

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

Course: Image Explorations Visual Arts Studio 2100B

Term: Winter 2018

Time: Friday 9:30 – 1:30

Location: VAC 206

Instructor: Geordie Shepherd

Office: VAC 213

Office Hours: Friday 1:30-2:30 pm by appointment

email: gshephe@uwo.ca

Course Description

This is an introductory course exploring two-dimensional design and creative and imaging principles such as the study of composition and colour theory, examining critical frameworks through readings and discussions, and expanding image literacy through communal research. Classes will consist of varying combinations of slide lectures, class discussions, technical demonstrations, critiques and studio time.

Students will produce a body of work that demonstrates their understanding of the technical skills and key concepts presented in each of the course sections, which will be informed by course readings, lectures, independent research, group discussions and critiques.

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. Arrive before class starts with all necessary materials and find a seat or if we will be drawing and or painting set-up your workspace, etc.
- Students are expected to clean up their work space and the room after each work session. Please do not leave a mess for someone else to clean up.
- Be considerate when sharing studio equipment, making room for each other, and respecting each other's focus. Also, please be considerate during my assignment & image discussions and demonstrations.
- Because music can enhance one's ability to focus and to work creatively, I might play music during class. If you prefer to listen to your own music please use ear buds, but please remove them during announcements or demonstrations.

OWL

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

Owl Course Site: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

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.

PROJECTS and MATERIALS

Cell Phones & Social Media

Cell phones, watches & computers will not be used during class time for any purpose other than research directly related to this course. Turn all ringers off before class begins, or better yet, turn your device off until class ends. If you are distracted by social media you are not participating in the class.

Course Requirements

Attendance: 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. It is very disrespectful to a model to arrive late, or unprepared for life-drawing sessions.

Students arriving unreasonably late (30 minutes or more), or leaving early, will be marked as absent. Students arriving to class without required materials or arriving unprepared for critiques will receive reduced marks. Texting or otherwise using media in class with no relation to a specific activity will result in reduced marks.

Materials and Sketchbooks: It is expected that students will take notes on all lectures, presentations and class discussions. A journal or sketchbook should be brought to every class.

Communications: Students are responsible for making themselves aware of all assignments, procedures and due dates in the syllabus or announced on OWL. It is the student's complete responsibility to keep informed of any such changes.

Due Dates: 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). 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.

Students are expected to spend a minimum of one 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.

Unless specifically given as a 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.

Critiques: Critiques are intended for you to respond to your peers' work and to your own and not a platform for the instructor to speak solely. Being comfortable publically analyzing one's own work and the work of others is an important skill that requires practice to develop. If you are uncomfortable with this please let me know so I might help. ATTENDANCE AT ALL CRITIQUES IS MANDATORY. Missing a critique without prior consultation will automatically result in a 0 (zero) grade for that Project.

Lockers: Students will be assigned shared lockers for use during the term. It is important for students to be respectful of their peers by keeping the work and supplies safe and in an orderly fashion. Students are required to clean out their belongings at the end of the term. The department cannot be held responsible for any materials or work left after this time.

PROJECTS and MATERIALS

Medical Policy:

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html

[downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): student.uwo.ca under the Medical Documentation heading]

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.

Accommodation for missed assignments, or attendance, totaling 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.

Mental Health:

"Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western