ARTZ 105A.50: Visual Language - Drawing

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Course Information

Visual Language: Drawing (online)

ARTZ 105A 50

31832

3 Credits

Fulfills General Education Requirement for Expressive Arts

Spring 2024

Instructor Information

Steven Krutek

steven.krutek@umont.edu

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Room 412, Fine Arts Building (FA) and/or via Zoom (schedule with instructor)

Class Meeting Time

Online. There will be optional scheduled Zoom meetings to discuss individual work by appointment.
Course Description

Introduction to basic drawing skills and concept integration. Studio practice with research in historical and contemporary approaches.

Course Objectives

This course provides an introduction to visual language, concepts, and studio practicum. There is a focus on basic skills development in rendering volume, pictorial depth, and figure/ground relationships. The course will also address historical and contemporary approaches to drawing.

Students will develop an understanding and ability to demonstrate several important historical and contemporary drawing techniques and concepts. These include but are not limited to mark-making, proportional development, form, gesture drawing, contour line, cross-contour line, light, value, composition, positive and negative space, repetition, rhythm, perspective (one, two, and three-point), subject matter, emotional content and expression. Drawings will primarily be executed in charcoal while occasionally using graphite in the preparatory stages and conté crayon for accents.

General Education Outcomes

Expressive Arts courses are activity-based and emphasize the value of learning by doing in an artistic context.

-Criteria: Courses guide students, whether in individual or group settings, to acquire foundational skills to engage in the creative process and/or in interpretive performance. Through direct experience (for example, attendance and involvement with live performance, exhibitions, workshops, and readings), they will engage in critical assessment of their own work and the work of others

-Learning Goals: Upon completion of this group students will be able to: 1.
express themselves in the making of an original work or creative performance; 2. understand the genres and/or forms that have shaped the medium; and 3. critique the quality of their own work and that of others.

Format

Techniques and concepts will be introduced through video lectures/demonstrations, image galleries, and occasionally through assigned readings. Critiques will occur through written evaluations, video and/or Zoom meetings.

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.

Course Workload

You will find a syllabus below, which lists the concepts we will undertake by the week. Expect at least five hours of work outside of perusing Moodle materials per week for completion of projects and assignments. 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:

Participate with all materials/resources on Moodle

Actively participate with individual discussions concerning work on Zoom, when necessary

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

Syllabus

Week 1, 1/18 – 1/21: mark-making and the illusion of depth

Week 2, 1/22 – 1/28: mark-making and the illusion of depth

Week 3, 1/29 – 2/4: gestural drawing and value shapes

Week 4, 2/5 – 2/11: cross-contour line and proportion

Week 5, 2/12 – 2/18: cross-contour line and proportion, continued

Week 6, 2/19 – 2/25: cross-contour line and proportion, continued AND NOW with composition

Week 7, 2/26 – 3/3: the elements of art and principles of design

Week 8, 3/4 – 3/10: the elements of art and principles of design continued

Week 9, 3/11 – 3/17: linear perspective box drawings

SPRING BREAK: 3/16 - 3/24
Week 10, 3/25 – 3/31: interior architectural space drawing

Week 11, 4/1 – 4/7: interior architectural space drawing, continued

Week 12, 4/8 – 4/14: final project introduction, Metamorphosis Triptych OR Album Cover Project

Week 13, 4/15 – 4/21: final project

Week 14, 4/22 – 4/28: final project

Week 15 4/29 – 5/5: flex week

Materials

The ARTZ105 supply kits, which are paid with your course fees, will be available for pick-up with me directly in approximately 2 weeks (2/1). We do not like to release these kits any sooner because they lose money if a student obtains the kit and then decides to drop the course. I appreciate your patience with this matter.

If you don’t live in Missoula, these aforementioned kits will be mailed to you on or around 2/1. Please e-mail me your physical mailing address as soon as possible, if you haven’t already done so.

In the meantime, you will have to purchase some of your own supplies, which can likely be obtained and shipped quickly through Amazon or through any online vendor.

I actually think the best art-specific online vendor is Dick Blick, but to each their own. If anything, I recommend obtaining the first three items on the list below (the links will take you to the Dick Blick site) as well as the paper as soon as possible, knowing your supplies will be replenished within a few weeks.

If you’re in Missoula, I recommend picking up these supplies or similar supplies at Frame of Mind.
NOTE: THE SUPPLIES DO NOT HAVE TO BE THE SAME BRAND I’M RECOMMENDING BUT ITEMS SHOULD BE OF THE SAME NATURE AS WELL AS THE SAME SIZE.


NOT INCLUDED WITH THE KIT (IN OTHER WORDS, NOT PAID FOR WITH YOUR FEES) BUT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY:
*Strathmore 400 series sketch pad WITH DRAWING PAPER NOT NEWSPRINT, 18” X 24”, wire bound, 30 sheets

Additional:

- Store-bought portfolio OR make your own portfolio with cardboard and duct tape
- Masking tape (at least 1” thick)
- Utility or Ex-acto knife
- Ruler or straight edge
- Workable fixative

Grading and Assessment

Late work is not accepted. If you have an extenuating circumstance, please contact the instructor. Extra credit is not offered for this course.

A total number of points will be formulated from studio projects, written critiques/reflections, and class attendance. The percentage of points earned will be assigned letter grades as follows:

100-93 = A
92-90 = A-
89-88 = B+
87-83 = B
82-80 = B-
79-78 = C+
77-73 = C
72-70 = C-
69-68 = D+
67-63 = D
62-60 = D-
59-BELOW = F

**Attendance/Absence Policy---FOR ANY SCHEDULED MEETING WITH THE INSTRUCTOR OR AN ASSISTANT**

Attendance at all classes is mandatory. 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:

+ Two absences/late arrivals/leaving early = No grade change
+ Three to four absences/late arrivals/leaving early = One full grade drop
+ Five to six absences/late arrivals/leaving early = Two full grades dropped
+ More than six absences/late arrivals/leaving early = Retake course

Lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and instructions missed will not be repeated; the absent student must obtain notes and information from another student.

**Cell Phone Policy---N/A**

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.

**Extra Credit Policy**
There will be no extra credit offered for this course.

**General Health and Safety Policies—FOR IN-PERSON COURSES**

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.

No food or open beverage containers are allowed in the School of Art facilities when art-making is in progress. Students may take a snack break by stepping out of the studio/classroom in necessary and approved.

The use of studio space requires enrollment in a specific studio course or a course that incorporates studio practices. Hours are from 7 AM – 11 PM daily.

**Covid-19 Policy—IF YOU HAPPEN TO FIND YOURSELF ON CAMPUS FOR ANY OTHER CLASS**

The University of Montana MAY, IF NECESSARY require masks for every course being held in a classroom, lab, or studio until otherwise informed.

If you feel sick and/or are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, please don’t come to class and contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330.

If you are required to isolate or quarantine, you will receive support in the class to ensure continued academic progress. If such support is necessary
the instructor will work out a plan directly with the student to serve his, her, or their needs.

UM recommends students get the COVID-19 vaccine. Please direct your questions or concerns about vaccines to Curry Health Center.

Where social distancing (maintaining consistent 6 feet between individuals) is not possible, specific seating arrangements will be used to support contact tracing efforts.

Class attendance and seating MAY BE recorded, IF NECESSARY to support contact tracing efforts.

Drinking liquids and eating food is discouraged within the classroom/photography lab(s).

Mask use MAY BE required in vehicles when traveling to field sites as part of class/fieldwork.

Land Acknowledgement

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 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.

**Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code**

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. The Code is available for review online at [https://staging.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/student-code-of-conduct-2021-pdf](https://staging.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/student-code-of-conduct-2021-pdf)

**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). For more information, please consult [http://www.umt.edu/disability](http://www.umt.edu/disability).

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**The Writing and Public Speaking Center**
Provides one-on-one tutoring to students at all levels and at any time in the writing process. Visit now. Visit often. We’re ready when you are. www.umt.edu/writingcenter.

Mental Health and Well-Being 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

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/

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.

Content Advisory

On occasion, the content and discussion in this course will necessarily engage with emotionally challenging and potentially triggering content. I will flag especially graphic or intense content and I will do my best to make this classroom a space where we can engage bravely, empathetically, and thoughtfully with difficult content every week.