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Fall 9-1-2021

### ARTZ 105A.01: Visual Language - Drawing

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**School of Visual and Media Arts, University of Montana**

**ARTZ 105A 01, Visual Language -Drawing, 3 credits. Prereq: none. Fall 2021**

**Professor: Jason Clark**

My Email address is [jason.clark@mso.umt.edu](mailto:jason.clark@mso.umt.edu) and my office location is: FA 409

My Office Hours are 12:00pm-1:00pm Mon-Wed in FA 409 or by appointment.

**CLASS MEETING TIME**

Monday/Wednesday 10:00am- 11:50am. Fine Arts room 401

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Séliš-Qlišpé Cultural Committee created the language, *"The University of Montana acknowledges that we are in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people Today, we honor the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for the generations to come."*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An introduction to the fundamentals of drawing and design. Technical concerns, including exploration of both traditional and experimental media and methods will be emphasized. By tradition, drawing has been fundamental to understanding all visual art media. My primary concern is expanding the student's ability to experience and state their world in visual terms. The factors of visual communication and informed perception will be introduced. Finally, students will better understand the obstacles and options that confront one when drawing from real life.

Art scholarship and art practice along with teaching and learning involve a critical exploration of ideas, theories, art-making practices, and art movements that encompass such things as the human body, sexuality, race, gender, religions, and cultures. This course can touch upon any of the above categories with an expectation that students will actively participate in all course assignments, discussions, and tests. Given this information, it is the student's obligation to determine whether the requirements conflict with his or her core beliefs. If the student determines that there is a conflict with his or her beliefs, one of the following actions needs to be taken: 1) drop the class before the last day to drop a course without penalty; 2) meet with the instructor within the first week of classes to determine if an accommodation can be made. (Note, faculty, are not required to grant content accommodations.)"

**COURSE OBJECTIVES AND FORMAT**

Assuming that you participate fully in the class, you should be familiar with the following concepts by the end of the course.

1. Studio discipline: The ability to show up on time and regularly to class and to successfully complete out of class assignments.
2. The use of illusionist space including linear and atmospheric perspective, light and tone, texture, scale and positioning.
3. Figure/ ground relationships and an awareness of the importance of negative space as a design element.
4. The use of tone to create volume and space, including an awareness of how to use mark and interval to create additive tone.
5. Awareness of the picture plane as a ground for both the creation of illusionist space and organization of two dimensional design elements.
6. Exploration of drawing materials including wet and dry media, varieties of paper and other support surfaces.
7. Awareness of the role that abstraction plays in creating representations and a realization that all drawing is an illusion or para-reality.
8. Awareness of contemporary as well as traditional approaches to drawing.
9. Knowledge of basic terminology used in critical discussion and analysis of artwork. Ability to constructively critique works of art.
10. An awareness of your own creative potential and an awareness of the creative process.

The syllabus, work assignments, grades, etc. will be made available to you via UM Online: Moodle.

<http://umonline.umt.edu/default.aspx> Your University issued Net ID and password are required for login.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

It is expected that each student will come to class ready to work. Make it a priority of first importance to have the necessary materials and supplies for each class session. It should be understood that this means managing your time so that these supplies can be purchased outside of class and not during class time, which is set aside for work, discussion and lectures. A student without his or her materials may be asked to leave, if this occurs a second time the student will be asked to leave and will be counted as absent.

**To be successful in this class, each student must:**

- Attend and participate in all scheduled classes.
- Actively participate in critiques (sitting silent and still is not participation).
- Complete all assignments on time.
- Keep notes on technical information.
- Help to maintain a safe, clean and organized drawing studio that every student can use.

You should expect to put in an additional five hours at least outside of class time working on assignments each week. I do not accept work turned in for another course. If this is attempted, the student will receive an "F" for the given project.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Attendance at all classes is mandatory. Roll will be taken at some time during the class. Regardless of what time it is taken, if you are not present you will be counted absent. Showing up late or leaving early from class will also affect your grade. Students are expected to arrive on time and be in class for its entire duration. All absences regardless of cause (sleeping in/travel/medical emergency/family emergency) follow the guidelines below:

After three absences, your overall grade will drop by ½ letter grade per absence, up to six absences when a failing grade is issued automatically.

If you are absent from class it is your responsibility to get any missed information from another student, and you will be required to meet any deadlines set. Demonstrations missed will not be repeated for the absent student. The absent student must obtain the notes from another student on the missed information.

## **GRADING POLICY**

The course grade awarded at the end of the term will reflect the student's overall attendance and performance both in and out of class. Remember, simply showing up to class and completing assignments does not assure a certain grade. It is the students' responsibility to consult with the Instructor throughout the term to stay informed of his/her performance in relation to class objectives and to ensure that their progress is satisfactory. Grading will be based on all individual projects, preliminary drawings, homework, attendance, in class drawings, progress, work ethic and habits. Projects will be graded on creative problem solving, incorporation of assigned techniques, breath of research and experimentation, effort, craftsmanship, meeting all deadlines, development of significant content in the work in form of its conceptual understanding and filling the stated parameters. Class participation and attendance will be factored in and can affect the final grade only by lowering it.

Points will be given in each of the following categories:

**Execution**= following guidelines, effective use of time, attention to studio space and clean work habits, overall effort, prints dry for critique and grading, meeting all deadlines.

**Craftsmanship**= time and effort put into creating the work, technical understanding, quality of the drawing, attention to detail, and working proficiently with art materials.

**Concept**= development of significant content in the work in form of its conceptual understanding, breath of research and experimentation, original ideas and critical astuteness.

**Design**= incorporation of assigned techniques, filling the stated parameters, compositional effectiveness and working proficiently with the elements and principles of design.

**Creativity**= creative problem solving, inventiveness, complex and unique, risks taken, range of ideas explored.

**A= 100-91** Excellence in all assignments, highly motivated, extremely innovative solutions to projects, exceptional growth in skill development and demonstrated ability to understand and effectively apply design fundamentals. All course requirements exceeded, performance approaches complete mastery of the course requirements.

**B= 90-81** Above average in all work, notable improvement and growth in skill development. Demonstrated technical growth and visual maturity, exceeding minimum levels of acceptance. All course requirements met, performance is above the level expected from most students, but does not approach complete mastery of the course requirements.

**C= 80-71** Completion of all course requirements including homework projects, studio work, and attendance. Consistently adequate in growth with average progress in skill development and assimilation of design fundamentals, satisfactory class participation, and meets minimum levels of acceptance in all grading criteria, performance is about the level expected from most students.

**D= 70-61** below average, less than adequate improvement, incompletes on some projects, inadequate class participation. Meets minimum levels of acceptance in some, but not all grading criteria, performance is at or above the minimum level to pass, but does not allow for progression in some programs.

**F= 60-0** Unsatisfactory, unacceptable work and insufficient improvement, incompletes on some projects, poor class participation, several absences. Does not meet minimum levels of acceptance in a majority of grading criteria, performance is below the minimum level to pass the course.

Letter grades are assigned according to percentages:

Letter	Percentage	Letter	Percentage
A	94-100	C	77- 74
A-	93- 91	C-	73- 71
B+	90- 88	D+	70- 68
B	87- 84	D	67- 64
B-	83- 81	D-	63- 61
C+	80- 78	F	< 60

### **ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES**

All assigned work must be ready for critiques or grading at the appropriate deadline for each assignment. Any late project will be docked a full letter grade for each day it is late. An absence on a critique day will count as a zero with no chance to redo the assignment. Work handed in late cannot be redone for a better grade. Work handed in on time can be redone as many times as you want to try to improve your grade, with only the highest grade being recorded. However, redoing an assignment does not necessarily mean modifying an existing assignment based on the instructor's or class input. It implies incorporation of the relevant principles involved and applying them toward a new work.

### **CRITIQUES**

It is extremely important to learn to express your ideas in verbal terms. All of you have reasons for making art, but these need to be clarified and you need to think about how your work fits into the historical and contemporary arena. As artists you will constantly be faced with trying to communicate both visually and verbally with other people. Although it is often difficult to share ideas with a group of people, it is really important, and will only add to your images. Informal and formal critiques will occur throughout the semester. Group critiques will be scheduled to discuss works in progress as well as finished pieces. It is required that all students be present and participate in these group critiques. All students should have the appropriate work to present and to have put in an appropriate amount of commitment into the work being critiqued. The purpose of these critiques is to openly exchange thoughts and ideas, technical issues and discoveries to further benefit the student. We can all learn from the trials and errors as well as the successes of one another. Individual and group critiques will coincide with the completion of the assignments. Students are required to thoroughly evaluate their own work, others' work, as well as understand/accept criticism given by others.

### **INCOMPLETES**

It should be understood that it is the student's responsibility to complete course work within the framework of the semester. Not finishing the course work does not guarantee the students right to an incomplete. Incompletes will only be given in cases of extreme emergencies.

### **BUILDING ACCESS**

Fine Arts Building Hours are for currently enrolled students only; art studio use requires being currently registered in a specific studio course as course fees facilitate specific supplies. If not currently enrolled, students will be asked to leave.

Hours: 7 A.M. – 11 P.M., Monday – Sunday. Please do not work alone after hours – you are encouraged to work with a friend or classmate.

No creatures or children not enrolled in courses allowed in studios during class time nor open studio times – they will be asked to leave.

Pick up all artwork by the scheduled exam day or the last class period or artwork will be discarded.

Please do not leave artwork in the art office.

You are welcome to work in this studio at any time another class is not in session. Please be considerate, keep music at a level that will not disturb others. *Children under the age of 12 may not be present at any time in this studio during or out of class. Children 12 and older may be present with consent of the professor.* Please obey this rule; it is for your children's safety.

### **STUDENTS WITH ACCESS/SPECIAL NEEDS**

Accommodations: "Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting the DSS office. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS)." "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <https://www.umt.edu/disability/>

### **MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING POLICY**

The University of Montana is committed to advancing the mental health and wellbeing of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of support, services are available. For help, visit <https://www.umt.edu/diversity/resources/mental-health.php>

### **INCLUSION POLICIES:**

The University of Montana values leadership, engagement, diversity, and sustainability, because our institution is committed to respect, welcome, encourage, and celebrate the differences among us. As members of the University of Montana community, we aspire to:

- Respect the dignity and rights of all persons.
- Practice honesty, trustworthiness, and academic integrity.
- Promote justice, learning, individual success, and service.
- Act as good stewards of institutional resources.
- Respect the natural environment.

The College of the Arts and Media at the University of Montana, has chosen to actively pursue equity and access for all persons. In this charge we will be researching, planning, and implementing ways in which our culture can be more accessible, inclusive, equitable, sustainable. It is not enough to be anti-bias in principle without being equitable in action. We will implement these actions organized by a group of students, faculty, and staff across the entire College in an ongoing way.

### **STUDENT CONDUCT CODE/CLASSROOM CONDUCT**

Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. "This Code of Conduct embodies and promotes honesty, integrity, accountability, and duties associated with citizenship as a student in our community at the University of Montana. This Code exists to protect the interests of the community and dignity of its members, and to challenge those behaviors which are not in accordance with our policies". All students need to be familiar

with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <https://staging.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/student-code-of-conduct-2021-pdf>

This course is meant to build community between one another and to learn from conversations occurring around you as you work. When we do engage in studio practice, I recommend that students wear clothing to class that they feel comfortable staining. (Feel free to wear an apron in class).

Cell phones/smart phones or any hand-held device should be put away and silenced while class is in session. They may occasionally be used for educational purposes only, such as photographing work, looking up information, or adding a due date to your calendar, etc. Texting and calling may take place before and after scheduled class times.

### **PLAGIARISM**

The following was taken directly from the UM Course Catalogue:

“Plagiarism is the representing of another’s work as one’s own. It is a particularly intolerable offense in the academic community and is strictly forbidden...Students must always be very careful to acknowledge any kind of borrowing that is included in their work...” To view the university’s complete policy and repercussions please refer to the current UM Catalogue.

All students must practice academic honesty. All forms of plagiarism will not be tolerated. Copying from photographs or other 2D or 3D images is prohibited unless assigned. Students are expected to practice the highest standards of ethics, honesty and integrity in all of their academic work. Any form of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating and misrepresentation) may result in disciplinary action. Possible disciplinary actions may include failure for part of all of a course as well as suspension from the university.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

You will be individually responsible for clean up at the end of each of your classroom working periods, both during and between classes.

### **COVID-19**

The health and safety of our campus community is our shared responsibility. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, please observe the following guidelines. Compliance by all of us is essential for continued in-person instruction:

- The University of Montana requires masks for every course being held in a classroom, studio or laboratory until otherwise informed.
- If you are required to isolate or quarantine, you will receive support in the class to ensure continued academic progress.
- Please follow specific seating arrangements to support contact tracing efforts.
- Class attendance will be recorded to support contact tracing efforts.
- Drinking liquids and eating food is discouraged within the classroom.
- UM recommends students get the COVID-19 vaccine. Please direct your questions or concerns about vaccines to Curry Health Center.
- Lectures and discussions in this class may be recorded for students with accommodations who are working remotely. (if applicable).
- If you feel sick and/or if exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, please do not come to class and contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330.

We strongly encourage students to remain vigilant outside the classroom in mitigating the spread of COVID-19. Check Up-to-Date COVID-19 Information from the University of Montana.

### **SCHOOL OF ART RESPONSIBILITIES**

The School of Art is not responsible for lost or stolen materials or artworks. Unlocked drawers in the drawing studio are used at the sole discretion of the student, and no guarantee of safety of materials is made by the faculty or the School.

**STAY CONNECTED:**

Please join SVMA social media to stay informed about events and happenings in our school.

- Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/umt\\_svma/](https://www.instagram.com/umt_svma/)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UMTsvma>

Student Art Collective (*this is primarily for art students*) The collective is a student –organized and student-led group that sponsors art related workshops, events, and the Annual Juried Student Art Show. Look for informational posters.

**ARTZ 105 SUPPLY LIST:**

**Your lab fee covers the following.**

- 18x24 inch pads of newsprint
- General's #10 pencil kit
- Click eraser
- White eraser
- Compressed charcoal (black)
- Willow charcoal (soft)

Additional materials for you to buy:

- Sketchbook
- Portfolio (purchase or make yourself)
- Blending stump (optional)
- Spray fix (used to preserve drawings. Optional)

Recommended better quality papers for homework and other projects:

- Strathmore 400
- Stonehenge
- Folio
- Somerset
- Rives BFK

**ADDITIONAL SUPPLY PURCHASES MAY BE REQUIRED AS THE SEMESTER PROGRESSES.**