

**The University of Western Ontario
Department of Visual Arts
Drawing Explorations VAS 2104b
Winter 2017**

Time: Tuesday 6:00 - 10:00 pm
Professor: Geordie Shepherd
Office Hours: Tuesday 3:30 – 4:30 pm
Location: VAC 206
Office: VAC 213
email: gshephe@uwo.ca

Calendar Description

An introductory course exploring a wide range of traditional and contemporary aspects of drawing in order to develop an understanding of its application to the Visual Arts as well as other frameworks.

Course Description

This class will focus on learning fundamental drawing skills and concepts in a variety of mediums along with an exposure to past and contemporary drawing practices. Informed by technical demonstrations and image presentations, students will develop manual skills through drawing from observation and engaging material experimentation. Through the presentation and discussion of image lectures, students will gain familiarity with formal and conceptual artistic issues and through the application to their projects learn their relevance and possibilities.

Learning Outcomes

Depth & breadth of Knowledge: Students will acquire a fundamental knowledge of the basic formal and technical concepts and vocabulary of drawing.

Knowledge of Methodology: Students will gain an understanding of drawing and painting's critical potential, be able to identify various ways drawing and paintings operate critically, and will apply their understanding, in creative ways, to the realization of their projects.

Application of Knowledge: Students will engage their capacities with the medium as a critical, discursive and expressive tool to develop creative works; understand the critical potential of their works, and will utilize their reflections on their works to explore and develop further projects in order to create a body of work.

Classroom Conduct

Be on time and be prepared to work. I will start each class on time. In order to do this, it does mean that you should arrive to the studio before it begins, i.e. 5 minutes before class starts so you can go to your locker, find a seat, set-up a drawing donkey, etc. There will be one 15 minute break during class.

I will finish class at 9:15. Please do not clean-up beforehand because doing so is distracting for those still working.

Students are expected to clean up after each work session! Do not leave a mess for someone else to clean up i.e. your instructor.

Students are expected to come prepared to participate and contribute to all class activities. This includes having all the necessary art materials you need for each class. Please listen to announcements, refer to the Syllabus Timeline and read OWL announcements through your UWO email to ensure you have the necessary supplies.

Be respectful! 30 students in a studio class is a challenge! Please share studio furniture, make room for each other and respect each other's right to focus on creating their artwork. Also, please be respectful during my assignment discussions and demonstrations by not talking to each other so that everyone can hear me easily.

Music, headphones, ear buds, etc. Music can enhance your ability to focus and to work creatively. I always play music (classical, jazz, instrumental) during work sessions that I find contributes to the creative atmosphere of the class. I do understand that you might prefer to listen to your own music. I suggest ear buds so that you can have one ear "plugged in" and one ear available to hear me when I make comments and suggestions during work sessions. [SEP]

OWL / Sakai Documentation

Readings and documents pertaining to lessons will be posted on Owl/ Sakai in the resources folder. It is your responsibility to ensure you read and understand them before class time.

<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

Cell Phones & Social Media

Please do not use cell phones & computers during class time for any purpose other than research related to our course.

Sketchbook

A sketchbook is a visual diary of one's influences, emotions, experiences and thoughts, a place to practice techniques, and can serve as resource file and notebook. Draw in it as much as possible for any reason, anywhere. They can be larger (but no larger than 9x12) or small enough to fit into a pocket or pouch. Carry it around like you would a camera.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to punctually attend all class sessions and come prepared to participate in all class activities and critiques. This is a Studio course, and great emphasis is placed upon in-class work, feedback and discussion. Under university regulations, students who miss more than 15% of the course hours (2 classes) without prior consultation or documentation (medical or bereavement vetted through student's faculty academic advisor) can be debarred from final studio critiques and examinations. Note that if a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cut-off and be disbarred.

Students are responsible for making themselves aware of all assignments, procedures and due dates. It is the student's complete responsibility to keep informed of any such changes.

Students are expected to complete all assignments on due dates stated in the syllabus unless a previous agreement has been made with the instructor. Failure to complete assignments or present completed work in scheduled critiques without prior consultation with the instructor will

result in a failing grade. Penalty for late work is 2% per day (Monday to Friday, weekend considered one day).

Students are expected to arrive at the beginning of class with all project materials, and clean their workspace after each session. It is particularly disrespectful to a model to arrive late, or unprepared, for life-drawing sessions.

Students should spend a minimum 4-8-hours per week working outside of class fulfilling course requirements and must adhere to health and safety guidelines in accordance with departmental regulations. Failure to comply could result in removal from the course with a failing grade.

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or the department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments. Accommodation for missed assignments, or attendance, totalling less than 10%, due to medical reasons, may be arranged with the instructor as long as the student contacts the instructor no later than the day after the assignment or attendance is due.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options on how to obtain help.

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf> Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca>

All grades will reflect the student's ability to clearly demonstrate:

Successful completion and understanding of course objectives, and assignment objectives.

Technical and conceptual development of all assignments.

Understanding of project concepts.

Degree of inventiveness and ambition.

Level of preparedness and commitment to class activities.

According to the above criteria, students will be assessed as follows:

Projects

Gesture	10%
Contour	10%
Value Line to Value Tone	10%
Value Tone to Value tone	10%
Ink Perspective	10%
Ink Model	10%
Ink Pattern & Repetition	10%
Ink Photo	10%
Final drawing	10%

Contribution

Preparedness & Presence	10%
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