ART 123A.03: Drawing Fundamentals

Kathryn Rodriguez

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The University of Montana, Missoula
Art 123A – Drawing Fundamentals, sec. 03, 3 credits
Instructor: Kathy Rodriguez (kathryn.rodriguez@umontana.edu)

Available through email, scheduled appt. time, scheduled hours, voicemail, and in class
Studio Phone w/ VM: (406) 243-2483; Ofc hours: Wednesdays 1-2 p.m., Schreiber Gym, rm. 127

Class meeting times: T/R, 8:10-10:00 a.m., FA 401
Prereqs: none
UM Art Blog: department and community art events! www.umartdepartment.wordpress.com

Course Description / Objective
Taken directly from the UM 2007-2008 course catalogue:
3 credit course; “Offered every term. An introduction to visual language, concepts, and studio practicum. Focus on basic skills development in rendering volume, pictorial depth, and figure/ground relationships. Research in historical and contemporary approaches to drawing.”

Student Conduct Code
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.

“The Student Conduct Code, embodying the ideals of academic honesty, integrity, human rights, and responsible citizenship, governs all student conduct at the University of Montana-Missoula.”

Disability Services
Information is available on the web @ http://www.umt.edu/dss/. Please address individual issues/concerns/needs with me as soon as possible.

Withdraw Policy
Specifics are available at this address: http://www2.umt.edu/catalog/acpolpro.htm

Health and Safety
The UM Art Department uses environmentally sound methods. Your course fees purchase an individual drawing kit which complies with these methods. You will be individually responsible for clean-up at the end of each of your classroom working periods (in or out of class time). You are required to clean up your work space after each class (table, floor, stool, etc.) No creatures or children will be allowed in studios during class time or open studio times. No food or open beverage containers will be allowed in Art Department facilities when art making is in progress. There should not be any food or beverages consumed in Art facilities, as faculty will be liable if injuries occur. When needed, breaks may be taken by students by simply stepping out of the studios.

Building Hours
The use of Art studio space requires current enrollment in a specific studio course, as course fees are used for purchase of supplies. Those not currently enrolled will be asked to leave. Hours are 7 A.M.-11:00 P.M. daily.

Artists’ Collective
A student-organized and student led group, which sponsors art-related workshops, events, and the Annual Juried Student Show. Members will meet in FA 304 Mondays at 12:15 P.M. Everyone is invited to bring a sack lunch and join in!

Course Requirements.
As per NASAD guidelines, a minimum of five (5) extra hours outside of class time is required for this class. We are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, which establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and credentials. NASAD requires nine hours per week devoted to 3 credits of studio class. We use four of those hours in class; five hours are left to complete projects and homework out of class. Projects and homework are designed to effectively utilize nine hours of work per week.

NASAD reaccreditation is scheduled for March 2008. With your individual permission, I would like to collect one piece of artwork and contact information from each student to place on view for this visit. Work will be returned by the end of the Spring 2008 semester. If work is not picked up by the end of Spring 2008 semester, it will be discarded.

Blackboard.
This class is listed on Blackboard. A link to Blackboard login is available on the UM homepage. Click this link and login with your NetID and six digit password. If you are unsure of your NetID or password, go to IT Central in the Social Science building, first floor. The syllabus, notes from lectures, and all assignments may be read and printed from
Blackboard in the Mansfield Library, in the Fine Arts Resource Center, or the Mac lab (both on the 2nd floor of the FA Bldg.) You are individually responsible for reading, printing, and bringing project sheets to class discussions.

Textbook.

The textbook is intended to assist understanding of visual language and concepts through readings and in-class discussion. Please bring the text to class every day.

*Four copies of the textbook are available in the Fine Arts Resource Center, FA 201, for your perusal. Please consult the Resource Center’s schedule of hours, posted on the door of FA 201.

Attendance.
I take attendance at each class. Attendance is required. There are no excused absences. More than three absences will lower your grade 2.5 points for each absence, BUT six absences may result in a failing grade (six absences = 3 weeks of class!). In order to be considered in attendance at critiques, you must come to and stay throughout critiques. You will be considered tardy if you arrive more than five minutes past the posted starting time. Three tardies equal one absence.

Attendance at class discussions is a factor in each project grade; otherwise, you will earn 2.5 points for the each of twenty other classes that I require (30 classes total – 7 class discussions= 23 classes; -3 given absences = 20 classes x 2.5 pts = 50 pts.) At midterm, I will distribute to each student individually a “check-up” sheet detailing absences, midterm grade, and tardies.

Participation.
Participation is a part of studio practicum, and is directly related to class attendance. Your participation grade is worth 50 pts of your final grade, and is calculated by your participation in each of four critiques. Participation, including mine, is vital to the development of our class. Class time is the best opportunity to discuss projects and get feedback. Your participation is part of your peers’ experience.

Participation in class involves the following:
1. Attendance (use your three absences wisely)
2. Discussions – read the assigned material and be prepared to talk about it, ask questions, etc.
3. In-class work on projects
4. Conversation – be able to talk with your classmates about the projects.

* I may randomly call on students for input during class discussions

Please feel free to walk around the classroom during class time to discuss ongoing projects. Your peers are a valuable resource.

Critiques.
During critiques, you will be asked to explain how you have completed your project and convey your understanding of project criteria. Critiques are structured for your and your classmates’ benefit. You get 12.5 points for your participation in each of four critiques, for a total participation grade of 50 pts.

Participation in critique involves the following:
1. Be on time, attend, and stay throughout the critique.
2. Hang your completed project(s) on the wall for discussion.
3. Ability to talk about the work (your personal view—how does your work complete project criteria)
4. Reception to and participation in discussion about your work

Projects.
Projects are also a component of studio practicum, because they involve the in-class discussion of ongoing studio work with your instructor and your peers. These projects are designed to help you render volume, pictorial depth, and figure-ground relationships (course description/objective). You will be assigned eight (8) drawing projects, each with specific criteria that will be included as part of the grading, including (but not limited to) completion and timeliness, use of specified media, and successfully creating viable solutions to problems posed by each of the projects’ specifications. I expect complete projects to be turned in on time. In general, a project is complete when its idea is wholly and understandably rendered. Use of specific media and knowledge gained in class aids your understanding and ability to wholly render the project. A project is “on time” when it is turned in on the specified date at the beginning of the class period, with a sheet of paper protecting the surface of the drawing(s). If a project is complete and turned in on time, but you are dissatisfied with a component of your grade, you have the opportunity to rework or redo for up to five extra points on the given grade. Redo’s must be worked on concurrently with ongoing class projects and must be completed for the
final group critique. You may not redo final projects, as they will be discussed during the final group critique. I do not accept work from other classes for credit.

****Late Projects Policy.****

If you are unable to turn in a project on time, then contact me in class via email or by voice mail to schedule a turn in time before the due date of the project. You can have a classmate turn in your project for you to get it in on time, too. If a project is not turned in on time, then I will assign a make-up project. Until the make-up project and the original and completed project are turned into me – both are ultimately due in the final portfolio at the end of the semester – the grade for the project will remain at zero. If both the make-up and the original completed project are turned into me by the final portfolio, then points for the original worth of the project will be assigned. If both the make-up project and the original project are not turned in by the time of the final portfolio, no credit will be given for that project. Both the make-up and the original project must be included in the final portfolio for credit toward the final portfolio.

Research.
The research project (#8 of 8 projects) is designed to help you understand drawing as a valuable tool in the visual language and concepts of art, related to historical and contemporary approaches to drawing. As your final project, you will use an artwork of your choice by a known, historical figure as the basis for an original composition. You will also write an artist’s statement describing your artwork. Details available on Blackboard.

Homework.
Your homework assignments include sketchbook drawings and readings from the text. Both are designed to correspond with in-class projects. Sketchbook homeworks are worth 10 pts ea. and will be checked during in-class project time. Readings will be discussed in class along with the corresponding project, and two quizzes on key terms, each worth 15 pts., will be given to help you understand the readings. No make-ups or redo’s on homeworks or quizzes.

Final Portfolio.
The last class period is reserved for our final critique. I will collect the Final Portfolio for a grade at this class period. The Final Portfolio includes all complete projects, including make-ups, reworks, and redos. I’ll return this portfolio to students individually during the exam period, Thursday, December 13, 2007, 10:10 a.m. -12:10 p.m., in FA 401. If a student fails to pick up his/her final portfolio during this time, his/her work will be discarded. Work cannot be kept in the Art Office.

The Final portfolio grading breaks into three main criteria: 1.) That all projects are included in a sturdy portfolio; 2.) That all projects are neatly presented, kept in good condition throughout the semester; and 3.) That the student’s name appears on the final portfolio, with all projects numbered and named on the back of each. The student will also note any reworked or redone projects. I do not accept late final portfolios, and there are no make-up final portfolios. A detailed criteria sheet is distributed near the middle of the semester.

Grading.
Each project will have general as well as specific criteria. The overall success of the project is determined in part by your ability to talk about your completed project, which is reflected in your critique participation grade. Grades will be given on an individual and private basis via individual grading sheet, and will be returned with projects.

Your final score is based on a 1000 pt. scale that breaks down as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The first three projects are worth 60 pts ea</td>
<td>180 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects four and five are worth 80 pts.</td>
<td>160 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The last three projects are worth 100 pts ea</td>
<td>300 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Attendance 50 pts</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation 50 pts</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sketchbook Homeworks are worth 10 pts ea</td>
<td>80 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz #1 is worth 15 pts</td>
<td>15 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz #2 is worth 15 pts</td>
<td>15 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Portfolio of completed projects</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL GRADE:</td>
<td>_______ / 1000 PTS.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letter grades are assigned according to percentages: A+ = 98-100%, A=93-97%, A-=89-92%, B+=86-88%, B=82-85%, B-=79-81%, C+=75-78%, C=71-74%, C-=68-70%, D=58-67%, F=below 58%

1000 pts earned is 100% achieved grade, or, for example, 1000 total points earned/1000 available points = 100% = A+; 950 total points earned/1000 available points = 95% = A, etc.)
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Instructor: Kathy Rodriguez (kathryn.rodriguez@umontana.edu)
Class Meeting Times: T/R, 8:10-10:00 a.m., FA 401

COURSE SYLLABUS. Please note syllabus is subject to change, revisions announced in class.

Week 1.
Class 1 T 8/28
Introduction. Go over course description/objectives, syllabus materials list. Discuss course objectives/requirements. Bring in favorite drawings to next class period to discuss – may be one of your own or someone else’s (hard copy image or actual). Browse through NPR link on Blackboard under Course Materials.

Class 2 R 8/30
Discussion of drawings and drawing. Kathy’s Officially Unauthorized Tour of Important Places on Campus – Fine Arts Resource Center, Mac Lab, Mansfield Library, Bookstore, on-campus galleries. For Monday, bring in a pencil and paper.

Week 2.
Class 3 T 9/4
Powerpoint presentation: Drawing – Introduction. Discussion of gesture, gesture loosen-up exercises. Read LT1, 6-19; 116-124 (cultivating creativity)

Class 4 R 9/6
In-class discussion of line, markmaking, figure/ground relationships, Project 1. Make the viewfinder. Viewfinder exercises. Assignment: Collect supplies for Project 1, beginning next class period. Sketchbook Homework: Two sketches, pencil or charcoal, of room interiors.

Week 3.
Class 5 T 9/11
Project 1. Assignment: Readings: 2 LT1, pgs 20-22, figs. 1.6 – 1.14; p 107-108 (movement); p 235-8 (repetition/rhythm);

Class 6 R 9/13
Project 1, to be turned in Thursday, 9/20. Assignment: Readings: 146-152 (critiques); Sketchbook Homework: 2 gestural and 2 contour studies.

Week 4.
Class 7 T 9/18
Art Department Classes Cancelled – BFA Review Day. Look at real live art from 7 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.!

Class 8 R 9/20
Turn in Project 1, Begin Project 2. Discuss Project 3, Assignment: Readings: LT1, p 25-37 Sketchbook Homework: four sketches of different objects, drawing the space around the objects rather than the objects themselves.

Week 5.
Class 9 T 9/25
In-process Critique. Discussion of different shapes and negative vs. positive space. In-class gesture and contour drawings of various geometric and organic shapes in different compositions. Blind Contour drawings in-class. Continued work on Project 2.

Class 10 R 9/27
Turn in Project 2, Project 3

Week 6.
Class 11 T 10/2
Project 3

Class 12 R 10/4
Turn in Project 3, Discussion of space. Visual demo of Value related to Volume, question and answer. In-class sketching of value and volume incorporating geometric and organic shapes, using cross-contour, cross-hatching, blending and shading, with both graphite pencil and charcoal. Assignment: Readings: LT1, p 43-48, 94; Homework: Two value studies of your own or another’s face. One sketch with use line (graphite pencil, charcoal pencil, or pen) to determine volume; the other with use blocks of value (in vine charcoal) to determine volume. Bring Stamp pads.

Week 7.
Class 13 T 10/9
Project 4.
Quiz #1, Project 4. In class individual discussion of works for critique, 10/16. Prepare for critique on Monday, 10/16.

Week 8.

Class 15 T 10/16
Group Critique. Assignment: Readings: LTI, pgs 96-105

Class 16 R 10/18
In-class discussion and visual demo of space and perspective. Discuss various ways to create the illusion of space on two-dimensional surfaces. In-class drawing of various geometric and organic shapes from different vantage points, using sketchpad and graphite or charcoal pencils. Perspective exercises. Research ideas presented.

Sketchbook Homework: Three sketches of three different objects from three different vantage points, with each vantage point labeled.

Week 9.

Class 17 T 10/23
Project 5.

Class 18 R 10/25
Project 5, bring textural personal objects to class on Tuesday, 10/30

Week 10.

Class 19 T 10/30
Spring registration began yesterday...have you met with your advisor? Project 5 due, Discuss and begin Project 6. Assignment: Readings: LTI, pg 37-42.

Sketchbook Homework: Two texture/volume studies. Examples might include a study of draped cloth, a study of a field of grass, a study of hair, a study of a chipped wooden corner of a table, a study of a wrinkly face, etc. Use materials suitable to depict the texture of the object; soft drawing materials for softer objects (e.g., charcoal or very soft graphite), harder materials for harder objects (e.g., pen, hard graphite, marker). Bring in personal object for Project 6: This is worth points in your Project 6 grade (see criteria sheet for Project 6)!

Class 20 R 11/1
Day of the Dead!!! Turn in Project 5, Build still life. Begin Project 6

Week 11.

Class 21 T 11/6
Project 6.

Class 22 R 11/8
Project 6. Assignment: Readings: LTI, 57-60 (color basics); 87-93 (balance); Sketchbook homework: Three sketches of an imaginary and/or real place, emotionally suitable to color choice. Think of several places and what colors would best describe the mood of different places before settling on one color. Use real and imaginary elements. prepare to begin Project 7.

Week 12.

Class 23 T 11/13
Turn in Project 6. Discuss and begin Project 7. Group and individual discussions.

Class 24 R 11/15
Quiz #2. Project 7. Readings: LTI, 128-143 (problem seeking and problem solving)

Week 13.

Class 25 T 11/20
Project 7 due at second half of class, for critique. Discuss research for Project 8. Homework: Find an image of an artwork by a known artist you admire, begin digging up research for Project 8. Bring hard copy image, ideas, and beginning drawings into class on Tuesday, 11/27.

Class 26 R 11/22
Thanksgiving Break, no class

Week 14.

Class 27 T 11/27
Begin Project 8.

Class 28 R 11/29
Project 8.

Week 15.

Class 29 T 12/4
Project 8, Prepare for final critique Thursday.

Class 30 R 12/6
Final Critique, Turn in final portfolios. Final Portfolios will be available for pickup on Thursday, December 13, 10:10 a.m. – 12:10 p.m., in FA 401.

Week 16: Final Exam: Thursday, 12/13, 10:10 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. Pick up portfolios, have a wonderful break!
SUPPLY LIST

FROM COURSE FEES, Available at the bookstore on September 10, 2007 with your U.MT. ID/schedule

I. Paper and Drawing Board
   ART-2250-23 Clip Board 25” x 22”
   BEE-827T100-1824 Big Bee Sketch Paper18x24 100 sheet pad, white acid free.

II. Drawing Materials
   (packaged in a kit)
   WBC-105C 3 Pack Char-Kole
   SAN-70532 Kneaded Eraser
   GEN-57C Vine Charcoal Tube
   GEN-558 White Charcoal Pencil
   Pro-3049 Draw Kit (All-in-one, graphite, charcoal, white eraser, sm. Blending stick)
   SAN-64801 Black Tuff- Stuff Click Eraser
   PRO-6987-24 #4 Blending Stump

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES
These are available in our bookstore


Please prepare to discuss readings in class.
   *Four copies of the textbook are available in the Fine Arts Resource Center, FA 201, for your perusal. Please consult the Resource Center’s schedule of hours, posted on the door of FA 201.

Sketchbook, at least 9”x12”, white acid free paper
Cardboard or other portfolio
Ruler
Stamp Pad – Office supply stamp pad is good, found on first floor of bookstore. (should not cost more than $3-4)
Tacks or mounting device for hanging drawings – do not push tacks through your paper!
Strathmore or Rives paper for Project 7
One color chalk pastel for Project 7
Materials for final research project