ART 110.001 Drawing I
(Web-enhanced)
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2014
MW 11:00am-1:50 pm, room 201

Instructor: Marilyn R. Thompson, MFA
Office Location: Art Building- room 210
Office Hours: Will be posted on office door
Office Phone: 903 886-5208
Office Fax: 903 886-5987
University Email Address: Marilyn.Thompson@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:


Course Description:
The development of perceptual and descriptive skills through an introduction to a variety of drawing media, techniques and subject matter.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. To acquire a thorough understanding of the elements of art and the principles of organization as related to drawing.
2. To demonstrate an understanding of contour line, positive & negative space, perspective, sighting of angles and measurements of relationships in drawing.
3. To expand the student’s visual arts vocabulary.
4. To master basic skills and to encourage experimentation with techniques and materials, both traditional and non-traditional.
5. To explore creative expression beyond preconceived boundaries.
6. To understand the criteria for aesthetic standards.
7. Professionalism in both work ethic and quality of projects.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments
1. Involvement and contributions to critiques, oral and written.
2. Dedication to class studio work and homework.
3. Dedication to self-directed work.
4. Improvement, experimentation and demonstrated understanding of visual concepts.
5. Presentation and quality of work.

Grading
1. studio projects
2. class participation, studio time (A grade is given for studio time-10 points each meeting and only 5 points if late or leave early, so it is very important to attend all class sessions),
3. sketchbook
4. exams
5. critiques

Grading Points: 1,000 points possible

1. 280 points = studio participation & attendance
2. 520 points = portfolio & projects
3. 100 points = 2 exams (50 points each) to be taken online in eCollege
4. 100 points = sketchbook, research, CD, statement

I utilize the Grade book feature in eCollege, so students will be able to view grades for each assignment as soon as I post them. However, be mindful that the grading scale in the course (see above) DOES NOT correspond to the percentages of points displayed in eCollege. If you strive for a specific grade in the course, be sure to notice how many points you need to accumulate to achieve that grade rather than focusing on the percentage of points you have earned in eCollege.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:
Please feel free to contact me through email or stop by during my office hours.
Email: Marilyn.Thompson@tamuc.edu
Office Hours: Will be posted on office door
Course Specific Procedures:

Late assignments: Late assignments will not be accepted unless you make **prior arrangements with the instructor** before the due date. Your grade will be lowered 10 points for late work. If you know you are going to be absent when work is due you may turn work in early and not receive a penalty.

Class participation: Participation is **required**. It is important to come to class prepared so you can take part in the group discussions and critiques. You are expected to arrive to class on time and stay the entire period. Leaving early is the same as a tardy. 5 points will be deducted from your daily studio time for late arrival or leaving early. Come prepared for the group discussions and critiques.

Department of Art Attendance Policy for 100 & 200 Level Classes

All students are required to regularly attend class. Art is a practice-based discipline and the learning process requires active participation. Students will receive a failing grade upon their fourth absence. Being tardy for class equals ½ of an absence. Being unprepared for class by not having an assignment on critique day or not having the appropriate materials to perform in class assignments will count as an absence. Upon the first absence the faculty member will remind the student of the attendance policy. Upon the second absence, the student’s name and attendance record will be forwarded to the Head of the Department of Art and a letter will be mailed to the student’s permanent address. Upon the third absence, the student will be referred to the Head of the Department of Art for consultation. Students participating in sports or other University activities can be excused from the Departmental policy if they have made arrangements with the instructor to address missed class-work BEFORE the scheduled event. A schedule of the days they are planning to perform or play must be provided at the beginning of the semester or at least a month before their first planned absence.

Plagiarism: Do not take credit for someone else’s work. According to Texas A & M University-Commerce, “the university does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. “Academic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one’s own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource materials. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course.”
**Drop a Course:** “A student may drop a course by logging into their myLeo account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled ‘Drop a class’ from among the choices found under the myLeo section of the Web page.”

**University Specific Procedures:**

*ADA Statement*: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

*Student Conduct*

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

---

**COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

**Schedule and assignments:**  
**Essential Skills and Information**

**Week 1:**  
**Monday:** Introduction to Art 110: Drawing I  
Supplies required  
Viewfinder  
Discussion: Sighting techniques  
**Sketchbook:** Thumbnail sketches  
**Reading assignment:** pages 283-316

**Wednesday:** Contour drawing using sighting techniques for Relative Proportions  
**Materials:** Black marking pens of various sizes  
**Sketchbook:** Do a contour drawing of your bedroom or closet. This drawing should show the complexity of many shapes, example a pile of shoes and hanging clothes in your closet. Notice the many different shapes within each object. (Suggested time is two to three hours)  
**Materials:** Black marking pens of various sizes
Week 2:
Monday: Contour drawing using sighting techniques for Angles and Axis Lines in Relation to Verticals and Horizontals
Materials: Graphite pencils
Sketchbook: Do a still life contour drawing. Practice what we covered in class.
Materials: Graphite pencils
Reading assignment: pages 4-101

Wednesday: Principles of Composition
Draw four different compositions of the still life by shifting the tonal focal point in each individual study.
Materials: Graphite pencils
Sketchbook: Do a contour line drawing of the same object 4 times. Each time you draw the object shift it within the picture plane (Reference page 34).
Materials: Black marking pens of various sizes

Week 3: Sketchbook check
Monday: Continue Principles of Composition
Draw four different compositions of the still life by shifting the tonal focal point in each individual study. Principles of Composition critique at end of class.
Sketchbook: Continue working on contour line drawing of the same object 4 times. Each time you draw the object shift it within the picture plane (Reference page 34).
Materials: Black marking pens of various sizes

Wednesday: Subtractive value drawing of draped fabric
Cover a sheet of drawing paper with charcoal.
Materials: Charcoal, white conte, & kneaded eraser
Sketchbook: Do a drawing of a complex natural object (plant, flower, pine cone, etc.). Do the inner and outer contour shapes of the object. Do not use value but work with various sizes of lines, using the different size marking pens.

Week 4:
Monday: Subtractive value drawing of draped fabric
Cover a sheet of drawing paper with charcoal.
Materials: Charcoal, white conte, & kneaded eraser
Sketchbook: Draw the value scale.

Wednesday: Subtractive value drawing of collage
Cover a sheet of drawing paper with charcoal.
Materials: Charcoal, white conte, & kneaded eraser
Sketchbook: Do a detailed contour line drawing of your hand.
Materials: Graphite

Week 5:
Monday: Continue subtractive value drawing of collage
Cover a sheet of drawing paper with charcoal.
Materials: Charcoal, white conte, & kneaded eraser
Sketchbook: Now add value to the detailed contour line drawing you did of your hand.
Materials: Graphite
Wednesday: Continue subtractive value drawing of collage
Critique at end of class.
Materials: Charcoal, white conte, & kneaded eraser
Sketchbook: Do 4 negative space drawing of a plant or chair.
Materials: Graphite
Reading: pages 102-158

Spatial Thinking and Visualization
Week 6: Sketchbook check
Monday: Introduction to perspective
   Basic principles of linear perspective
   1-point perspective: boxes
   2-point perspective: boxes
   A gridded ground plane in 1-point and 2-point perspective
Sketchbook: Draw a two-point perspective view of your living environment using only sighting to discover angles, rates of convergence, and proportional relationships
Materials: Graphite

Wednesday: A Fantasy Architectural Perspective Drawing
   Do a perspective drawing that combines 2 or more point perspective with fantasy images.
Materials: Graphite
Sketchbook: Continue to draw a two-point perspective view of your living environment using only sighting to discover angles, rates of convergence, and proportional relationships
Materials: Graphite

Week 7:
Monday: A Fantasy Architectural Perspective Drawing
   Do a perspective drawing that combines 2 or more point perspective with fantasy images.
Materials: Graphite
Sketchbook: Continue to draw a two-point perspective view of your living environment using only sighting to discover angles, rates of convergence, and proportional relationships

Wednesday: A Fantasy Architectural Perspective Drawing
   Do a perspective drawing that combines 2 or more point perspective with fantasy images.
Materials: Graphite
Sketchbook: Draw a chair using 2-point perspective.
Materials: Graphite

Week 8:
Monday: A Fantasy Architectural Perspective Drawing
   Do a perspective drawing that combines 2 or more point perspective with fantasy images.
   Fantasy Architectural Perspective critique at end of class.
Materials: Graphite
Sketchbook: Do a drawing of a building using 3-point perspective.
Reading assignment: pages 159-218

Essential Drawing Principles in Relation to the Human Figure
Wednesday: Discussion Self-Portrait (pages 179-193)
   Slides of Artist’s Self-Portraits
   Outside Assignment: Self-Portrait
   Due for class critique on Monday, Week 14
   Portrait must be done from life; may not copy a photograph.
   Portrait must position the figure in a definite three-dimensional space.
Sketchbook: Gesture drawings of the figure  
Materials: Black marking pens of various sizes  

**Color Theory and Application** (reading assignment pages 218-282)  
**Week 9:**  
Spring Break  

**Week 10: Sketchbook check**  
**Monday:** Working in color with colored pencils and the still life.  
**Sketchbook:** Draw an object using complementary colors (Red & Green).  
**Material:** Colored pencils  

**Wednesday:** Working in color with colored pencils and the still life.  
**Sketchbook:** Draw an object using complementary colors (Violet & Yellow).  
**Material:** Colored pencils  

**Developing Ideas, Resolving Problems, and Evaluating Results** (pages 268-387)  
**Week 11:**  
**Monday:** Final Exam Drawing  
**Material:** Free choice  
**Sketchbook:** Draw an object using complementary colors (Blue & Orange).  
**Material:** Colored pencils  

**Wednesday:** Final Exam Drawing  

**Week 12: Sketchbook check**  
**Monday:** Final Exam Drawing  
**Sketchbook:** Research drawings for your final exam.  
**Wednesday:** Final Exam Drawing  

**Week 13:**  
**Monday:** Final Exam Drawing  

**Wednesday:** Final Exam Drawing  

**Week 14:**  
**Monday:** Self-Portrait class critique  
**Final Exam Drawing**  

**Wednesday:** Final Exam Drawing  

**Week 15:**  
**Monday:** Final Exam Drawing Critique  

**Wednesday: Portfolio and Sketchbook Due**  

**Week 16:**  
Pick up graded portfolio between Wednesday and Friday. If your portfolio is not picked up by Friday it will be thrown away. The Drawing room is not a storage facility for abandoned portfolios.
Supply List

Sketchbook (9”x12”)
White drawing paper pad, 18”x24”, Strathmore or Alexis
1-can of workable spray fixative
2- Bulldog clamps
Pencils -2b, 4b, 6b
1 graphite stick
Prismacolor colored pencils- 12 count
Black Charcoal-compressed and vine
Conte- Black and white- medium hard (B) or hard (HB)
Artist Chamois
A variety of stumps-#2 and #8
1-Sandpaper block
2-Overhead projector frames and acetate
“Sharpies”- Fine & Extra Fine Point black, Permanent Markers
Black felt-tip markers, Extra Fine Point, Non-permanent
1-Metal pencil sharpener
2- Kneaded erasers
1-Pink pearl eraser or white vinyl eraser
Hobby Knife (x-acto)
Metal ruler (at least 18 in.)
Toolbox (or something to organize supplies in)
Large portfolio (24”x30” or larger)
1-Sheet of acetate, 18”x24”
Mat board, 30”x40”, White only
1-Roll of brown paper tape (postal tape)