

101-02 Drawing

CRN: 20117 Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:00 am – 10:30 am

Hamlett Dobbins

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Office Hours: by appointment. I am usually on campus, please don't hesitate to contact me if you need to discuss anything or if you have any questions.

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 three hours of credit. You will fail if you do not have these minimum hours of work. In order to achieve this you must average nine hours of work each week. ~Six hours will be spent in class; however, you must schedule to spend the three additional hours on homework and outside projects. See project lists that follow.

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.

--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.

--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 you cell phone goes off, but sighing in class will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

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. 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 all through their process.

Supply List for drawing:

Compressed charcoal

Newsprint pad 18x24"

Two regular drawing pads 18x24"

Five sheets of large format, quality drawing paper (Stonehenge 38x50")

A variety of pencils, both with and without wood

One white pearl raser

Black sumi or India ink

Large bamboo brush

2 black conte crayons

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. Please bring your sketchbooks to class, they are a good way to share ideas.

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.)

Day one (01.12.06): hello my name is...this is what I can do now.

Day two: supplies arrive. mark making with mark making homework.

Day three: mark making homework due, music marks (invention) music homework given

Day four: music homework due, Collaborative music drawings on large paper. Finish for homework.

Day five: Crits for collaborative music drawing. Draw out of focus slides using with vine charcoal, thinking about relationships.

Day six: Still life set up continuing the flow with vine charcoal. (choosing your fight)

Day seven (02.02.06): still life set up continuing the flow with vine charcoal (lots of boxes). **first ten of forty drawings of object due. Discuss progress so far.**

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

Day nine: The class will be spent on one contour drawing, to be completed for homework if necessary.

Day ten: turn in object in bag drawing homework, make contour drawing of still life

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

Day twelve: Continue large format drawing

Day thirteen: Continue large format drawing

Day fourteen: Continue large format drawing

Day fifteen (03.02.06): Continue large format drawing **Next ten drawings of object due. Students will meet individually with the instructor to discuss his / her progress in the course.**

Day sixteen: Continue large format drawing

Day seventeen: Crit for large format drawing. Talk about ink and washes more, work on portraits.

03.10.06 through 03.20.06 SPRING BREAK

Day eighteen: Begin portrait drawings (collaborate). Portrait drawing homework assigned.

Day nineteen: Continue ink portraits using pens as well as washes

Day twenty: Experiential drawing day (go to the Zoo.)

Day twenty-one (03.30.06): Work on indoor / outdoor drawings. **Next set of ten drawings of object due. Discuss progress so far.**

Day twenty-two: Mapping project discussed. Mapping project begins.

Day twenty-three: Mapping project worked on

Day twenty-four: Crits on Mapping project. Watch William Kentridge video. Prep for The-newspaper-is-not-the-world project

Day twenty-five: The-newspaper-is-not-the-world project

Day twenty-six: Crit for The-newspaper-is-not-the-world project

Day twenty-seven: BUFFER

Day twenty-eight: BUFFER

Day twenty-nine (04.27.06): BUFFER **last day of class**

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 8:30 am through 4:30 pm, Monday May 1, 2006

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 fifty 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. 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.

-Sketchbook work: Part of the goal for the class is to find out how drawing can play a part in your everyday life. Over the course of the semester you should work in your sketchbook for ~ten hours.

- 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. Students are also required to attend **two** artist lectures either on or off campus.