

**The University of Western Ontario
Department of Visual Arts**

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| Course: Visual Arts Studio 2210 | Title: Drawing & Painting |
| Section: 001 | Time: Monday and Wednesday 7pm to 10pm |
| Instructor: Neil Klassen | Location: Rooms 206 and 230 |
| Office: VAC Room 213 | E-mail: nklass2@uwo.ca |
| Office Hours: Mon 6-7pm | |
| Phone #: 80078 | |

Course Description:

In this full-year course students progress through a series of projects that build skill along with an exposure to a diversity of contemporary drawing and painting practices. Working from observation, figuration, abstraction and digital processes, students will investigate materiality, colour, design, historical context and concept. Along with building strong drawing and painterly skills students discover the conventions of drawing and painting to consider their cultural meanings and push at established boundaries. Studio exercises, assignments as well as independent projects will be directed to develop a working knowledge of the basic materials, processes and visual language. As the course develops emphasis on formal and perceptual means will increasingly be brought to bear on resolving conceptual problems. Lectures, readings, discussions, presentations and critiques will serve to familiarize students with broad range of theoretical and critical tools fundamental to current drawing and painting practices. All students will be expected to engage in rigorous experimentation in responding to class projects and personally develop the means to apply acquired resources on an independent basis.

Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate perceptual, visual and conceptual skills through art making and as a critical viewer
- Apply technical and theoretical principles in painting as a contemporary art medium
- Demonstrate a grasp of historical and contemporary issues relevant to the making and evaluation of contemporary practices in drawing and painting
- Demonstrate sufficient confidence to expand upon introductory painting skills in advanced studio courses
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate, both verbally and orally, the strengths and weaknesses of their projects.

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 (4 classes per semester) 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 debarred.
- Unless specifically given as an entirely homework project, all assignments must be worked on in class. Assignments not seen in progress by the instructor will not be accepted for grading, resulting in a loss of a project's percentage in the year end mark.
- 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 for critique. Failure to complete assignments or present completed work in scheduled critiques without prior consultation with the instructor will result in a failing grade. With prior discussion, students can hand in late work with 2% per day deducted from the assignment (Monday to Friday, weekend considered one day). No late work will be accepted 3 weeks, or later, after the assigned due date (grade = 0). Work handed in on the due date can always be reworked after it has been graded to be reconsidered for a grade. Resubmission will not be accepted on work that was handed in after the due date. No work will be accepted after December 4th.
- 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 Counseling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. 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.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.
- Students are expected to be prepared to work at the beginning of class with appropriate materials, as well as **cleaning-up after each work session**. It is particularly disrespectful to a model to arrive late, or unprepared, for life-drawing sessions; as well as being a waste of what are limited available hours
- Students are expected to spend a minimum 1-hour outside of class for every one hour in class towards fulfilling course requirements.
- Students 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.
- Students are responsible for ensuring they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no fee adjustment. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Evaluation:

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| Studio Assignments | 80% |
| Artist Presentation | 10% |
| Attendance, preparation and participation, | 10% |

Students must complete all assignments by the due dates stated in the syllabus unless a previous agreement has been made with the instructor. The Syllabus may be subject to change in order to adapt to class needs. All changes will be announced in class with fair advanced warning.

Studio assignments will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Successful completion and understanding of general course objectives (as above) and specific assignment objectives.
- Completion and quality of all assignments
- Organization, presentation and clarity of intent
- An understanding of project concepts and the ability to express that understanding.
- Inventiveness and ambition of assignments.
- A willingness to participate and a commitment to all class activities.

Based on the success in meeting the above criteria, grades will be assessed as follows:

90–100 (Outstanding, A+)

Outstanding. Exceeds expectations and assignment requirements. Demonstrates a clear understanding of, and development beyond, the assignment objectives. Profound originality and thought is evident.

80–89 (Excellent, A)

Excellent. Exceeds expectations and assignment requirements. Excellent originality and thought is evident.

75–79 (Very Good, B+)

Very good. A good grasp of the assignment requirements and objectives is evident, or excellent grasp in one assignment component, balanced with a satisfactory grasp in another aspect of the assignment.

70–74 (Good, B)

Good. A good attempt at responding to the assignment parameters. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is satisfactory.

60–69 (Competent, C)

Satisfactory. A satisfactory grasp of the assignment requirements and objectives is evident.

50–59 (Marginal, D)

Marginal. A superficial grasp of the assignment requirements and objectives is evident. Questionable effort put forth.

Below 50 (Unacceptable, F)

Unsatisfactory. Lack of assignment comprehension and effort is evident.