Course Description
Drawing I is an introduction to the expression of visual form through observational drawing. Artists will learn fundamental drawing elements and principles while beginning to understand these concepts through visible and consistent practice. This course will explore the skills necessary to depict realistic, observational imagery. While bettering technical drawing skills, Artists will begin to explore Form and Content, with a focus on meaning-making through drawing.

Course Objectives
- Artists will observe forms within space, creating believable depictions of objects, spaces, and scenes they observe, using a variety of drawing media and methods.
- Artists 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.
- Artists will strengthen perceptual skills and organizational principles through the act of drawing and apply relevant vocabulary to critically evaluate artwork.
- Students will begin to consider and understand the role of drawing within history and contemporary art.

Course Materials and Studio Fees
Basic drawing materials will be provided for you, using the course fees already applied to this 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, 6B
- Charcoal pencil
- White block eraser
- Gray kneaded eraser
- Compressed charcoal
- Drawing Paper
- Newsprint
*Other recommended materials include: chamois cloth, conte crayon, sharpie, more variety of graphite/charcoal pencils. As the semester progresses, I will let you know if additional materials will be required.

**Sketchbook**

**A sketchbook is required for this course.** At least 8 x 10". Artists are expected to have their sketchbooks for every class meeting. There will be out-of-class assignments which will be completed in the sketchbook. You may use the same sketchbook for other classes, if that is appropriate for those courses.

**Text and Readings:**

No textbook is required for this class. I will share occasional readings with you, in the form of handouts or web links. You will be expected to read these articles and participate in discussion and/or write responses. **You are expected to check D2L frequently for class updates and further course resources.**

**Projects:**

Project grades will be averaged together to comprise 80% of the final grade. Sketchbook will comprise 20% of the final grade.

**Grading Rubric for Projects**

Each project in this course will be graded on the same 4 categories. Each category will be given a letter grade. Those letter grades will average to comprise the project grade.

The 4 categories are:

1) The project displays artistic intent and full resolution of the drawing within project parameters
2) The project demonstrates an understanding of visual elements and principles of drawing and design
3) The project effectively conveys scale and proportion
4) The project 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
There are no “excused” or “unexcused” absences. 3 Absences are intended to cover things like being sick or emergencies, etc. Please let me know if there are extenuating circumstances.

Please arrive on time to class and stay until the dismissed. If either become an issue, one notification will be given, followed by an absence, if it continues.

No Cell Phone use in the studio.
Artists will not use cell phones during class, including for music. We will take breaks each hour of class. At that time you may use cell phones outside of the studio room. If asked multiple times to put your cell phone away, I will ask you to leave class and mark 1 absence for that day.

**Studio Expectations**

It is expected that all Artists clean their work area and put away studio furniture so that the room is left in an orderly fashion for the next classes.

**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)
- **1/17**  Introduction, Syllabus, Studio Orientation
- **1/22**  Gesture, Basic Forms
- **1/24**  Project 1: Basic Forms Line Still Life
- **1/29**  Project continued
- **1/31**  Project continued
- **2/5**  Critique
- **2/7**  Intro to Positive/Negative space, Composition. Project 2: Silhouette, Form/Space
- **2/12**  Project continued
- **2/14**  Project continued (Faculty Senate)
- **2/19**  Critique
- **2/21**  Project 3: Collage Group Drawing + Fabric Project, work on collage in class
- **2/26**  Collage due, Group Drawing in class
- **2/28**  Group Drawing cont., Fabric
- **3/5**  Fabric
- **3/7**  Fabric (Faculty Senate)
- **3/12**  Spring Break, No Class
- **3/14**  Spring Break, No Class
- **3/19**  Critique Fabric, Project 4: Perspective
- **3/21**  Project continued
- **3/26**  Project continued
- **3/28**  Studio Activity
- **4/2**  Project 5: Full Value
- **4/4**  Project continued
- **4/9**  Project continued (Faculty Senate)
- **4/11**  Project continued
- **4/16**  Critique
- **4/18**  Project 6: Organic Line
4/23  Project continued
4/25  Project continued
4/30  Project continued
5/2   Critique
5/11  Final, 8-10am