SFASU School of Art

ART 100.007 Drawing I
M/W 2:00 - 4:40pm, ART 201
Instructor: Wesley Berg
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office phone: 936.468.4248
office: ART 111
office hours: M/W 1-2pm and by appointment

Course Description
Drawing I is an introduction to the expression of visual form through drawing. Through observational drawing, students will learn fundamental drawing elements and principles while beginning to understand these elements and principles through visible and consistent practice.

Course Objectives
- Students will observe forms within space, creating believable depictions of objects, spaces, and scenes they observe, using a variety of drawing media and methods.
- Students will gain an understanding of the use of drawing materials, developing strategies to convey meaning through the use of those materials and attention to mark-making.
- Students will strengthen perceptual skills and organizational principles through the act of drawing and begin to refine an ability to apply relevant vocabulary and critically evaluate artwork.
- Students will begin to consider and understand the role of drawing within history and contemporary art.

Course Materials
Basic drawing materials will be provided for you, using the course fees already applied to the course. You are responsible for replacing lost and used materials when necessary. This list includes some of the materials which will be provided:

- Vine Charcoal
- Graphite pencils: HB, 2B/4B
- Charcoal pencil
- White block eraser
- Gray kneaded eraser
- Drawing paper
- Newsprint
**Sketchbook**
A sketchbook is required for this course. Students are expected to have some form of sketchbook to take notes and complete out-of-class assignments. This can be a shared sketchbook with other studio courses.

**Text and Readings:**
There is no required textbook for this class. I will share occasional readings with you, in the form of handouts or web links on D2L. Students are expected to read these articles and participate in discussion and/or write responses when required. **Students should check D2L frequently for class updates and further course resources.**

**Projects:**
This course will combine Projects, daily drawing studies, and out-of-class assignments. Here is a breakdown of the grading:

Projects will receive letter grades and feedback sheets. The Project letter grades will be averaged to reach a final course grade. Out-of-class work and class participation is expected as part of this course. These factors will be considered at Midterm and Final grading and can have the ability to slightly raise or slightly lower the course grade. Final grade is 90% Projects and 10% participation and out-of-class assignments.

**Each project will be graded on the following criteria:**

*The Project:*
- Displays clear artistic intent and full resolution of the drawing within project parameters
- Demonstrates an understanding of visual elements and principles of drawing and design
- Effectively conveys scale and proportion
- Displays craftsmanship, overall presentation and command of drawing materials

**Explanation of Grading Criteria:**

**A**  Excellent: Displays a strong grasp of the process, concepts and materials that far exceeds normal expectations. Deep understanding of elements and principles of drawing and two-dimensional design conveyed in the work. Drawings convey a solid framework through gesture in the initial stages and of in-depth development in their progression. Handling of materials, rendering of form and approach to composition are mature and convey insight and invention. **Self-motivated, disciplined and committed to practice. Comes to class prepared at all times. Work is always on time. Very active in critiques and discussions.**

**B**  Above Average: Displays a good grasp of the process, concepts and materials that exceeds normal expectations. Solid understanding of elements and principles of drawing and two-dimensional design conveyed in the work. Drawings convey a relatively solid framework
through gesture in the initial stages and of good development in their progression. Handling of materials, rendering of form and approach to composition are mature and convey some insight and invention. Mostly self-motivated, disciplined and committed to practice. Comes to class all of the time. Work is on time. Active in critiques and discussions.

C Average: Displays an average understanding of the process concepts and materials that meets normal expectations. Some demonstrated understanding of elements and principles of drawing and two-dimensional design. Drawings convey little framework with underdeveloped gesture in the initial stages and development in their progression lacks closure. Handling of materials, rendering of form and approach to composition lack maturity, but convey some insight or invention. Some self-motivation, discipline and commitment to practice, but relies on outside stimulus for guidance. Comes to class prepared and work is on time. Somewhat active in critiques and discussions.

D Below Average: Lacks an understanding of or engagement with the process, concepts and materials that falls below normal expectations. Little demonstrated understanding of elements and principles of drawing and two-dimensional design. Drawings lack framework and gesture is generally underdeveloped in the initial stages; drawings feel incomplete. Handling of materials, rendering of form and approach to composition lack maturity and convey little insight and invention. Lacks self-motivation, discipline and commitment to practice. Comes to class prepared most of the time. Work is mostly on time, but lacks in-depth investigation. Not engaged with or active in critiques and discussions.

F Failure to turn in projects, excessive absences, not engaged with or active in critiques and discussions.

Class Attendance:
Attendance is required for this class.
4 absences will result in a 1 full letter grade deduction on your Final Grade
5 absences will result in a 2 full letter grade deduction on your Final Grade
6+ absences will result in an F for this course

Attendance Sign-In:
Students are required to sign-in at the beginning of class. Your record of attendance is your responsibility. If you forget to sign-in, you must contact me that same day to get credit for attending.

*Please let me know beforehand (when possible) if you will be missing class. I understand that things happen. It’s good to just let me know so we can figure out a plan to make up projects and keep on track.
*Please be on time to class.* If arriving late or leaving early becomes an issue, there will be one email notification followed by an additional recorded absence if there continues to be an issue.

**Studio Expectations**
It is expected that you will arrive promptly to class and prepare your space for drawing. This includes arranging your easel and drawing board and setting up your paper and drawing materials. If you do come to class late, please quietly set up your work area so as not to disturb your classmates.

It is also expected that you will care for the studio space and studio furniture. This includes sweeping your work area, wiping off furniture and putting boards, easels, and drawing horses away. Please take care to not disturb still life arrangements and other setups in the room. This is a communal studio shared with other classes.

Your actions in the classroom environment should demonstrate intellectual *engagement* in the course content and respect for your classmates and instructor. The instructor reserves the right to limit or prohibit use of any electronic devices during class.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the coursework because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH
will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4**
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This policy applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at [https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp](https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp) or call the office at 936-468-2703.

**Course Calendar** (does not include out of class assignments, *Calendar may be adjusted throughout the semester*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 28</td>
<td>Introduction, Syllabus, Studio Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 30</td>
<td>Gesture, Basic Forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 4</td>
<td>Gesture, Basic Forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 6</td>
<td>Project: Basic Forms Line Still Life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 11</td>
<td>Project continued</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 13</td>
<td>Project continued</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 18</td>
<td>Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 20</td>
<td>Intro to Positive/Negative space, Composition. Project: Silhouette, Form/Space</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 25</td>
<td>Project continued</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 27</td>
<td>Project continued</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Sept 29)</td>
<td>Optional Bus Trip to Fort Worth Museums. Sign up in the Art Office.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 2</td>
<td>Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 4</td>
<td>Project: Value Collage/ Group Drawing</td>
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Oct 9  Project Continued, Finish Project in Class
Oct 11 Intro Full Value Project, Studies
Oct 16 Project: Full Value
Oct 18 Midterm, Project continued
Oct 23 Project continued
Oct 25 Project continued
Oct 30 Critique
Nov 1 Intro Perspective, demos, studies
Nov 6 Project: Perspective
Nov 8 Project continued
Nov 13 Project continued
Nov 15 Critique
Nov 20 Thanksgiving Break, No Class
Nov 22 Thanksgiving Break, No Class
Nov 27 Final Project
Nov 29 Project continued
Dec 4 Project continued
Dec 6 Project continued
Dec 11 Exam week, Final Critique

*Changes to this Syllabus and Course Calendar are at the discretion of the instructor*