SFASU School of Art

ART 400.002  Drawing III  
ART 500.002  Advanced Life Drawing  
M/W 2pm - 4:40 pm, ART 202  
Instructor: Wesley Berg  
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Office phone: 936.468.4248  
Office: ART 111  
Office hours: M/W 10-11am and by appointment

Course Description

Drawing III focuses on figure drawing and the structural elements of the human form. Drawing the human form brings about new technical, perceptual and expressive challenges beyond the previous studies of still life and observation. Figure drawing has a rich history in the arts and is a continued practice within modern day art studies. Figure drawing builds upon visual concepts of form in space, gesture, movement, structure, expression, and meaning-making.

Course Objectives

- Students will investigate the human form through observation and the use of a variety of drawing media and methods.
- Students will understand the underlying structure of the human body as a means towards developing an intuitive response to drawing the figure.
- Students will strengthen perceptual skills and organizational principles through the act of drawing and further refine an ability to apply relevant vocabulary and critically evaluate artwork.
- Students will consider and understand the role of figure drawing within history and contemporary art.

Course Materials and Studio Fees

The studio fees for this class are used for the plaster cast collection, materials, and to pay the figure models. You are expected to provide your own basic drawing materials for this class. Most of you will have had experience with these materials:

- Vine Charcoal
- Graphite pencils: 2H, HB, 2B/4B
- Charcoal pencil
- White block eraser
- Gray kneaded eraser
- Compressed charcoal

*Paper for in-class drawings will be provided.
*A sketchbook is strongly recommended. If you have a sketchbook from other classes, feel free to combine and use for this class as well.
*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.

**Text and Readings:**
*Required readings, articles, images and other information will be shared via D2L. You are expected to check D2L for class updates and further resources.*

**Portfolios and Projects:**

Midterm Portfolio (33.3% of Final Grade)
-will include 3-5 drawings completed in class during the first half of the semester.

Final Portfolio (33.3% of Final Grade)
-will include 3-5 drawings completed in class during the second half of the semester.

Master studies, participation, event response papers (33.3% of Final Grade)
-grades of master studies and response papers will be averaged, participation will be taken into consideration.

**Midterm/Final Portfolio and Master Study evaluation:**
- 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.
*3 absences are permitted without any effect on your final grade
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

*Perfect attendance bonus: Increase one of these areas (Midterm portfolio, Final Portfolio, or Master Study/Response Paper) by one letter grade if no absences are accrued, and no significantly late arrivals or early dismissals.

Arrive on time to class: Often we will be drawing from a nude model. We cannot have people going in and out of the classroom at random times. After the model assumes his/her pose at the beginning of class, I will post a sign on the studio door. If you arrive late to class and see this sign on the door, you must wait until our first class break before coming into class and setting up to draw. This will be done out of respect for the model and to limit class disruptions. This applies to classroom breaks as well. We will have 2-3 breaks per class of 10-15 min each (unless otherwise specified).
**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. 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. Please be aware of the model changing area. While the model is posing, please be discreet when entering or exiting the studio classroom. 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/.

**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 or call the office at 936-468-2703.