Expressive Drawing  
ARTS – 4324 - 001

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Office Hours: 9:45-10:45 AM MW by appointment.  
Department: ART

Class meeting time and place: 11:00 AM – 1:40 PM MW in ART202

Course Description
Credits 3. This course will stress the production of expressive drawings. This includes the identification and resolution of problems of artistic expression.

Course Contact Hours and Study Hours
Expressive Drawing is a 3 credit studio course focused on creative drawing, contemporary research, and content building. Through media exploration, art analysis, and experimentation, Expressive Drawing bolsters a student’s ability to produce artwork that is wholly original. This course involves experimenting with contemporary ways of drawing and investigating content specific to each student, with exploratory exercises assigned throughout to assist each student in reaching their personal artistic goals and building their individual artistic practices and methodologies.

Program Learning Outcomes
• Undergraduate students will demonstrate proficiency in studio foundation courses, which will prepare them for advanced coursework in their chosen field.
• Undergraduate students will exhibit a high level of proficiency in the use of materials, techniques and media.
• Undergraduate students will demonstrate understanding of contemporary art issues through exploration of synthesis of content, problem solving and creativity.
• Undergraduate students will define and state knowledge of Art Historical precedents.

Student Learning Outcomes
• Students will conceptualize and create original drawings, creating depictions of objects, spaces, abstractions, and scenes from research and imagination, using a variety of drawing media and methods.
• Students will deepen their understanding of the use of drawing materials, develop strategies to convey meaning with those materials, and give attention to mark-making.
• Students will apply conceptual skills and organizational principles through the act of drawing and use relevant vocabulary to critically evaluate artwork.
• Students will understand the role of expressive drawing within art history and contemporary art.

Text and Materials
A sketchbook is required for this course. Keeping a sketchbook will help you to encourage more practice of sketching ideas between the class sessions. Also, your sketchbook is the place to keep out of class assignments, notes, comments, and ideas from our classroom discussions. This sketchbook can be shared with another class but must be organized, free of personal writings, and have enough blank pages to make it through this semester. Sketchbook assignments are factored into each project grade. Purchase a sketchbook that is manageable in size—something to carry around with you (11”x 14” max).

Basic drawing materials will be provided 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, various drawing papers, sharpie, chalk pastel, micron pens, and/or a wider variety of graphite/charcoal pencils. As the semester progresses, I will let you know if additional materials will be required.

Course Requirements
There are 4 projects for this course. Each project is 25% of your final grade. Daily commitment to practice, participating in critique, and successful completion of sketchbook assignments outside of class are tied into their correlating project.

Grading Rubric for Projects:
Each project in this course is graded with 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, is complete, and is fully resolved within project parameters
2) The project demonstrates an understanding of visual elements and principles of drawing and design (including but not limited to composition, balance, value/contrast, mark-making, shape, form)
3) The project effectively conveys accurate scale and proportion of the subject.
4) The project displays craftsmanship, strong attention to presentation, and a command of drawing materials

Grading Policy
Explanation of Grading Criteria:
A Excellent: Displays a strong grasp of the process, concepts, and materials that far exceed normal expectations. Deep understanding of elements and principles of drawing and twodimensional 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 scale, proportion, and 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 twodimensional 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 scale, proportion, and 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 meet normal expectations. Some demonstrated understanding of elements and principles of drawing and two-dimensional design. Drawings convey little framework with underdeveloped gestures in the initial stages and development in their progression lacks closure. Handling of materials, rendering of form and approach to scale, proportion, and 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 and 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 scale, proportion, and 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.

Attendance Policy
Attendance is mandatory. You must attend every class, trip and meeting. We will be meeting face to face unless otherwise indicated by your instructor. You must consistently check your email and d2l for any changes to course meeting locations and/or format.

• Unexcused absences over 3 absences will result in the loss of one full letter grade from the final grade. Your grade will continue to drop a letter grade with each additional absence. If you know you’ll have more than two absences for school/sports, talk to me at the end of the first class.
• Arrive on time and participate the entire time. In this course, you will need to complete work in and out of the classroom.
• Students not participating in class are considered absent.
• With a three-credit class, there is a minimum of six to nine hours of work expected outside of class each week. Please learn to set priorities and budget your time.
**Devices/Cell Phones:**

Studio time in this course is meant for focus and drawing practice. Cell phones and other devices are often a major distraction to the process of art making (unless specifically being used in the process). Please refrain from using these devices during the working sessions of this studio class. To be clear: text on your breaks. Headphones are allowed during active drawing time so long as you can hear my voice when/if the classes attention is needed.

**Studio Expectations:**

Participation in discussion and classroom activities is expected. Artists will clean their work area and put away studio furniture so that the room is left in an orderly fashion for the next class. You must leave your workspace in the same or better condition than you found it. No excuses.

**Academic Integrity (4.1)**

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (5.5)**

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 to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

**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 promptly may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

**Student Wellness and Well-Being**

SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.
If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**

**The Dean of Students Office**  
(Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)  
[www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents](http://www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents)  
936.468.7249  
dos@sfasu.edu

**SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic**  
Human Services, Room 202  
[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)  
936.468.1041

**The Health and Wellness Hub**  
“The Hub”  
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:  
· Health Services  
· Counseling Services  
· Student Outreach and Support  
· Food Pantry  
· Wellness Coaching  
· Alcohol and Other Drug Education  
[www.sfasu.edu/thehub](http://www.sfasu.edu/thehub)  
936.468.4008  
[thehub@sfasu.edu](mailto:thehub@sfasu.edu)

**Crisis Resources:**  
· Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343  
· National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8  
· Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)  
· jobCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

**Course Calendar**

8/28 – Introductions and syllabus read through.

8/30 – First expressive drawing exercise.

9/4 – Drawing demo and exercises, emphasizing mark making.

9/6 – Experimental drawing. Weekend sketchbook assignment.

9/11 – Drawing demo and drawing exercises.

9/13 – Experimental drawing. Weekend sketchbook assignment.

9/18 – Introduction to Project 1.

9/20 – Drawing for Project 1. Weekend sketchbook assignment.

9/25 – Drawing for Project 1.


10/2 – Drawing for Project 1.

10/4 – Project 1 Critique.

10/9 – Introduction to Project 2 –

10/11 – Project 2 drawing exercises. Weekend sketchbook assignment.
10/16 – Project 2 drawing exercises.
10/18 – Drawing for Project 2. Weekend sketchbook assignment.
10/23 – Drawing for Project 2.
10/25 – Project 2 Critique.
10/30 – Introduction to Project 3 –
11/1 – Project 3 drawing exercises. Weekend sketchbook assignment.
11/6 – Project 3 drawing exercises.
11/13 – Drawing for Project 3.
11/15 – Project 3 Critique.
11/20 – Holiday.
11/22 – Holiday.
11/27 – Introduction to Project 4 –
12/4 – Drawing for Project 4.
12/6 – Drawing for Project 4.
12/13 – Final held 10:30 AM-12:30 PM – Project 4 Final Critique and Overall Clean Up Day.