course title | course number
---|---
DRAWING I | Art 101 - # D004 (80901)

instructor's name | contact
---|---
Professor Steve Rossi | E-mail: Steven.Rossi@sunywcc.edu
Blog Address: wccdrawing1.wordpress.com |  

class meeting day/time | location
---|---
Thursday 8:00am – 11:50 am | AAB Room 402

course description
Working with a range of media, students learn to draw from direct observation, with an emphasis on fundamental elements of visual representation, including mass, shape, line, value, and texture, and principals of composition. Drawing is studied as a tool to help enhance powers of observation and imagination, and to cultivate appreciation and understanding of drawing as a form of visual expression. Drawing from the nude human figure is also explored. Lectures and critical discussions challenge students to respond perceptually and conceptually to visual works presented in the studios (including historical examples), and to organize their insights through analysis.
Notes: This class is open to all students; no previous art experience is necessary. Class Hours: 4

course learning outcomes
Upon successful completion of this class you will be able to:
- **Demonstrate basic drawing skills using direct observation**
  - Create drawings that demonstrate a command of proportional relationships.
  - Produce drawings that demonstrate ability to create the illusion of three-dimensional space.
  - Use value and gradations to create the illusion of form and value changes to reveal edges.
  - Create drawings that use cross-contours, expressive line
  - Produce drawings that are well crafted
- **Demonstrate understanding of Composition**
  - Create drawings that make effective use of asymmetrical balance
  - Make drawings make effective use of Negative Space and use of full format of the frame
  - Create drawings that make effective use of directional forces and emphasis/focal point
- **Use verbal and written skills to analyze drawings**
  - Use drawing vocabulary to verbally analyze the work of self and classmates
  - Use drawing vocabulary to analyze your own drawing
- **Students will demonstrate: understanding of at least one principal form of artistic expression and the creative process inherent therein.**
course methods/requirements
Assigned studio/drawings, outside drawing assignments, resubmissions, sketchbook exercises, critiques, demonstrations, discussions, assigned readings, visual presentations, binder, peer collaborations, a field trip, and exhibition of drawings on campus.
on-line supplement: wccdrawing1.wordpress.com
This course includes the use of a Wordpress website as an on-line supplement to the weekly meeting of your drawing class. You are required to visit the website on a weekly basis download course materials and assignments and to view drawing examples for each of your assignments.

Assessment/evaluation
Your grade will be based on a 210 point scale. Each of the assignments listed below will be allotted the points possible as indicated. You will receive points according to a specific list of required criteria given to you with the assignment. The Participation portion of your score will be based on your preparedness for each class and your participation in discussions & critiques. You will be expected to turn in all assignments on their due dates, late work will only be accepted with a reduction of 2 points per 10 point assignment.

Assignments submitted late will be penalized (points) and will NOT BE ELIGIBLE for resubmission. All assignments turned in on time may be improved or redone and resubmitted up until the last day for resubmissions. (SEE YOUR TOPIC OUTLINE FOR THIS DATE) - NO RESUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE. Due to time constraints, the last assignments will not be open for resubmission. You can estimate your progress anytime during the semester by recording the points you have earned and comparing them with the points possible. Your instructor will meet with you at mid-term to assess your progress in the course and recommend a plan for any needed improvement. The grading scale is indicated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>GRADE SCALE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLIND CONTOUR</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>A 210-189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPOSITION/SEMI-BLIND</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>B 187-166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEMI-BLIND</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C 165-144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEGATIVE SPACE</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>D 143-122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIGHTING/ANGLING</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>F 121- Below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DARK/LIGHT PLANAR</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOLUMES/SHADING</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDTERM ASSESSMENT</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF PORTRAIT</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF PORTRAIT/INTRO TO FINAL</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GESTURE /REVIEW PROPOSALS</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODEL-- PROPORTION</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODEL-- VALUE/IN-PROGRESS CRIT OF FINAL</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODEL—VALUE/FIGURE CRIT</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL CRITIQUE</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTICIPATION</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL VOCABULARY ASSESSMENT</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>210</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Attendance/preparedness/participation

Attendance/Preparedness/Participation Policy

- This is largely an experiential, studio class. If you are not in class, you are missing important participation in drawing experience and assignments for which there is no possible make-up.
- This class meets one time per week. Students are allowed the equivalent of two absences; in this case, two classes. This policy assumes medical necessity is the cause of absence.
- Additional absences will reduce the final course grade by one letter grade per occurrence.
- Each time you are late will count as a one-third absence. (3 late arrivals = 1 absence.) Leaving class early is the same as arriving late.
- Note: The grade reduction (gauged by attendance), even to the point of failing, is based on missed work or lack of participation in the course. Only prolonged infirmity or an approved university required function is a reason for altering this policy.
- Arriving to class without required supplies will indicate you are not prepared to work and will be designated as a late arrival.
- The “Participation” portion of your grade (30 points) will be based on your overall preparedness and your participation in-class work, critiques, reading, and discussions.

required textbook

Required Text: Draw! by Carla Rae Johnson and Laurie Steinhorst, Kendall-Hunt Publishers
You may purchase this textbook at the WCC Bookstore or save $ by purchasing the E-Book: Draw!
https://he.kendallhunt.com/product/draw

required/materials & supplies

Go to the WCC Bookstore which provides kits for Drawing 1 students. This kit contains everything you need for this drawing course (except the textbook which is sold separately). Buying your supplies in this kit saves you money! These supplies will cost you more if you purchase them individually. See your instructor if cash-flow issues will make it hard for you to purchase this kit the first week of class. If you receive financial aid, you must pick up your kit as soon as possible to avoid getting closed out by the deadline.

open studio hours

You are welcome and encouraged to take advantage of open studio hours at the Peekskill Extension Center and/or in the drawing room, AAB building room 402 at the Valhalla Campus to complete work on your projects as well, or at the White Plains CFA location as well. Hours will be posted once the semester gets started.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 9/6  | W 1 | INTRODUCTIONS — “I Come From …”  
Discuss Materials & supplies, reading, textbook, etc.  
Discuss Studio rules, attendance & assignment policies, studio hours, evaluation procedures, syllabus, and course objectives  
Visual Presentation – Drawing as Communication and Expression  
Introduction of Blind Contour-Line Assignment and drawing technique  
Blind Contour-Line drawing practice– Selected Natural Forms  
Blind Contour-Line Assignment 1, sketchbook exercise, and reading completed outside of class time. |
| 9/13 | W 2 | **Blind Contour Line Assignment 1 – Due**, Class Critique  
Reading discussed (A) (Bring textbook & notes.)  
Introduce Semi-Blind Contour Line Assignment and technique  
(Assignment to be worked on outside of regular class time)  
Sketchbook exercise: Semi-Blind Contour Line Introduced  
Semi-Blind Contour Line Assignment 2 – Class work  
**NOTE: Bring to this and all future classes all marking media & drawing paper, as well as binder and textbook.** |
| 9/20 | W 3 | **Semi-Blind Contour Line: Assignment 2 - Due** Class Critique  
Reading Discussed (B) |
| 9/27 | W 4 | **Negative Space: Assignment 3 – Due** Class Critique  
Reading Discussed (C)  
Visual Presentation – Negative space in drawings and art history  
Introduction of the principles of composition & visual flow in drawings  
*Compositions to Avoid* & Exercise in selection using a viewfinder  
Sketchbook exercise: Positive/Negative Space Thumbnails  
Negative Space: Assignment 3 begun (To be completed outside regularly scheduled class time.) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10/4 | W 5 | **Sighting and Angling: Assignment 4 – Due** - Critique  
Reading Discussed (D)  
Introduction of angling, sighting, and point-to-point techniques  
In-class practice in Angling, and Point-to-Point techniques with maximum checking, to achieve accurate proportions. |
| 10/11 | W 6 | **Dark/Light Planar: Assignment 5 – Due** - Critique  
Reading Discussed (E)  
Introduction of space, and planar surfaces, use of light and darkness (values) to define edges without lines.  
Review compositional concepts and sighting techniques.  
Introduce concepts of emphasis/focal points and simplicity/selection  
Discuss use of value to create/enhance Visual Flow  
Sketchbook exercise: Value Scales and thumbnail sketches  
Visual Presentation – Drawings using value to reveal edges without lines. |
| 10/18 | W 7 | **Volumes: Assignment 6 – Due** - Critique  
Introduce the use of gradations of value to reveal round forms  
Demonstrate gradation-value scales  
Introduce “ideal” proportion (The Golden Section or “Rule of Thirds”) and harmony (repetition/variation)  
Review sighting and point-to-point. Demos: cylindrical volumes, ellipses, and plumb-lines |
| 10/25 | W 8 | **Begin Mid-term Exam Drawing**  
Class Critiques, Display,  
Introduce and begin Mid-term Exam Drawing  
Class work time on Mid-term Exam Drawing |
### topic outline (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 11/1 | W 9 | **Finish midterm exam drawing**  
Introduce Inner and Outer Self Portrait Projects  
1st drawing of Final Project: Assignment #10)  
In class 3/4 view self-portrait head studies filling format  
Volumes-sketch and values from direct observation in mirror  
Sketchbook exercise: Portrait heads from life |

**NOTE:** 11/5 is the last day to withdraw with a “W”. See your professors if you have questions about your work in this or any other course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11/8</th>
<th>W 10</th>
<th>Finish Outer Self Portrait Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| 11/15 | W 11 | **Gesture Drawing in Class Using Students as Models**  
Introduction to Gesture Drawing – emphasis: movement, structure, cross-contours, fill format, proportions – Gesture Drawing Practice  
Sketchbook exercise: full-page, full-figure gesture drawings |

| 11/29 | W 12 | **Drawing from the Model**- Focus on structure & proportions  
Bring to class: Newsprint Pad and 5 sheets of quality drawing paper.  
Sketchbook exercise: Full-figure studies of proportions and anatomy  
Individual Reviews of Final Project  
Introduce “Inward” Self-Portrait portion of Final Project  
Exercises in Creative Brainstorming  
Submit concepts for “Inward Self-Portraits” |

| 12/6 | W 13 | **Drawing from the Model** – Emphasis on shading/gradation to reveal forms  
Bring to class: Newsprint Pad and 5 sheets of quality drawing paper. |
Individual Reviews of Final Project (“Outward” and “Inward”)

**Sketchbook exercise: Hands & Arms**

**12/13 W 14 Drawing from the Model** – Emphasis on line and cross-contours

*Bring to class: Newsprint Pad and 5 sheets of quality drawing paper.*

**Figure, Assignment 7 – Due for Evaluation**

Individual Reviews of Final Project (“Outward” and “Inward”)

**Sketchbook exercise: – Feet & Legs**

---

**LAST DAY FOR SUBMISSIONS/RESUBMISSIONS: NO WORK ACCEPTED AFTER THIS.**

**12/20 W 15 Inner Self Portrait critique**, Final vocabulary assessment exam

---

**topic outline (continued)**

**students with disabilities**

Westchester Community College provides services for students with documented learning disabilities, psychiatric disabilities, physical disabilities, visual, hearing, and other health impairments. To learn more about what support services are available visit:

http://www.sunywcc.edu/programs/distance_learning/prospectives/disabilities.htm

**academic integrity**

This class will be conducted in accordance with the college's Student Code of Conduct and basic standards of academic honesty. Cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.

For more information about Westchester Community College's Academic Honesty Policy, please visit:

http://www.sunywcc.edu/dep/english/plag/honesty.htm

Visit Westchester Community College's plagiarism homepage for an excellent overview of plagiarism, and tips on how to avoid it:

http://www.sunywcc.edu/dep/english/plag/plagindex1.htm

---

**Westchester Community College Classroom Conduct Policy**

For the college’s policies on Student Conduct, Classroom Conduct, and other related topics, please visit the college website:

http://www.sunywcc.edu/student_services/student_affairs/policies_proceedures.htm#conduct

---

**Safety and Studio Rules**

See AAB 402 Studio/Info handout distributed first day of class.

---

**Live Model Exemption**

If you are unable to work from a live, nude model, (because your religion, parental, or cultural prohibitions) see your professor as soon as possible. If necessary, we will provide you with an
alternative assignment. Without the specific permission of the instructor, however, you will be required to complete this section of the course.

Protocol for Live Models in Studio
When the model is posing:
1. The room is quiet.
2. Students are respectful and focused on drawing.
3. Prepare your drawing surface (ground) PRIOR to the beginning of the model-session.

Protocol for Live Models in Studio (continued)

4. Check that the studio door is closed and an appropriate visual barrier (cabinet door or easel) is in place to obstruct the view from the hallways.
5. No one touches the model for positioning at any time. Your instructor will verbally assist the model to return to a previous position.
6. Use of cell phones is prohibited in the studio and must be turned off during model sessions.
7. The opportunity to draw from a model is a privilege for any artist and should always be treated as such. Our models are professionals of diverse body types, ages, genders, and races. They are here to help you learn to draw the human figure (The human figure is one of the most challenging subjects any artist confronts in a drawing context.) It is essential that our drawing classes respect and maintain the dignity of the work, the models, and the dignity of the creative/learning process before, during, and after figure drawing sessions.
8. In the short term, I, as your professor, will not hesitate to ask you to leave the class immediately any time you behave and/or speak in a manner that is not respectful.
9. Comments about the model (his/her age, ethnicity, body, gender, or any other quality) are absolutely unacceptable in the studio, in the hallways, or anywhere on our campus. Such comments are an infringement upon their dignity and rights and are, thus, considered to be a verbal assault or abuse. Like any act of bias or harassment, such comments are a serious breach of the student code of conduct and will be dealt with according to those policies. Disciplinary actions for such breaches may include: suspension, or dismissal/expulsion from school. Please see “Student Code of Conduct” in the WCC Student Handbook. (http://www.sunywcc.edu/dep/pub_archive/index.htm)
10. It is the responsibility of anyone who witnesses or hears disrespectful comments to immediately report the incident to the drawing professor who will take appropriate action.