

Western University, Department of Visual Art

VAS 2210 – Section 002 – Introduction to Drawing and Painting

Professor:	Sky Glabush	Time:	Mon - Wed 11:30-2:30
Course:	VAS 2210	Office Hours:	Tues: 11:30-1:30
Section:	002	Email:	sglabush@uwo.ca
Location:	JLVAC 230	Phone:	661-2111 ext. 86845

Course Description

VAS 2210 will explore the expressive and creative potential within the languages of drawing and painting and introduce important conceptual and theoretical ideas related to contemporary art. Students will be exposed to a variety of materials and working methods and engage in rigorous experimentation with the physical and critical processes of producing two-dimensional art. As an introductory course, emphasis will be given to perceptual development. As the term proceeds theoretical and critical issues will be integrated into the assignments. The course materials will be shared through instructor presentations, group critiques and discussions, technical demonstrations, assigned readings, and studio projects.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

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

- Demonstrate technical, analytical and critical awareness of a wide range of material and conceptual problems specific to the visual arts
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of historical and contemporary issues relevant to the development and evaluation of a visual arts practice specifically within the fields of drawing and painting
- Demonstrate technical and analytical competence necessary for continued development within the program

Course Requirements

Assigned Readings and Discussions:

The course includes required readings, followed by student and instructor led discussions designed to foster a working knowledge of critical and theoretical concepts. Updates, assigned readings and submitted work will be posted on our class blog <https://2210intro.wordpress.com>. Please note that grades will be submitted through OWL dropbox.

Participation and Attendance:

Due to the physical nature of painting and drawing, there will be a lot of in-class work. Students should be prepared, however, to spend a minimum of one hour working outside of class for every hour of class time. Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to show up to every class, on time, and with the appropriate material and must clean up after themselves at the end of each class. Missing more than 15% of classes (including late arrival and early departure) without prior consultation with the instructor may result in a failing grade. Students that miss class for medical reasons must present documented medical or bereavement excuses vetted through their academic advisor.

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 department. For assignments worth less than 10% please consult instructor for accommodation.

Mental Health Policy:

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 complete all assignments on the due date for critiques. Failure to complete assignments without prior consultation with instructor may result in a failing grade. Assignments must be submitted in a protective portfolio with each assignment clearly labeled, dated and separated. Failure to hand in assignments in a professional, organized manner may result in instructor declining to grade portfolio.

It is expected that students take notes on all lectures, presentations, and class discussions. A sketchbook or journal should be brought to each class along and the Course Outline.

Evaluation and Critiques:

As an instructor I will attempt to provide an environment of respect and security in which students will be encouraged to engage in a wide latitude of experimentation. In this environment of mutual respect there will be regular critiques of student projects in which **participation is mandatory**. Participation will be evaluated and constitute a portion of the final grade. Grades for this course are based upon the submission of class assignments and failure to submit projects will result in the subsequent loss of their respective percentage of the final grade. Late assignments will be penalized at 10% per missed class.

Evaluation:

Studio Assignments*	80%
Participation in discussions and in critiques	10%
Attendance, punctuality, conduct and professionalism	10%

*Studio assignments will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- innovation and originality;
- technical proficiency and creative use of materials;
- demonstration of a clear understanding of the goals of the assignment;
- presentation, organization, and clarity of intent.

Students may contact the instructor for additional assistance or critique of work, either in class, during office hours, or by appointment.

Grading: Based on the student's success in meeting the above requirements, grades will be assessed according to the following standard:

A+ 90 - 100%	Outstanding - The studio work shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated analysis and synthesis involving complex
--------------	---

	theoretical and conceptual thinking are demonstrated. Mastery of complex ideas is immediately evident. The studio work has originality, clarity and ambition. The project is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is exemplary.
A 80 - 89%	Excellent - The studio work shows originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. The work is clearly focused and intelligently presented. Mastery of complex ideas is demonstrated. The studio work has clarity and ambition. The quality of the studio production immediately engages the viewer. The studio work has been sufficiently developed and demonstrates mastery of techniques so that results are compelling. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is impressive.
B+ 75 – 79%	Very Good - The studio work shows above average analysis, critical thinking and independent thought. It demonstrates a clear awareness of the parameters of the assignment and a very good attempt to respond creatively to them. The work demonstrates reasonable depth and/or breadth and engages in a production that is appropriate to the level of the course. The quality of studio work engages the viewer and demonstrates above-average mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is very good.
B 70 - 74%	Good - The studio work shows a satisfactory attempt at analysis and critical thinking. It shows a good attempt to respond to assignment parameters. The work demonstrates some depth and/or breadth, making references to appropriate course material/art context. The studio production engages the viewer and demonstrates a sufficient mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is satisfactory.
C 60 – 69%	Competent - The studio work demonstrates adequate engagement with the project. It shows an attempt to respond to assignment parameters but does so at a very basic level that lacks creativity. Engagement with studio production demonstrates basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is competent.
D 50 – 59%	Marginal - The studio work shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The studio work waivers in its attempt to respond to assignment parameters and tends to be simplistic. Engagement with studio production demonstrates less than a basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is less than satisfactory.
F below 50%	Unacceptable - The studio work demonstrates a failure to comprehend/engage the topic. The studio work is incomplete and lacks redeeming creative merit. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is unacceptable.

*It is important to note that it is the student's responsibility to ensure successful completion of all course prerequisites and that he or she has not taken an antithetical course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as the basis of appeal. If not eligible for a course the student may be removed from it at any time and will receive no fee adjustment. These decisions cannot be appealed.