Graduate Expressive Drawing - ARTS 5324 – 001

Instructor: Lindsey Creel
MTWTR 5-8:40pm
Studio Classroom: ART 202
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Office: ART 123B
Office Hours: MW 2:30-4:30 by appointment only

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

Additional Information: Graduate Expressive Drawing is a 3 credit studio course focused on creative drawing, contemporary research, and content building. Through media exploration, art analysis, and experimentation, Graduate 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:
1. Graduate students will demonstrate proficiency in studio foundation courses, which will prepare them for advanced coursework in their chosen field.

2. Graduate students will exhibit proficiency in the application of technical and problem-solving skills appropriate to their designated concentration, as well as developing individual creativity.

3. Graduate students will compare their progress against models of excellence in the visual arts, which are provided through high quality extracurricular and extramural art activities.

4. Graduate students will design and implement art activities for the larger art community appropriate to their designated field.

Graduate 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 apply that meaning through 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 research and present the role of expressive drawing within art history and contemporary art.
• Students will assist in facilitating critique days with undergraduate students.

Communication:
We will primarily meet face-to-face, with some class meetings on Zoom. You must check Brightspace D2L and your email regularly for updates and/or changes in course formatting.

Course Requirements and Attendance:
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 2 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.
• Arrive on time and participate the entire time. You are considered late if you arrive 1-14 minutes past the start of class. If you are late three times you will receive an absence. If you are 15 or more minutes late you will be considered absent for the day.
• Students not participating in class are considered absent. If we have critiques on Zoom, your images must be uploaded to the appropriate location as specified on Brightspace or by your instructor before class begins.
• 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.

Assignments:
All assignments are due at the beginning of class the day of the specified due date unless otherwise noted. The assignment due dates are listed on the calendar portion of this syllabus but are subject to change at the Professor’s discretion. Professor reserves the right to refuse late or underdeveloped work. If your assignment is unfinished, bring what you have done to class.
You are allowed to resubmit one unfinished assignment per semester (with the exception of the final assignment(s)) so long as it was originally submitted by its due date.

All students are expected to participate in critique even if their work is unfinished. Participation in critique is worth 20% of each project grade. Additional sketchbook assignments will be given throughout the semester.

**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.

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 (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). 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 prohibition 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 Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

**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. Headphones are allowed during active drawing time so long as you can hear my voice when/if your attention is needed for announcements.

**Course Materials and Studio Fees:**

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. Because this is a graduate course, you are responsible for providing any materials specific to your desired outcomes.

Sketchbook:

A sketchbook is **required** for this course. Keeping a sketchbook will encourage the practice of sketching ideas between the class sessions. Also, it is *the* place to keep thumbnails, notes, comments, and ideas from our classroom discussions. This sketchbook can be shared with another class but must be organized and free of personal writings. Purchase a sketchbook that is manageable in size (11”x 14” max)—it cannot serve its purpose if it is too bulky to carry around with you.

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 in your sketchbook or on the D2L course discussion board.

**Projects:**

There are 4 projects for this course. Each project is 20% of your final grade. The remaining 20% comes from your weekly presentations. Participation and sketchbook assignments are tied into their correlating project.

Artist/artwork presentations are condensed explanations of your contemporary artist research. Once a week you will give a 6–8-minute presentation of your ongoing contemporary artist/artwork research for the undergraduate Expressive Drawing students. Visuals of each artist/artwork discussed are required. Preparation for this exercise requires a minimum of 2 hours per week. Combined these are worth 20% of your grade.

Grading Rubric for Projects:

Each project in this course will be graded in the same 4 categories. Each category is given a letter grade. Those letter grades 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 is well developed from ideation to completion with a clear connection of research and experimentation

4) The project displays craftsmanship, strong 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 exceed normal expectations. Deep understanding of elements and principles of drawing and two-dimensional design conveyed in the work. Drawings convey a solid framework through research and thumbnails in the initial stages and of in-depth development in their progression. Experimentation with/handling of materials 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 from research and thumbnails in the initial stages through development in their progression. Experimentation with/handling of materials 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 conveyed in the work. Drawings convey little framework with underdeveloped research and thumbnails in the initial stages and development in their progression lacks closure. Experimentation with/handling of materials and approach to composition lack maturity but convey some insight or invention. Some self-motivation, discipline, and commitment to practice, but relies on outside stimuli 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 research and thumbnails are generally underdeveloped in the initial stages; drawings feel incomplete. Experimentation with/handling of materials 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.

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/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf).

**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 course work 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. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf).
**Accommodation of Disabilities:**

Rights and Responsibilities of Students. "In accordance with University policy, students with disabilities who need accommodations are expected to initiate a meeting with the professor immediately upon registering with Disability Services to discuss how accommodations included on the Special Accommodation Request form will be provided. Students with disabilities who may have special needs and have not requested support services should seek assistance through Disability Services." Office of Disability Services, Human Services Building, Room 325, 468-3004. Once your information is verified, ODS will notify me and outline the accommodations.

**Safety:**

1. Students and employees are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated for COVID-19. Find a vaccination site by visiting vaccine.gov.
2. Students and employees who test positive for COVID-19 must report their positive test in mySFA.
3. Students and employees should **stay home** when they are feeling sick or have symptoms related to COVID-19.
4. Face coverings – Individuals who take personal responsibility such as wearing a mask indoors help reduce the spread of COVID-19. This is voluntary, as all mandates regarding face coverings have been lifted at SFA to comply with Governor Abbott’s Executive Order GA-38: “No governmental entity, including a county, city, school district, and public health authority, and no governmental official may require any person to wear a face covering or to mandate that another person wear a face covering;”

**Mental Health and Wellness:**

SFA values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. 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:**

SFA Counseling Service [www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices)
Rusk Building, 3rd Floor
936.468.2401

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

**Crisis Resources:**

Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343S
Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741