

# Arts 110-20: Drawing 1: Visual Language

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## Summer 2020

**Class Time:** M,Tu,W,Th 10:45am-12:45pm | **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 drawing foundation. Each student has a different level of experience, so I work with students individually to help them improve. 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 (clothed and nude models). A variety of black and white media will be explored. Works of old and contemporary masters will be referenced and short films will be viewed.

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 one's personal values. These thoughts will be translated into visual form. Students are encouraged to use a sketchbook to use as a catalyst for developing visual narratives. Inspiration for drawings may come from one's personal history, environments, passions, concerns, hobbies, insecurities, etc. In essence, the drawings 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 a 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 six 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 resources 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 during class time is not permitted.
- 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 for just a second. This rule is in place to respect instructors, students, and models from other classes.
- 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 how I organize 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**

Attending the final critique is mandatory, be sure to consider the final critique meeting date and time for this class when making post session travel plans. Critiques will be held for homework assignments. These group discussions are an important part of the learning experience. Critiques provide students with the opportunity to share their unique perspective and approach to an assignment. Also, critiques offer students 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. Attending the final critique is mandatory, be sure to consider the final exam meeting date and time for this class when making post semester travel plans.

### **Homework**

The final homework assignment cannot be turned in early or late. Homework assignments make up a large portion of the final course grade. Late or underdeveloped homework will receive a **full letter grade deduction** on that assignment. Late homework assignments will be accepted no later than one week after their due date. 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.

### **Portfolio Review**

The portfolio review will consist of all in-class and all homework assignments, minus the final homework drawing. In preparation for review, the portfolio is to be organized in each student's assigned flat file on the last day of regularly scheduled class. Arrange homework drawings separately on top of in-class drawings, both in chronological order. In-class portfolio drawings do not need to be completed unless assigned to be continued as homework. In-class drawings will be judged on the level of effort and comprehension of the drawing assignment. Be sure to make up in-class assignments that you miss due to absence. Please remove fringes from drawings. Portfolios are to be submitted free of the portfolio case. Once the portfolio has been submitted, no late drawings will be accepted. Make sure that all drawings are accounted for well before the portfolio submission date. All assignments are to be labeled on the back in pencil with the student's name and the assignment number. Portfolios improperly submitted will receive a full letter grade deduction. If a student is going to be absent on the portfolio due date then they need to arrange an early submission with me. Students must label their portfolio case and toolbox 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 any special learning needs I encourage them to let me know so that I may try to accommodate them as best I can.

### **Grading**

The homework assignments, the final homework assignment and the portfolio review will determine the majority of the course grade. 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 during the last week of class 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.

### **Project Grading Scale**

A- to A (90-100) Distinguished mastery in demonstration of concept and technical skill. Extra time/effort put forth.

B- to B+ (80-89) Good understanding of concept and technique. Above average time/effort.

C- to C+ (70-79) Average. Acceptable completion of the assignment.

D- to 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.

### **Final Exam Critique**

Thursday 8/6: Final Homework Critique for HW#4 and HW#5

\*Attending the final critique is mandatory, be sure to consider the final exam meeting date and time for this course when making post semester travel plans.

## Course Outline

Week 1	M 7/6	Syllabus, Course Outline, Supply ◆ <b>IC#1- Keeping Things Simple: Drawing Basic Geometric Forms</b>	<b>Purchase Supplies</b>
	Tu 7/7	<b>Continue IC#1</b>	<b>HW#1-Setting the Stage: A Shoe Drama (Due for critique 7/13)</b>
	W 7/8	◆ <b>IC#2- Fitting Things Neatly into Boxes: Drawing Boxes Using a Measuring Stick</b>	
	Th 7/9	◆ <b>IC#3- Gaining Complexity: Organizing Semi-Complex forms</b>	
Week 2	M 7/13	<b>Continue IC#3</b>	<b>HW#6-Natural Still Life (Due for critique 7/20)</b>
	Tu 7/14	◆ <b>IC#4- Straight to the Point: One Point Perspective</b>	
	W 7/15	<b>Continue IC#4</b>	
	Th 7/16	◆ <b>IC#5- Value Structure: Shading with black and white charcoal on grey paper</b>	
Week 3	M 7/20	<b>Continue IC#5</b>	◆ <b>HW#3- Three Sheets to the Wind: Drawing Drapery on a Toned Charcoal Surface (Due for critique 7/27)</b>
	Tu 7/21	◆ <b>IC#6- Time to Shade with Graphite: Developing Tonal Structure</b>	
	W 7/22	<b>Continue IC#6</b>	
	Th 7/23	<b>Continue IC#6</b>	
Week 4	M 7/27	◆ <b>IC#7- Profile Portrait of a Classmate</b>	<b>HW#4-Constructed Figures in Graphite on White Paper (Due for critique 8/6)</b>
	Tu 7/28	◆ <b>IC#8- Heads Up: Drawing the Human Head</b>	<b>HW#5-Time for Reflection: Self Portrait Drawing (Due for critique 8/6)</b>
	W 7/29	<b>Continue IC#8</b>	
	Th 7/30	◆ <b>IC#9- Gesture Drawing</b>	
Week 5	M 8/3	◆ <b>IC#10- Three Day Full Figure Drawing on Grey Paper</b>	
	Tu 8/4	<b>Continue IC#10</b>	
	W 8/5	<b>Continue IC#10</b>	
	Th 8/6	Final Critique	

### Supply List

Item Description
Artist Tote Board 23x26 Double Clip
Portfolio 24x28
Pro Art Sketch & Drawing Set
General's White Charcoal Pencil
Tuff Stuff Eraser Stick
White Artist Tape 3/4in x 60yd
No.1 Utility Knife
Sandpaper Pad

### Art Stores

<b>Plaza Artist Materials (DC)</b> 1120 19th Street, NW Washington, DC 20036 (202) 331-7090	<b>Artist &amp; Craftsman Supply</b> 1201 Brentwood Rd. NE Washington, DC 20018 (202) 526-4446	<b>Blick Art Materials</b> 1250 I Street NW Washington, DC 20005 (202) 898-0555
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