage point that the drawing is being made, present this picture to me when showing me the drawing.

I present course work in a variety of ways in order to accommodate a variety of learning styles. If I am explaining a particular concept in a way that is unclear please do not hesitate to ask me to explain it again. If students have special learning needs I encourage them to let me know so that I may try to accommodate them as best I can.

#### Grading

The majority of the course grade will be determined by the homework assignments, the final homework assignment and the in-class portfolio. Homework assignments are graded on a 100-point scale. The final homework assignment is worth 300 points. In-class assignments will be submitted in a portfolio on Monday of week 5 for a participation and progress grade, missed in-class assignments need to be made up before the portfolio submission. The final grade for this course will also take into consideration attendance, having quality work present during in-class homework critiques, homework critique participation, in class productivity, and attitude.

Grading for Individual Projects is as Follows:

- A (90-100) Distinguished mastery in demonstration of concept and technical skill, extra time/effort put forth.
- B (80-89) Good understanding of concept & technique, above average time/effort.
- C (70-79) Average. Acceptable completion of the assignment.
- D (60-69) Minimal effort on the assignment. Missed aspects of the concept. Poor technique.
- F (0-59) Failed to demonstrate understanding of the concept, or did not do the assignment at all.

## Course Outline

### **Week 1**

Mon. 6/5: ♦IC#1- No Two Leaves are Alike: Contour Line Drawing

HW: Purchase supplies

Tu. 6/6: ♦IC#2- Fitting Things Neatly into Boxes: Drawing Boxes Using a Measuring Stick

HW: HW#1-Setting the Stage: A Shoe Drama (Due Monday 6/12)

Wed. 6/7: ♦IC#3- Keeping Things Simple: Drawing Basic Geometric Forms

HW: Continue HW#1 (Due Monday 6/12)

Th. 6/8: ♦IC#4- Gaining Complexity: Organizing Semi-Complex forms

HW: Continue HW#1 (Due Monday 6/12)

### **Week 2**

Mon. 6/12: Continue IC#4

HW: HW#2- Negative Shape Drawing (Due Monday 6/19)

Tu. 6/13: ♦IC#5- Straight to the Point: One Point Perspective

HW: Complete IC#5 (Due Monday 6/19)

Wed. 6/14: ♦IC#6- Which Point: Two Point Perspective

HW: Complete IC#6 (Due Monday 6/19)

Th. 6/15: Continue IC#6

HW: Complete IC#6 (Due Monday 6/19)

### **Week 3**

Mon. 6/19: ♦IC#7- Time to Shade: Developing Tonal Structure

HW: HW#3- Making a Scene: Character Interaction with Built Forms (Due Monday 6/26)

Tu. 6/20: Continue IC#7 Due

HW: Continue HW#3 (Due Monday 6/26)

Wed. 6/21: ♦IC#8- Three Sheets to the Wind: Drawing Drapery on a Toned Charcoal Surface

HW: Continue HW#3 (Due Monday 6/26)

Tu. 6/22: Continue IC#8

HW: Continue HW#3 (Due Monday 6/26)

### **Week 4**

Mon. 6/26: ♦IC#9- Drawing into Darkness: White Charcoal on Black Paper

HW: HW#4 Final Homework Drawing (Due Thursday 7/6)

Tu. 6/27: Continue IC#9

HW: Continue HW#4 (Due Thursday 7/6)

Wed. 6/28: ♦IC#10- Heads Up: Drawing the Human Head

HW: Continue HW#4 (Due Thursday 7/6)

Th. 6/29: Continue IC#10

HW: Continue HW#4 (Due Thursday 7/6)

### **Week 5**

Mon. 7/3: ♦IC#11- Two Day Full Figure Drawing

HW: Continue HW#4 (Due Thursday 7/6)

Tu. 7/4: *No Class: Independence Day*

HW: Continue HW#4 (Due Thursday 7/6)

Wed. 7/5: ♦IC#11- Continue IC#11

HW: Continue HW#4 (Due Thursday 7/6)

Th. 7/6: Final Homework Critique + ♦IC#12- Getting Some Fresh Air: Landscape Drawing

## Supply List

Item Description
Artist Tote Board 23x26 Double Clip
Plaza Smart-Folio 24x28
Strathmore 400 Recycled Drawing Paper 18x24
Winsor Vine Charcoal Soft 12
Pro Art Sketch & Drawing Set
General's White Compressed Charcoal 4pk
General's White Charcoal Pencil
Tuff Stuff Eraser Stick
White Artist Tape 3/4in x 60yd
Corkback Ruler Flex 24"
Plaza Classic Logo No.1 Knife
Mi-Teintes 19x25 Steel Gray- (1 sheet)
Mi-Teintes 19x25 Stygian Black- (1 sheet)

### Art Stores

Plaza Artist Materials (DC)  
1900 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006  
(Located on the second floor)

Plaza Artist Materials (Fairfax)  
3045 Nutley Street  
Fairfax, VA 22031

Blick Art Materials/ Utrecht Art Supplies (DC)  
1250 I Street NW  
Washington, DC 20005

Dickblick Art Materials (Online)  
[www.blick.com](http://www.blick.com)