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ARTZ 105A.03: Visual Language - Drawing

Bradley D. Allen

University of Montana - Missoula, bradley.allen@umontana.edu

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ARTZ 105A *Visual Language: Drawing Section 03, 3 credits* CRN 72412

School of Art, The University of Montana, Fall Semester August 25th- December 12th

Fulfills General Education Requirement for Expressive Arts

When: TTh 8:10-10:00 am, Where: Fine Arts 404

Instructor: Brad Allen, Office: Fine Arts Bldg. Room 203

Office Hours: TTh 10-10:30 am, Phone: X4181, Email: art.director@mso.umt.edu

Mailbox in art office

Course Description and Objectives

Catalogue description: An introduction to visual language, concepts, and studio practicum. Focus on basic skills development in rendering volume, pictorial depth, and figure/ground relationships. Research in historical and contemporary approaches to drawing.

Instructor description: Students will develop an understanding of 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, light, value, composition, positive and negative space, repetition, rhythm, perspective (one, two, and three-point), subject matter, emotion and content.**

Techniques and concepts will be introduced through lectures, slides, demonstrations, and assigned readings. This course takes the form of a traditional studio class with emphasis on in-class drawings. A detailed course calendar with all critical information will be available as an addendum to the syllabus on Thursday 28th.

Coursework

Students will demonstrate an understanding of these techniques and concepts through in-class projects, weekend homework drawings (to be completed outside of class and turned in at the beginning of each week), and a formal portfolio review.

In week 2, you will find a detailed weekly schedule, updates, and the most important images on the course's Moodle site. This specifically lists the projects we will undertake. We will introduce concepts or techniques each day and do a series of drawings in class that explore these concepts. The class requires you to draw 5 hours per week outside of class. Informal individual critiques will happen daily. Group critiques will happen every Monday. Students are required to thoroughly evaluate their own drawings, others' drawings, as well as understand/accept criticism given by others. A selective body of 5 drawings will be presented as your final portfolio. These will be culled from your coursework to establish a grouping of work that embodies your most important goals.

To be successful in this class, each student must:

- Attend and participate in class drawing sessions
- Actively participate in critiques
- Complete all assignments on time
- Keep notes on technical information
- *Help maintain a safe, clean, and organized drawing studio*

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. 3 unexcused absences are allowed. For each absence after these three, your grade will be dropped one letter per absence. Upon receiving your seventh total unexcused absence, a failing grade is issued automatically. Come to class ready to work; students who are not prepared will be asked to leave class to purchase supplies. Demonstrations missed will not be repeated; the absent student must obtain notes from another student.

Safety

The drawing studio may be unsafe if not properly cleaned. Charcoal dust left on the floor may be slippery. **PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELVES AND PROCEED THROUGH THE STUDIO SPACE CAUTIOUSLY. Clean-up will happen daily from 1:20-1:30 pm. Every Wednesday one of you will perform a quick sweep around the studio space and wipe down the tables. This will rotate amongst the class. This is in addition to you each cleaning up after yourselves.**

Grading

Three factors will be considered in overall evaluation of your performance in the course:

1. Quality of the art produced---inventiveness, sensitivity to materials, technical understanding, compositional effectiveness, and idea development **all in relation to the individual assignment goals.**
2. Quality of learning process---your growth, content developed, risks taken, range of ideas explored, enthusiasm, and amount of overall effort.
3. Professional demeanor in the drawing studio--- contributions to class, attendance, effective use of time, clean work habits, **proper treatment of materials**, attention to studio space, and participation in class critiques

Points Available

<u>Weekend projects</u>	10 individual	30 pts. Each	300 pts. Total
<u>In-Class Grades</u>	15 or weekly	15 pts. Each	225 pts. Total
<u>Portfolio review</u>	1 (2-Days of class)	175 pts.	175 pts. Total
		Possible Points	700 pts. Total

Letter Grade Characteristics

A= Excellence in all assignments, highly motivated, innovative solutions to assignments

B= Above average in all work, demonstrates technical growth and ability

C= Completion of all projects, satisfactory class participation---**for those students who are taking the class on a Credit/No Credit basis, they must, at the very least, meet the expectations of a "C". In a sense, and average effort and product.**

D= Incomplete on some projects, inadequate class participation, dissatisfactory work

F= Incompletes on many projects, poor participation, several unexcused absences

Incompletes

Incompletes for the course will only be given in cases of extreme emergency. It is the responsibility of the student to keep the instructor fully informed of such situations.

Students with Access/Special Needs

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.

Announcements for Students

1. Keep updated with the School of Art, umt.edu/art and umartdepartment.wordpress.com
2. Check out downtown Missoula for art exhibitions and happenings on First Friday and our 4 on campus venues weekly (Gallery of Visual Arts, Montana Museum of Art & Culture, UC Gallery, Student Gallery).

Fine Arts Building Guidelines

1. Fine Arts Building hours are for currently enrolled students only; art studio use requires being currently registered in a specific studio course as course fees facilitate specific supplies. If not currently enrolled, students will be asked to leave.
Hours: 7 A.M. – 11 P.M., Monday – Sunday
2. No creatures or children not enrolled in courses allowed in studios during class time or open studio times – they will be asked to leave.
3. No food or open beverage containers will be allowed in Art Department facilities when art making is in progress. (When needed, students may take breaks by simply stepping out of the studios.)
4. Studio clean up is required daily.
5. Pick up all art work by the scheduled exam day or the last class period. This needs to happen or art work will be discarded. Please do not leave art work in the art office.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.

Supply List

No Required Text

Supplies you already paid for in Drawing Pack:

The ART101 kits will be available in the UC Bookstore for pick-up in week or so (I'll give you an update next class period):

- BEE-827T100-1824 Big Bee Sketch Paper 18x24 100 sheet pad
- Kit-Bag
- WBC-105C 3 Pack Char-Kole
- SAN-70532 Kneaded Eraser
- GEN-57C Vine Charcoal Tube
- GEN-558 White Charcoal Pencil
- Pro-3049 Draw Kit (All-in-one)
- SAN-64801 Black Tuff- Stuff Click Eraser
- PRO-6987-24 #4 Blending Stump

Additional:

- Masking tape (at least 1" thick)
- Utility or Ex-acto knife
- Ruler or straight edge, 24"
- Workable fixative
- Staedtler Drawing Pencils: 2H HB 2B 4B
- 3 pieces medium tone paper, Stonehenge Craft Brown or Grey
- 3 pieces Stonehenge White paper
- Cardboard Portfolio

Optional (Recommended):

- Container for supplies
- Additional quality paper as desired