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Fall 9-1-2007

### ART 123A.04: Drawing Fundamentals

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**The University of Montana**

**Fine Arts Department**

Fall 2007

Monday & Wednesday 4:10 pm- 6:00

Fine Arts Building, Room 401

Instructor: Nathan Sullivan

Office Hours: Mon. 1:00pm- 2:00, Tues. 10:00am- 12:00pm

Office 413

Email: Nathan.sullivan@umontana.edu

Phone: 243-5453

**Art 123A, Section 4 – Drawing Fundamentals (3 credits)**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is intended as 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.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES & FORMAT**

We will explore the fundamental concepts and skills that underlie drawing as a means of visual literacy. Our focus will be placed on understanding the basic principles associated with transcribing three dimensional form on to & into a two dimensional plane. Working primarily from life we will move towards learning to see in terms of structure, plane, form, value, and spatial relationships/tensions. We will become familiar with various common drawing media, their strengths and weaknesses, and use in representing sense experience onto page. We will examine subject matter in relationship to two-dimensional design principles, and gain an awareness of creating balance between two and three-dimensional space. In addition the class will focus on understanding the vocabulary necessary to have meaningful and informed dialogue in relationship to both the work produced in this course, and historical and contemporary drawings that are part of the larger cultural exchange.

The structure of this course will include lectures, reads, demonstrations, both in and out of class work sessions, and critiques. All are of equal importance to the learning process. For successful completion of this course students must be engaged and committed to all aspects and segments.

**TEXT**

Stewart, Mary. Launching the Imagination: A Comprehensive Guide to Basic Design, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. New York: McGraw Hill, 2006

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Attendance in class is mandatory. Over 3 absences will result in a lowered grade; half a letter grade for each subsequent class missed. Recurring tardiness will be counted as an absence – three tardy equals one absence – but it is always better

to attend part of a class than none at all. When you miss a class it is your responsibility to inquire about missed information either from myself or to get the notes from another student.

### CLASS PARTICIPATION

Participation is a vital part of the learning process in this course and will factor greatly into your grade. Participation in this course portends that you show up prepared and ready to work (of course having all necessary materials on hand to do so), and be mentally and physically engaged during studio work sessions. You are to be mentally engaged and alert during presentations and critiques. Critiques are a time to exchange ideas and opinions. The more diverse and engaging the discourse the more one can garner from the exchange. Critiques can be both exciting, enjoyable, and a time of great learning, or boring, brutal, and redundant. It is on your onus as well as mine to make them the former rather than the later. I expect everyone to participate and contribute to the direction of the dialogue that occurs during this time.

### HOMEWORK

A minimum of five (5) hours of homework will be assigned most weeks. All projects and homework must be turned in on time to receive a grade. All course work must be completed solely for the purpose of fulfilling this course's requirements. Work found to not fulfill this requirement will receive zero credit.

### GRADES

Grades will be based on the successful completion of assigned projects and exercises and the progress of each student's work throughout the course. Participation in classroom discussions, work sessions and critiques, will be considered in the grading process. There will be three quizzes throughout the semester based on reading assignments and vocabulary discussed in class.

Grading will break down as such:

Portfolio of class assignments and homework- 70% of final grade

*Proficiency in technique, learned points of assignments, personal growth, quality of image, craftsmanship, and presentation will all factor into your grade*

Quizzes- 15%

Participation- 15%

*Poor classroom etiquette will factor against your final grade. Students are responsible for cleaning up after themselves, and expected to act in accordance with common courtesy towards others in the shared space of the studio.*

### 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](http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321).

## DISABLING CONDITION

If you have a disabling condition that may interfere with your ability to successfully complete this course please confer with the instructor.

- Students should have adequate vision that would allow for driving and reading or corrective lens that allow for such.
- Hand eye coordination should be sufficient enough to write with general ease.
- Students must be able to stand or sit in the same general position for 2 hours.

## WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Specifics available at this web address:

<http://www2.umt.edu/catalog/acpolpro.htm>.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

The UM Art Department uses environmentally sound methods. Required materials from your supply list are in compliance, with the exception if spray fixative. Spray Fixative is not to be used in the building at anytime. Please use fixative outdoors and sparingly. You are individually responsible for clean up at the end of each of your classroom working periods (in or out of class time). 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.

## BUILDING ACCESS

Art Department building hours are for currently enrolled students only. Art studio use requires you to be currently registered in a studio course, as course fees facilitate specific supplies. If not currently enrolled, students will be asked to leave. Hours are 7:00 A.M. – 11:00 P.M. Monday through Sunday.

## LAB FEES

A lab fee was charged for this course to pay for some of your materials.

## NASAD RE-ACCREDITATION

The re-accreditation visit is scheduled for March 2008. Work from this course will be collected from each student. Students must provide contact information for return – unreturned work will be discarded at the end of Spring 2008 semester.

## STUDENT ART COLLECTIVE

Members will meet in FA 304 Mondays @ 12: 15 pm. Everyone is invited to bring a sack lunch and join in!

## EVENTS IN THE DEPARTMENT

<http://umartdepartment.wordpress.com>

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

*This outline is subject to change at anytime in accordance with the judgment of the instructor.*

### Week One

Mon. 8/28- Review syllabus, & materials list, homework read pages

Wed. 8/30- blind contour, gesture drawing, homework- 4 contour drawings

### Week Two

Mon. 9/3- No Class, Labor Day

Wed. 9/5- angulations, measuring, plotting points in space, homework- still-life with boxes and books, read pages 115-125

### Week Three

Mon. 9/10- angulations, measuring, plotting points in space continued, read pages 136-161

Wed. 9/12- angulations, measuring, plotting points in space continued, homework - ellipses above and below in sketchbook, still life with elliptical objects read pages 99-106

### Week Four

Mon. 9/17- one-point perspective, homework- hallway

Wed. 9/19- two-point perspective, homework- inside looking out or outside looking in

### Week Five

Mon. 9/24- two-point perspective continued, read pages 26- 28

Wed. 9/26- quiz, shape, plane, and structure, homework- self-portrait in plane analysis

### Week Six

Mon. 10/1- shape, plane, and structure continued, read pages 20- 25

Wed. 10/3- quiz, cross-contour, continuous line drawing, homework- self-portrait cross-contour analysis, read pages 29 -30/ 78- 85

### Week Seven

Mon. 10/8- positive/negative space, figure/ground relationships, introduction to composition- using a viewfinder, read pages 43- 48/ 87- 94

Wed. 10/10- value, light and form, chiaroscuro, homework- egg on linen in box

Week Eight

Mon. 10/15- “ “ “ continued

Wed. 10/17- “ “ “ continued, read pages 37-43/ 164 -174

Week Nine

Mon. 10/22- value as color, simultaneous contrast, & texture, homework- still life

Wed. 10/24- “ “ “ continued

Week Ten

Mon. 10/29- “ “ “ continued

Wed. 10/31- “ “ “ continued, read pages 34- 35

Week Eleven

Mon. 11/5- Transcription w/ alteration

Wed. 11/7- “ “ “ continued

Week Twelve

Mon. 11/12- No Class Veterans Day Holiday

Wed. 11/14- “ “ “ continued

Week Thirteen

Mon 11/19- open/closed form, sfumato, & tenebrism

Wed. 11/21- No class Thanksgiving Break

Week Fourteen

Mon. 11/26- “ “ “ continued

Wed. 11/28- “ “ “ continued

Week Fifteen

Mon. 12/3- “ “ “ continued

Wed. 12/5- final crit. portfolio due

## **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

Paid for by your student fees.

**Bring a copy of your ID and class schedule. (Monday, September)**

Art 123 kit:

- Clip board 23x26
- Bee-827-100 sheet pad of heavyweight drawing paper
- Charcoal pencil white
- Vine charcoal 5 pack
- X-large kneaded eraser
- Charkole 3 pack black
- 2 Blending stumps #2,#5
- Draw kit pro/art- 3 graphite pencils 2B, 3B, 4B, 3 charcoal pencils #1,#2,#3 , Lead pointer sandpaper block, Sharpener, White plastic eraser

### **Additional Materials**

1 pad 18"x 24" newsprint

Sketchbook, a spiral bound 9" x 12"

Exacto knife and blades, #11

24" or 36" Steel ruler, cork backed

Graphite pencils – 6H, 4H, 2H, HB, 2B, 4B, 6B minimum

Workable fixative

Drafting tape 1.5"

Art bin, Tackle box -- a carrying case for materials

1 sheets 22" x 30" Stonehenge paper, white

2 sheets 27.5"x39.5" Fabriano Ingres paper, white

Portfolio, 24"H x 32"W min.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Betti, Claudia, and Teel Sale. *Drawing: A Contemporary Approach*, 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. New York: Thompson, 2004

Brooke, Sandy. *Drawing As Expression: Techniques and Concepts*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2002.

Chast, Bernard. *The Art of Drawing*, 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. New York: Harcourt, 1983.

Collier, Graham. *Form, Space and Vision: Understanding Art- A Discourse on Drawing*, 3<sup>d</sup> Ed. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1972.

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Hill, E. *The Language of Drawing*. New York: Prentice Hall, 1976.

Maris Dantzic, Cynthia. *Drawing Dimensions: A Comprehensive Introduction*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1999.

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Simmons III, S., and Winer, M.SA *Drawing: The Creative Process*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1977.

Smagula, Howard J. *Creative Drawing*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2002.

St. Aubyn, Jacklyn. *Drawing Basics*. New York: Harcourt, 1998.