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ARTZ 105A.01: Visual Language - Drawing

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Course Information

The University of Montana, School of Art
Web newsletter: umartdepartment.wordpress.com
ARTZ 105A – not repeatable – section 01 – Visual Language – 3 credits
No pre-requisites
General education course with ‘A’ designation; Art major/minor prerequisite
Assignments specifics will be discussed in class

Instructor Information

Maryann.bonjorni@umontana.edu
Office: Fine Arts 303B
Office hours: Wednesdays 11-12 or by appointment (after class is good)

Class Meetings

2:00-4:00, Tuesday and Thursday, FA 401

Text(s)

None, although outside research may be assigned

Materials

A starter kit of materials is provided with the \$40.00 lab fee. Additional materials will be announced in class and purchased by the individual. Course drawing materials packets and BEE drawing paper pads can be picked up at the UM bookstore art supplies area the beginning of the second week of classes. You are to purchase your own drawing board for under \$8.00 and cardboard portfolio for under \$5.00.

Course Description

Visual Language is an introduction to drawing, concept development, and studio practicum. Focus is on developing basic skills in rendering/volume, pictorial depth, figure-ground relationships, the formal elements and design principles; research in historical and contemporary approaches to drawing.

Course Objectives and Format

- Introduction and application of the formal elements and design principles
- To gain proficiency in rendering
- To gain proficiency in visual communication of concepts through drawing
- Participate in critical assessment

Most lectures, handouts, and critiques will take place at the beginning of class. Studio practicum takes up the larger portion of the class time. Students should be prepared to listen carefully, take notes, be present the entire two hours, and apply classroom instruction *independently*. For three credits there are four hours of scheduled studio contact and a minimum of five additional unscheduled hours to be spent preparing work, reading, attending outside art events.

Policies and other information

Cell phones are allowed in class for research only

Assessment and Grading

In order to qualify for a letter grade you must complete the P/NP requirements. Your final grade will reflect averaging your midterm worth 25 % with work completed after the midterm worth 25%, then taking this outcome and averaging in your FINAL worth 50% (the final assignment TBA). As most students show significant improvement in the later part of this class, ***the final project is crucial to the overall letter grade.***

A = Excellent

B = Above Average

C = Average

D = Below Average

F = Failed no point(s)

Your grade is primarily based upon comparison to other work within this class with some consideration given for personal improvement.

Attendance

More than three absences, continual tardiness, or leaving early may result in a lower overall letter grade for this course. If you miss class contact another student for what was covered.

Double Credit Work

None accepted

Special Needs

Students with disabilities or special needs should see the instructor.

Announcements

It is the student's responsibility to write down information regarding the class calendar, handouts, exhibitions, lectures, readings, and any assignment changes.

Building Hours

The use of School of Art studio labs requires current enrollment in a studio course. Hours are 7:00 A.M. - 11:00 P.M.

Course Calendar

Course calendars list course activities including assignments and due dates. However, the calendar is subject to change, announced in class and marked on a master calendar posted in 401. If you miss class, be sure and check the calendar.

Health, safety, clean up

- First aid kits, dust masks, gloves, and eye protection are located near the sink area
- Studio clean up occurs after each class time or work session as well as required during the regular scheduled finals time
- **All work and materials must take place before 12:00 noon Friday of final's week. Any work left will be discarded.**
- Campus/ local call phones are located fourth floor east & first floor lobby.
- Campus security is x6131 and campus escort service is x2777

P/NP Requirements

This section of 105A requires preparedness, class participation in discussions, and attending outside of class art events. All students must pass all the P/NP requirements to qualify for a letter grade; see below:

- **Preparedness:** Have your drawings ready to hang for all scheduled due dates. This means they have been spray fixed and have masking or linen tape on the backside corners and/or backside perimeter, and that you have plenty of clear pushpins to hang your drawings. Have your paper and drawing tools ready to go by 15 minutes past the starting hour; giving both you and myself time for setting up. Drawings may be spray fixed outside or in the spray booth, 401A.
- **Class participation in discussions:** Class critiques are open discussion for all students. Bring something to write with and something to write on to all critiques and be prepared to reflect in writing and verbally to the artwork.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.