

101-02 Drawing | CRN: 13143

Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 am – noon

Hamlett Dobbins

My office is located on the second floor of Clough Hall, inside Clough-Hanson Gallery. x3442 office, (901) 219-1943 cell PLEASE NO CALLS AFTER 8 pm.

E-mail: dobbinsh@rhodes.edu or if the server is down, hamlettdobbins@hotmail.com.

Office hours are by appointment only. I am usually on campus, please don't hesitate to contact me if you need to discuss anything or if you have any questions, we can work out a time to meet.

IT'S SIMPLE: YOU GET BETTER AT DRAWING BY DRAWING.

The class will provide the student with a working knowledge of traditional drawing materials and approaches. Additionally the instructor will use a variety of open-ended projects to expand the students' drawing ability (vocabulary) and their ability to solve problems. Hopefully, through the class the student can understand better the role drawing can play in their life.

REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THIS CLASS:

Studio art classes at Rhodes require a minimum of 138 work hours for every four hours of credit. You will fail if you do not meet these minimum hours. In order to achieve this you must average eight to nine hours of work each week. ~Five hours will be spent in class; however, you must schedule to spend at least three additional hours per week on homework and outside projects. See project lists that follow.

The classroom/studio as a Safe Zone: I expect an overarching mutual respect among all participants, regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, and religion. Along with many other members of the Rhodes community, I am a participant in the Safe Zones program, which is described on the College website: www.rhodes.edu/campuslife/11503.asp

Attendance and Class Participation: Class attendance and class participation is mandatory. (I can't help you if you're not here.)

--Do not be absent. You will not be able to re-create the learning atmosphere of the classroom on your own.

--**After three absences your final class grade will be lowered one grade with each additional absence. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the professor regarding make up work and to discuss assignments or lessons missed.**

To be crystal clear: if you miss three classes because you came down with tuberculosis or a team sports absence and then you decide to miss a day or two of class because you need to sleep late or you want to catch up on the latest season of Weeds it will be those unexcused absences that drop your grade.

--Team sports absence: If you play team sports and have to go out of town, be prepared to make up the hours outside of class. You are responsible for documenting your make-up work.

--Punctuality: Please be punctual. It has to do with respect, for the instructor and your classmates. **If you are more than five minutes late three times it counts as an absence.**

--Illness: Please contact me immediately if you have a serious health problem or a family emergency. If you tell me about problems on the last day of class there's not much I can do

to help you. Please note: do not attend class if you have a fever or if you have had a fever 24 hours prior to class.

--Class participation includes participating in critiques, class work, and clean-up. Your grade will be withheld if you fail to clean out your cubby and take your work and supplies home.

--PET PEEVE ALERT: I don't mind if your cell phone goes off every once in a while, but **sighing** in class will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Texting during class will also not be tolerated.

Grades:

A= Excellent. An A student is one that excels in all aspects of the class. An A student at the end of the semester can say "I have done the best that I can do in the class."

B=Good. There is nothing wrong with a B. A B student at the end says "I did all the assignments for the class but, for whatever reason, I just didn't give it my all."

C=Average. Average means average. Anyone in the world can come into a drawing class five hours a week and become a better drawer. This is a given. If you come in and do the stuff you're supposed to do but just don't push yourself at all, this is your grade.

--Breakdown:

40%= Engagement, completion and participation of all in class work and homework. Failure to attend class will pull your grade down dramatically.

40%= Outside projects (sketchbook 10%, forty drawings 20%, outside lecture and exhibitions 10%.)

20%= Willingness to take risks/effort to improve/grow. (This is the difference between an **A** student and a **C** student.)

--Improvement is defined as significant and sustained skill acquisition.

--Risk taking students take their projects beyond personal satisfaction ("I like it"). Risk taking students tend to work larger, more, with ambitious media and sustain projects for a long period of time. They make significant changes to their work.

The following objects will be purchased by the department and paid for with a lab fee:

Compressed charcoal, Newsprint pad 18x24", Two regular drawing pads 18x24", five sheets of large format, quality drawing paper (Stonehenge 38x50"), a variety of pencils, one white pearl eraser

black sumi or India ink, large bamboo brush, and black conte crayons HB and 2B

Students should find their own sketchbooks to suit their needs. A sketchbook is important as a gathering place for your thoughts/inspiration. I don't really care what size or kind of sketchbook you chose. I just want you to have one. It helps. Your sketchbook should be at least 8x8". Please bring your sketchbooks to class. They are a good way to share ideas.

A few words about the room: Please keep in mind that all the drawing room is used for a number of classes and the schedule for classes is on the door. You are welcome to use the room between classes to work on your assignments but please remember to pick up after yourself and do not leave supplies and materials out. You must pick up after yourself when you are finished, your stuff will be in the way. Students are granted 24 hr access to Clough Hall and to the drawing room. The building has a fob access door on the ground floor, south-east side that faces Voorhies. If you should find the room locked, just use the white campus phone on the wall next to the door to call Campus Safety at x3880. Your name will be on an access list and they will come and let you in.

Time-line for the class: (Please note that the class is like anything else, there may need to be changes made to the timeline for assignments but the due dates for the forty drawings will remain steadfast.)

08.23 Day one: hello my name is...this is what I can do now. Distribution of supplies

08.28 Day two: Look at/discuss examples of 40 drawings. Mark making exercises in class.

08.30 Day three: Smelling and listening marks (invention) music homework given

09.04 Day four: Music homework due, Draw out of focus slides using charcoal, thinking about relationships

09.06 Day five: Still life set up continuing the flow with charcoal. (lots of balloons)

09.11 Day six: Still life set up continuing the flow with charcoal (lots of boxes)

09.13 Day seven: Begin thinking about contour, drawing of own face, object in bag. (take object out of the bag and draw it for homework).

09.18 Day eight: Critique for object in bag drawing homework, class will be spent on one contour drawing, to be completed for homework if necessary. **First ten of forty drawings of object due. Discuss progress so far.**

09.20 Day nine: Composition talk. Make contour drawing of still life

09.25 Day ten: Still-life drawing using full range of values done in class

09.27 Day eleven: Begin working on large format drawing of still life

10.02 Day twelve: Continue large format drawing.

10.04 Day thirteen: Continue large format drawing.

10.09 Day fourteen: Continue large format drawing.

10.11 Day fifteen: Continue large format drawing. **Next ten drawings of object due. Make appointments to meet with professor the following day to discuss midterm progress. 10.12 Students will meet individually with the instructor to discuss his / her progress in the course.**

10.16 FALL BREAK (NO CLASS)

10.18 Day sixteen: Continue large format drawing

10.23 Day seventeen: Critique for large format drawing. Ink wash demo followed by ink drawing portraits.

10.25 Day eighteen: Continue portrait drawings with ink wash.

10.30 Day nineteen: Ink portraits in class. Six self-portraits homework for Six Heads Project.

11.01 Day twenty: Six heads project in class.

11.06 Day twenty-one: Six heads crit. Experiential drawing day (go to three spots.)

11.08 Day twenty-two: Go to the zoo and make GRIFFIN drawings.

11.13 Day twenty-three: Look at zoo drawings and finished three location drawings in class. Big Word Poster project discussed and teams are established.

11.15 Day twenty-four: Work on Big Word Poster in class.

11.20 Day twenty-five: Work on Big Word Poster in class. **Next set of ten drawings of object due. Discuss progress so far.**

Thanksgiving Break: 11.21 - 11.25

11.27 Day twenty-six: Install Big Word Posters in hallway. Mapping Project discussed in class. Work on Mapping Project in Class.

11.29 Day twenty-seven: Work on Mapping Project in class.

12.04 Day twenty-eight (last day of class): Critiques for Mapping project and Big Word Posters

FINAL EXAMS: students will meet with the instructor to turn in their sketchbooks, their last ten drawings of the one object (they should bring all forty) as well as their best projects from the semester. Students will sign up for individual meetings beginning at 3:00 pm through 7:00 pm, Tuesday, December 11, 2012.

Outside projects:

-Forty drawings-one object: This project will continue through the semester. After the first week of class the students will select an object to draw forty times. The object should be at least fist-sized but no larger than a breadbox. It should be portable and something in which you see great possibility. In the past students have chosen: an interesting candle (the candle would change as it burned), a potato (it was drawn in several states of being, plain, with vines, and finally cut up and put in the ground to grow more potatoes), a baseball glove, and a pair of running shoes. Students should experiment with the pace of the drawing (fast vs. slow). The size of the drawings should also vary greatly from the very small to the very large. Students should think about how to make the drawings with different techniques and approaches to the subject. The drawings don't just have to be only of the object, they can/should incorporate background and other objects for interaction. Six drawings of your object on one piece of paper count as one drawing. Consider the ground on which you draw your object (why is it drawn on grocery receipt instead of watercolor paper?). Due dates for the drawings are indicated on the timeline above. You're in an art class, be creative. Surprise yourself / me.

-Today I Saw: This project is designed to replace the dreaded sketchbook. It has been thoughtfully and respectfully stolen from Jill Wignall's project that can be found at jillstodayisaw.blogspot.com. It is meant to be a daily drawing exercise that should last for no more than 15 minutes a day (five days a week). Students should write "TODAY I SAW" on their drawings followed by a description and the date of the drawing. The projects will be presented at the same time as the installments of the Forty Drawings of One Object.

-Exhibitions and lectures: Students are required to see **three** off campus art exhibitions. The Brooks Museum, University of Memphis Art Museum, Memphis College of Art, Dixon Gallery and Gardens as well as local commercial galleries are acceptable venues. Multiple shows seen during one visit to a particular museum would count as one show however, if you should see three separate shows in different locations on one night at an ARTWALK it would count as three. Students are also required to attend **two** artist lectures either on or off campus.