ARTZ 105A.05: Visual Language - Drawing

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Visual Language Drawing Syllabus

General Course Information

Course Information
School of Visual and Media Arts
Visual Language Drawing
32785
Fulfills General Education Requirement for Expressive Arts
ARTZ 105: 05
3 credits
Spring 2024

Instructor Information
Shelby Baldridge (she/her)
Email: Shelby.baldridge@umt.edu
Office Location: FA 203
Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 2-3pm or by appointment

Class Times & Location
Tuesdays and Thursdays 3pm – 4:50pm; FA Room 401

Specific Course Information

Course Description & Objectives
Introduction to basic drawing skills and concept integration. Studio practice with research in historical and contemporary approaches to drawing. This class will:

- Provide an introduction to visual language, concepts and studio practicum
- Assist students with basic skill development in rendering volume, pictorial depth and figure/ground relationship
- Address historical and contemporary approaches to drawing

Course Goals

- Create works that are well-crafted, conceptually rigorous, experimental, and imaginative.
- Translate ideas into compelling drawings using a wide range of materials, methods, and processes.
- Develop the vocabulary and tools to discuss and think critically about drawing media.
- Have a knowledge of historical and contemporary artists who draw.
- Analyze the work of your peers and other artists through class discussions and critiques.
Course Format
Techniques and concepts will be introduced through lectures, videos, demonstrations, image galleries, and occasionally through assigned readings. Critiques of student work will occur in class. The Four Main Elements of the class are as follows:

- **In-class drawing.** This is a studio course, and the majority of our time will involve working on exercises and assignments that explore various concepts. During in-class studio time, I will work one-on-one with you to provide suggestions and help refine your solutions.

- **Critiques** are valuable to artists at all stages of their career. These discussions allow students to learn from each other and their instructor, evaluate themselves, and to utilize their growing visual vocabulary. I will guide these discussions and offer my feedback, but ultimately expect the class as a whole to speak more than myself in response to each other’s artwork. Your participation is essential to make these meaningful and engaging experiences.

- **Periodic in-class lectures** explain, illustrate and highlight important concepts and ideas. Although a different way of knowing than drawing, your engagement and comprehension will directly impact your drawing practice. Please attend in-class lectures and complete any reading assignments.

- **Homework** is an opportunity to expand and deepen your exploration of the ideas introduced during class. Expect to spend 3-5 hours a week on outside assignments. Often we will critique your homework assignments on the Tuesday after their completion. It is therefore important to turn your assignments in on time. Once you have your assignment back, please place in a portfolio with other significant work you have created.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Creative Thinking**: Knowledge and competence in creative problem-solving as it relates to meaningful visual, audio and narrative communication.

- **Critical Thinking**: Knowledge and competence in the ability to analyze creative content from the past and present, and articulate the cultural and social impacts.

- **Technical Skills**: Knowledge and competence in technical skills and basic processes in a variety of media, appropriate for chosen field of study.

- **Creative Literacy/Language/Informed Aesthetic**: Demonstrate knowledge of audio, visual and/or narrative language in both creation and analysis of creative work, which include stylistic, comparative, historical and formal analysis.
**Materials**

Newsprint, compressed charcoal, vine charcoal, pencils, and erasers are provided for the student as a part of your lab fee. Other materials that are listed below are not required for participation in the class; however, they are helpful. These materials must be purchased outside of class by the student. If you would like assistance acquiring these materials, please contact the instructor.

It is worth considering, but not necessary to purchase the following materials for the completion of take home assignments:

- One 18 x 24 inch good quality drawing pad - recommended: Strathmore 400 series or Canson XL 70 lb. – (this can be shared amongst 2-3 students)
- Extra Kneaded eraser
- Metal sharpener or Xacto knife
- Blending sticks

Optional materials: Store-bought portfolio OR make your own portfolio with cardboard and duct tape, Masking tape (at least 1” thick), black and white conte crayons, colored pencils, watercolor, cheap watercolor brushes, artist tape, workable fixatif, scissors, xacto knife

These materials may be purchased locally at Frame of Mind (recommended), Michaels, Joanns, (some at) Wal-Mart. Blick.com and Amazon are good online resources, but keep in mind the time it takes to ship items. Please reach out to me if you would like assistance acquiring these additional materials. I am happy to help! The use of these additional materials will result in more professional, archival, and varied results than work on fragile, deteriorative newsprint.

**Class Policies**

**Grading and Assessment**

**Grading Criteria**

Your grade will be a sum total of points formulated from studio projects/assignments, critique participation and class attendance. *Note that there is no final exam.* The Final Project is worth the most points (100), and other assignments vary between 20- 60 points. Attendance is determined by number of class days and is typically around 2 points per class period totaling around 64 points.

The percentage of points earned will be assigned letter grades as follows:
Grading Scale

A    100-93%
A-   92.99-90%
B+   89.99-87%
B    86.99-83%
B-   82.99-80%
C+   79.99-77%
C    76.99-73%
C-   72.99-70%
D+   69.99-67%
D    66.99-63%
D-   62.99-60%
F    59.99-0%

Late work is not accepted without prior communication. If you have an extenuating circumstance, please contact the instructor. Extra credit is not offered for this course.

Attendance Policy
Attendance at all classes is mandatory and will be taken at each class. An engaged community of artists leads to the success of a studio course as a whole. We learn better when everyone is present and participating. Class begins promptly at the listed start time, so students should have all materials and equipment ready to work by the start of class. Students are expected to remain for the entire class time.

If you feel sick, STAY HOME. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms contact the Curry Health Center at 406-243-2122. You will not be penalized for missed classes due to sickness. Please promptly email the instructor if you are absent, and we can arrange opportunities for make-up work or remote learning that will help you succeed in the class.

Course Workload
You will find a syllabus below, which lists the concepts we will undertake by the week. Any assigned art projects, more than likely, cannot be completed in the allotted class time. In addition to regularly scheduled meeting times, expect around four hours of work outside of scheduled class per week for completion of projects and assignments. Studio technicians and work-study students may be available to provide assistance. Individual and/or group critiques may coincide with the completion of the art assignments. Students are required to thoroughly evaluate their own artwork, others' artwork, as well as understand/accept criticism given by others.

To be successful in this class, each student must:

- Attend class and Participate with all materials in class and on Moodle
- Actively participate in discussions during critique
• Complete all assignments on time
• Keep notes on technical information
• Help maintain a safe, clean, and organized studio
• FYI: I will not accept work turned in for another course

Course Calendar (subject to minor changes)

Week 1, 1/18: Introduction to Course; read Syllabus and discuss Mark-Making methods in charcoal, practice in class

Week 2, 1/23; 1/25: Continue with Mark-Making exercises in class. Thursday lecture on Line drawing; practice in class.

   - Take home Drawing 1: Non-objective Mark Making

Week 3, 1/30; 2/1: Blind Contour, Semi Blind Contour and Gestural drawing! Review Mark-making assignments, receive supply kits. Practice both contour and gesture line drawing; introduce Cross Contour lines

   - Take home Drawing 2: Practice Line drawing methods of an object or your hand with cross contour lines- details on Moodle

Week 4, 2/6; 2/8: Continue with Cross Contour lines and view slides on Texture and shading methods. Practice with drawing from objects/ still life in class. Possibly discuss Proportion

Week 5, 2/13; 2/15: Shape & Negative Space! Discussion of shape and negative space relating to composition. Work on Silhouette drawing in class.

   - Take home Drawing 3: Assignment will be posted on moodle

Week 6, 2/20; 2/22: Review Assignment Drawings, Introduce Value! Lecture on value, create value scale and apply to drawing objects from life; practice measuring and proportion; slideshow on Still Life drawing. Bring an object to class next week to practice drawing.

Week 7, 2/27; 2/29: Value! Complex Still Life Drawing in class- Instructors will arrange a scene with drapery and white objects this week

   - Take home drawing 4: Three Object Still Life

- Introduce Collage Assignment: HW: Begin gathering images and creating your collage- ideally come to class with all materials needed by Tues March 12th

Week 9, 3/12; 3/14: Drawing from Collage Work Days; - BRING COLLAGE MATERIALS TO CLASS! You will create your collage on smaller paper and then create a larger Drawing of this collage to hand in after spring break.

Break Week: 3/19-24: SPRING BREAK- ENJOY 😊

Week 10, 3/26, 3/28: Collage Drawing Critique! Then Introduce Depth of Space and Linear Perspective! Slideshow lecture on perspective; begin box drawings for one and two-point perspective.

- Linear Perspective Practice Assignment, see Moodle

Week 11, 4/2; 4/4: Wrap up Linear Perspective Tuesday; review assignments and discuss errors. Then Introduce Common Foundations Project; spend time formulating idea in class Thursday, begin working over the weekend!

Week 12, 4/9; 4/11: Work days for Common Foundations Project; use time wisely this project is Due by the end of class 4/11! Instructors will Install the drawings in the Knowles Gallery on Friday 4/12.

Week 13, 4/16; 4/18: Critique Common Foundations Project show in Knowles Gallery. Then Introduce Final Project. Thursday bring ideas for your Final project and discuss with Shelby. Thursday will be a work day for this project.

Week 14, 4/23; 4/25: Final Project Work Days- use time wisely!

Week 15, 4/30; 5/2: Critiques of Final Project: Half of students present their work on Tuesday, other half on Thursday; EVERYONE MUST ATTEND BOTH CLASS DAYS PLEASE

Finals Week 5/6- 5/10: Classroom Clean out and evaluations- Details TBA

CRITIQUES
Critiques help students learn to verbally express their ideas, frustrations, and feedback in a safe group setting. Group critiques will be scheduled to discuss finished pieces. It is required that students be present and participate. The purpose of critiques is to openly exchange ideas, technical advice, and discoveries to further benefit the artists. All of us
can learn from our collective successes. As an instructor, I will establish a safe emotional space to share our artwork.

**FINE ARTS BUILDING AND DRAWING ROOM GUIDELINES**
The FA Building and Drawing Room are accessible to currently enrolled art students. Hours are 7 am - 7 pm, Monday - Friday. Outside of these hours, the building is locked. Students enrolled in an art class may access the building from 7pm - 11 pm using your Griz card. This is also the case on the weekends. The building is locked and may not be accessed after 11pm, home Griz game days, and holidays. If you are having trouble accessing the building, contact the Griz Card Center at 406-243-6943.

No critters or kids in the building, please.

The FA Building is a shared space. Please be respectful of others and the equipment. It is the student’s responsibility to clean up! Make it look like you were never there. All students are required to help with the end of semester deep cleaning. This includes flat files, lockers, and cabinets. It’s more fun than you think, and there will be snacks!

**Communication Expectations**
Please contact your instructor, Shelby Baldridge, via email with any questions or concerns. Email will receive a faster response than communication on Moodle.

**Cell Phone Use**
Please refrain from using your cell phone in class, unless the instructor has given permission for the sake of visual and/or other related research. If you need to answer or make a call, please do so by excusing yourself from the classroom in an unobtrusive manner.

**EARBUD ETIQUETTE**
The use of earbuds and headphones during class is a privilege. Students may use their devices during focused drawing times when the instructor is working with individuals. Please keep your music at a volume that allows you to hear and acknowledge the instructor or other students who might be trying to speak to you – this means if you are using earbuds I prefer you only keep one in during class time. The instructor has the authority to revoke this privilege if it is being abused.

**Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code**
All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the professor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code.

Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Disclosing exam content during or after you have taken an exam,
• Removing exam material from the classroom or professor’s office without permission,
• Copying any material from another student, or from another source such as the Internet, that is submitted for grading unless the instructor gives you explicit permission to do so,
• Plagiarism, including use of Internet material without proper citation,
• Using cell phones or other electronics to obtain outside information during an exam without explicit permission from the instructor,
• Submitting your own work in one class that was completed for another class (self-plagiarism).

Accommodations

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equity (ODE). If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability, please contact the ODE at: (406) 243-2243, ode@umontana.edu, or visit www.umt.edu/disability for more information. Retroactive accommodation requests will not be honored, so please, do not delay. As your instructor, I will work with you and the ODE to implement an effective accommodation, and you are welcome to contact me privately if you wish.

Health and Safety Policies

The UM School of Art uses environmentally-sound methods. Spray fixatives may not be used inside the studio/classroom facilities. They may be used outside or in an approved spray booth. Acrylic media are water-based and acceptable. All are available at our bookstore.

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

During the last week of the semester students will removing all studio work from the art facilities. No work should remain in the building beyond the end of the semester.

No creatures or children under the age of 18 will be allowed in studio during class time or open studio times.

Information for Students

Land Acknowledgement

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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.

Inclusion Policies

The University of Montana values leadership, engagement, **diversity**, and sustainability, because our institution is committed to respecting, welcoming, encouraging, and celebrating 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.

**ART STUDENT COLLECTIVE:** The collective is a student—organized and student-led group that sponsors art-related workshops, events, and the Annual Juried Student Art Show. Please inquire at the School of Art Office for more information.

**Stay Connected**
Please join SVMA (School of Visual and Media Arts) 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](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.

**Content Notification**
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 that 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.)

Cultural Leave Policy
Cultural or ceremonial leave allows excused absences for cultural, religious, and
ceremonial purposes to meet the student's customs and traditions or to participate in
related activities. To receive an authorized absence for a cultural, religious or
ceremonial event the student or their advisor (proxy) must submit a formal written
request to the instructor. This must include a brief description (with inclusive dates) of
the cultural event or ceremony and the importance of the student's attendance or
participation. Authorization for the absence is subject to approval by the instructor.
Appeals may be made to the Chair, Dean or Provost. The excused absence or leave
may not exceed five academic calendar days (not including weekends or holidays).
Students remain responsible for completion or make-up of assignments as defined in
the syllabus, at the discretion of the instructor.

Food & Housing Insecurity
Any student who faces challenges securing food or housing, and believes that this could
affect their performance in this course, is urged to contact any or all of the following
campuses resources.

Food Pantry Program
UM offers a food pantry that students can access for emergency food. The pantry is
open on Tuesdays from 12 to 5 PM and Fridays from 10 AM to 5 PM. The pantry is
located in UC 119 (in the former ASUM Childcare offices). Pantry staff operate several
satellite food cupboards on campus (including one at Missoula College). For more
information about this program, email umpantry@mso.umt.edu, visit the UM Food
Pantry website or contact the pantry on social media (@pantryUm on twitter,
@UMPantry on Facebook, um_pantry on Instagram).

ASUM Renter Center
The Renter Center has compiled a list of resources (https://medium.com/griz-renter-
blog) for UM students at risk of homelessness or food insecurity. Students can schedule
an appointment with Renter Center staff to discuss their situation and receive
information, support, and referrals.

TRiO Student Support Services
TRiO serves UM students who are low-income, first-generation college students or have
documented disabilities. TRiO services include a textbook loan program, scholarships
and financial aid help, academic advising, coaching, and tutoring.

Students can check their eligibility (www.umt.edu/trioss/apply.php) for TRiO services
online. If you are comfortable, please come see members of the teaching team. We will
do our best to help connect you with additional resources.
**The Writing and Public Speaking Center**
The Writing and Public Speaking Center provides one-on-one tutoring to students at all levels and at any time in the writing process.

**The Math Learning Center**
The Math Learning Center has in-person, drop-in tutoring to help students with homework and test preparation needs. Check their website for drop-in hours and location.

**UM Information Technology**
Get the technology, tools, and services you need, whether you are a student, faculty, staff, or someone partnering with the University of Montana. Visit the UM IT webpage for services and self-help articles, or contact the help desk directly by calling 406.243.HELP (4357) or emailing ithelpdesk@umontana.edu.

**Supporting Mental Well-Being of Students at UM**
At UM, we value every student’s wellbeing and believe that taking care of yourself is imperative to your success as a student. College students often experience issues that may interfere with academic success such as academic stress, sleep problems, juggling responsibilities, life events, relationship concerns, or feelings of anxiety, hopelessness, or depression. If you or a friend is struggling, we strongly encourage seeking support. Helpful, effective resources are available on campus.

- If you are struggling with this class, please visit during office hours or contact me by email.
- Check-in with your academic advisor if you are struggling in multiple classes, unsure whether you are making the most of your time at the University of Montana
- Reach out for Counseling Support at Curry Health Center Counseling. To make a counseling appointment call 406-243-4712 or go online to the Curry Health Portal to schedule an appointment
- If you feel you need accommodations for a mental health concern, reach out to the Office of Disability Equity (ODE) at 406-243-2243
- If you feel that you would benefit from general wellness skills to support your overall stress reach out to CHC-Wellness at 406-243-2809
- If you have experienced sexual assault, relationship violence, bullying, intimidation, or discrimination contact the Student Advocacy Resource Center (SARC) 406-243-4429 *24/7 support line 406-243-6559
- If you are experiencing a mental health crisis and seeking immediate help, call 911, go to the nearest hospital emergency room or call Campus Safety at 406-243-4000