

1-2014

# THTR 155.01: Drawing Fundamentals for the Theatre Designer

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## **Drawing Fundamentals for the Theatre Designer**

THTR 155-01 Tues-Thurs 11:10-12:30 MCGILL Room 215 Spring 2014

Prereq. Consent of Instr.

Instructor: Alessia Carpoca

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Drawing Fundamentals is designed to give students the necessary drawing skills that are required when drawing and painting for the theatre. Special emphasis will be placed on learning about lights and shadows, drawing the human body, and perspective. In this class, we'll also learn hatching, cross-hatching, and continuous tone techniques, basic color mixing and theory, and how this applies to theatre design.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The Objectives for Drawing fundamentals for the Theatre are: mastery of drawing and sketching techniques in order to develop and communicate design ideas effectively. Each of the three major media, watercolor, pencil and pastel will be explored as a different media for exploring a design concept. Objectives towards that end are:

1. To introduce the student to various media and techniques used in theatrical drawing.
2. To gain comprehension concerning the various dramatic and expressive elements of drawing, including use of light and dark, crosshatching and shading, 3-dimensional illusions, perspective, theories of color, and the human body.
3. To learn a foundation of artistic terminology thereby creating knowledge of significant vocabulary associated with drawing and theatre.
4. To apply presentation delivery of artistic and creative ideas.

### **Recommended Text:**

*Drawing and Rendering for the Theatre* by Clare P. Rowe.

### **METHODS OF TEACHING AND EVALUATION:**

The course will be taught through demonstrations and work in class. Evaluation will be based on participation in classroom activities and projects completed in a timely fashion.

There will be a total of 12 projects to be completed during the semester plus a final project in the area of scenery, costume or lighting to be completed for finals.

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at

[http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student\\_conduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php)

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance Student Handbook. The Handbook is available online at

<http://www.umt.edu/theatredance/about/handbook>.

There is inherent risk involved in many Theatre & Dance classes as they are very physical in nature. Please proceed through class, shop time, or rehearsal with caution. Always be mindful of your personal safety and the safety of others. Students participating in class/shop/rehearsal/performance do so at their own risk.

### **Class policies and attendance:**

1. This is a laboratory class. I will show you various methods and techniques, and you will explore the possibilities of the media through copy work and original designs.
2. Email - Each student is required to establish a university email account AND check it. Do this TODAY if you do not already possess an account. This class uses a **Moodle** supplement, without your university email will not be able to log in to blackboard. The first assignment is dependent upon you having a personal email address.

3. Good attendance is a good idea. Absences must be limited to reasons of illness or serious emergency and must be excused by the instructor. Your grade will drop one full letter grade after 3 unexcused absences. I expect you to be here for ALL meetings...

4. The instructor will make any effort to accommodate students with disabilities. Please talk to me.

### Course Requirements and Grading:

1. Grades will be based upon projects explained and demonstrated during class lectures. Drawing techniques are more hands on and less theory than design.
2. Grades will be assigned based upon the accumulation of points, with each assignment or activity worth the assigned value:

### Technique practice and samples, including:

<b>Assignment 1</b>	4 negative space drawings (your choice)	<b>Feb 4</b>	50
<b>Assignment 2</b>	1 landscape, 1 copy drawing (given)	<b>Feb 11</b>	50
<b>Assignment 3</b>	1 copy of old master still life (your choice)	<b>Feb 18</b>	100
<b>Assignment 4</b>	6 un-posed life sketches 1 copy of old master figure drawing (your choice)	<b>Feb 27</b>	100
<b>Assignment 5</b>	2 dressed full figures on grey paper (given)	<b>March 6</b>	100
<b>Assignment 6</b>	2 curves and 1 arch 1 parallel room perspective (given)	<b>March 13</b>	100
<b>Assignment 7</b>	3 moldings on grey paper (given) 1 building interior (your choice)	<b>March 18</b>	100
<b>Assignment 8</b>	1 Perspective set design sketch	<b>April 8</b>	100
<b>Assignment 9</b>	color wheels color mixing (given)	<b>April 15</b>	50
<b>Assignment 10</b>	color contrast exercise (given)	<b>April 22</b>	50
<b>Assignment 11</b>	3 Light and Dark studies of set design drawn for Assignment 8	<b>May 1</b>	100
<b>Assignment 12</b>	Final project option1 portrait on black paper 2 Light and dark studies of a set 3 series of studies of human body from life 4 Perspective sketch of a period set	<b>Monday May 12 8 to 10 am FINAL</b>	100
<b>TOTAL points</b>			1000

### **LAST DAY TO TURN IN ANY PAST DUE ASSIGNMENT IS TUESDAY APRIL 29th**

Class grading scale:

95-100%= 950-1000 points A

90-95% = 900-949 points A-

86-89% = 860-899 points B+

83-86% = 830-859 points B

80-83% = 800-829 points B-

76-79% = 760-799 points C+

73-76% = 730-759 points C

70-73% = 700-729 points C-

66-69% = 660-699 points D+

63-66% = 630 - 659 points D

59% and below = below 600 points F

### REQUIRED Materials

-Watercolors either KOI or Windsor/Newton

Both available at the bookstore 12 KOI (\$20.80) 18 KOI (24.99)

12 W/N (\$17.00) 14 W/N (24.20)

PAINT: If you do have more than 20\$ for paint buy THESE WATERCOLOURS instead of a box set as single tubes not cakes:

- Paynes grey, A neutral "lavender" grey, Thalo blue, Ultramarine blue, Hookers Green, Viridian, Burnt Sienna, Raw Sienna, Burnt Umber. Raw Umber, Cadmium or spectrum red, Vermillion. Scarlet or Crimson lake or Alizarin crimson, Yellow ochre, and Cadmium yellow medium. Buy the best quality you can afford.

PAINT - OWN THESE ACRYLIC COLOURS:

- White, Black, and the colors listed above or similar.

- eraser

-Brushes (Discuss and see samples)

-Water containers, rags

-Spray fixative (discuss..)

-Sketchbook or drawing paper pad 18" x 24" or similar size

-small package hard vine charcoal

- Pastel pencils box of Conte', Cretacolor or Derwent at least set of 12 + skin tones and white.

-1 kneaded erasers

-graphite drawing pencils, 1 each of the following: HB, 2B, 4B, 6B

(Preferred brands are Faber-Castell & PrismaColor Not General-Kimberly)

-1 sheet medium grey paper such as canson brand

### RECOMMENDED TOOLS and MATERIALS

- a proper palette or a white dinner plate

- a couple of toothbrushes

- a small natural sponge

- cheap tracing paper or flimsy paper ("onionskin")

- Watercolor: Arches or better, 90 lb or better

### Weekly Schedule:

Date	Topic	Assignment / Activity	%
Jan 28	Intro to course: materials and supplies. Negative space drawings	For next class read drawing negative space on Moodle. Buy materials and supplies for drawing by next class.	
Jan 30	NO CLASS. Work on assigned drawings	Work on Assignment 1: do 4 negative space drawings due Feb 5th	
Feb 4	<b>Assignment 1 due:</b> 4 negative space drawings Copy Drawing. Value, Hatching and Crosshatching. <b>If you happen to have a rubber duck bring it to class</b>	For the next class see samples of "Hatching/Crosshatching" on Moodle and Work on 2nd part of Assignment 2: 2 cross hatching 1 landscape	<b>50</b>
Feb 6	Work on Copy drawing in class	Work on 2nd part of Assignment 2: 2 cross hatching 1 landscape due Feb 12th	
Feb 11	<b>Assignment 2 due:</b> 1 landscape. 1 copy drawing <b>Still life: bring a Banana to class</b>	Find a picture of a Still Life to use for Assignment 3: Still Life due Feb 19th and look at examples of "Still Life" on Moodle	<b>50</b>
Feb 13	Work in class on still life	Work on Still life assignment	
Feb 18	<b>Assignment 3 due:</b> 1 copy of old master still life Human anatomy	Work on Assignment 6 un-posed life sketches due Feb 28 also look at examples of quick sketches and figure drawing on Moodle	<b>100</b>
Feb 20	Quick Sketches out of class exercise	Work on life sketches	
Feb 25	Work on old master figure drawing	Work on 2nd part of Assignment 4, 1 copy Drawing of Old master figure drawing	
Feb 27	<b>Assignment 4 due:</b> 6 un-posed life sketches 1 copy of old master figure drawing. Fabric behavior	Work on Assignment 5: 4 folds and pleats on grey paper due March 7	<b>100</b>



Mar 4	Folds and pleats bring grey paper to class	Work on Assignment 5: 4 folds and pleats on grey paper due March 7th	
<b>Mar 6</b>	<b>Assignment 5 due:</b> 2 dressed full figures on grey paper Simple Perspective Curves and Arches	Work on first part of Assignment 6: 2 curves and 1 arch due March 14th	<b>100</b>
Mar 11	Work on parallel room in perspective	Work on 2nd part of Assignment 6: 1 parallel room in perspective due March 14th	
<b>Mar 13</b>	<b>Assignment 6 due:</b> 2 curves and arches 1 parallel room perspective Sketching building interiors	Work on assignment 7	<b>100</b>
<b>Mar 18</b>	<b>Assignment 7 due:</b> 3 moldings on grey paper 1 building interior Perspective on stage		<b>100</b>
Mar 20	Work on set design sketch in class		
<b>Mar 25</b>	<b>NO CLASS USITT conference</b>	Work on Assignment 8: 1 Perspective set design sketch due April 9th	
<b>Mar 27</b>	<b>NO CLASS USITT conference</b>	Work on Assignment 8: 1 Perspective set design sketch due April 9th	
Apr 1	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	Work on a proposal for final project	
Apr 3	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	Work on a proposal for final project	
<b>Apr 8</b>	<b>Assignment 8 due:</b> 1 Perspective set design sketch Color wheel as the base for mixing colors	Work on Assignment 9: color wheels color mixing due April 16	<b>100</b>
Apr 10	Matching colors and finding the right consistency		
<b>Apr 15</b>	<b>Assignment 9 due:</b> color wheels color mixing. Color contrast	Work on Assignment 10: color contrast exercise due April 23	<b>50</b>
Apr 17	Work on color contrast Final project must be approved by this date		
<b>Apr 22</b>	<b>Assignment 10 due:</b> color contrast exercise Use of color in lighting and set design	Work on Assignment 11: 3 light and dark studies of the same set in color due May 2nd	<b>50</b>
Apr 24	Work on washes over set design		
Apr 29	Mixed media use for renderings. <b><u>Last day to turn in past due assignments</u></b>		
<b>May 1</b>	<b>Assignment 11 due:</b> 3 light and dark studies of the same set in color. Start work on Final project		<b>100</b>
May 6	Work on Final Project		
May 8	Work on Final Project		
<b>May 14</b>	<b>Assignment 12 due:</b> final project options: portrait on black paper Light and dark studies of a set series of studies of human body from life Perspective sketch of a period set Critique final project everything is due	<b>Monday May 12th 8:00 to 10:00 am</b> <b>Presentation in class of your Final Project matted as artwork</b>	<b>100</b>