

Drawing 1

ART 1300C (001)
Mon, Wed: 9:00 a.m. –11:10 a.m.
VA 106, 3 credits
Spring 2011

Instructor: Sofia Matsi, smatsi@fau.edu

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 8:30- 9 a.m. or 11:10-11:30 a.m. **by appointment**
→ Office Hours held in the classroom area, VA 106

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

Drawing 1 focuses on the fundamentals of using drawing to construct naturalistic and believable compositions. This class will investigate the concepts and principles of drawing objects and environments from direct observation. Students will acquire the technical and conceptual skills that are fundamentals of the drawing process, while also developing their personal vision and creative goals within the field. Through active drawing practise, visiting artists' lectures and class discussion, along with outside assignments and research, students will develop their abilities to construct, to interpret, and to discuss their own drawings, their classmates' drawings and masterworks. In- and out-of-class studio work, group and individual critiques, visiting artists' lectures, gallery visits and other campus events will be among the activities in which all students are expected to participate.

COURSE OUTLINE AND WEEKLY TOPICS OF STUDY

Weeks 1-4: The observation, composition and the process of drawing
Drawing from Observation: Chapters 1-5 and 10

- Drawing materials and drawing mechanics
- Blind contour drawing, semi-blind contour and cross-contour
- Intuitive gesture drawing, extended gesture drawing and the perceptual grid

Weeks 5-9: Visual measurement and the structure of space
Drawing from Observation: Chapters 6-8, 11 and 15

- Intuitive perspective, sighting and proportion
- Foreshortened circles
- 1- and 2- point linear perspective

Weeks 10-16: Visual weight and mass, space, light and surface
Drawing from Observation: Chapter 13 (and 17 for 2nd edition)

- Materials and techniques experiments for creating value and texture
- Chiaroscuro, value studies and modelling form

REQUIRED & RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Drawing from Observation, by Brian Curtis, is required
Sketch Book for the Artist, by Sarah Simblet, is recommended

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS:

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be carefully recorded daily. It is essential that you be present and punctual.

- **2** absences are allowed for poor health, emergencies or field trips.
- Coming to class late (15 minutes and up), **3** times is equivalent to **1** absence.
- A greater number of absences may result in the lowering of your final grade by as many as **3 points** (/100) for each absence. (Seven absences = F)
- You are responsible for the work that you miss when you are absent. Please take the initiative to get in touch with your classmates or with me to get up to speed when you are not here.

I realize that every student has their responsibilities or activities that sometimes interfere with his or her ability to come to class. Please remember that your actions have consequences. Special exceptions will be discussed and accommodated **in advance** and on an individual basis. Emergencies will be dealt with, on an individual basis.

PREPAREDNESS

Preparedness is absolutely essential in studio classes. Coming to class without the appropriate supplies makes it difficult for you to be truly “present”, that is, physically and attentively in the studio and ready to work. Please come to class each day with the appropriate supplies, and having completed any out of class assignments. Doing so will ensure that you stay up-to-date with your assignments, and it will also contribute to your attendance and homework grades. Art students may sign up to use one of the red lockers in the courtyard of the VA building. You may sign up for a locker in the Art Department office (AH building). Locker assignments are valid for one semester and **must** be cleaned out at the end of the semester. There is no charge to use these lockers.

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For example, any instance of cheating, stealing or plagiarism will result in an automatic F in the course. For more information, see http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Honor_Code.pdf.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton - SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie - MOD I (954-236-1222), in Jupiter - SR 117 (561-799-8585), or at the Treasure Coast - CO 128 (772-873-3305), and follow all OSD procedures.

Note: In accordance with university policy, all cell phones and beepers must be turned off during class time.

THE STUDIO ENVIRONMENT

The studio should be a place that is productive, challenging, safe and enjoyable. It is important to develop working relationships with your classmates and to discuss and support their work, as well as your own. You are responsible for cleaning up after yourself at the end of each work session, and we will also work together at several points during the semester to maintain the studio. In general, please make sure that your work area is tidy, and please do not leave any items (especially food items) behind when you leave the studio. Studio maintenance is part of the art-making process, and your participation in this process is expected and appreciated.

- You may take breaks as you need them during class, remembering that productive use of time is essential for staying caught up with your work and completing assignments on time.
- You may listen to your mp3 player during times that there are no demonstrations. Please keep in mind to keep it to a low volume so as to not disturb the rest of the class.
- The use of cell phones (even in silent mode), as well as texting is **prohibited** during class.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Participation is very important in studio classes. You are expected to participate fully, actively and professionally in class each day. This means that you work efficiently on projects in class and speak up in studio discussion and critique.

GROUP CRITIQUES

There will be formal, announced critiques periodically throughout the semester, typically when major projects are turned in. Occasionally there will be spontaneous discussions of works in progress. Each student must demonstrate a sharpening of her or his critical looking and thinking process through extensive, active participation in both artmaking process and in the self- and group-evaluation process.

GRADING

Grades are earned on the quality of your work (your technical ability, your mastery of individual concepts, and your knowledge of course content), your effort and improvement over the course of the semester, and your communication skills. You will be graded based on your successfully completed projects, and your involvement in critique and discussion as well as your professionalism (preparedness, promptness, attendance and academic conduct).

In general these are the standards to keep in mind:

A: Excellent work. This work that is an exceptional solution to the problem. This work demonstrates strong effort (often more than was required by the assignment), and confidence and fluency with the technical and conceptual skills being assessed. This work demonstrates critical thinking; it shows that risks have been taken and that they have been taken successfully.

B: Above average work. The work is strong, but not exceptional. It solves the problem presented in the assignment, but not necessarily in a creative or inventive way. The work is well executed.

C: Average work. This work is somewhat minimal solution to the problem at hand. The work does not demonstrate that risks have been taken, nor does it suggest that the maker thought critically or creatively about the solution that has been devised. Execution may be inconsistent or reflect that the maker does not have a firm grasp of the skills necessary to complete the assignment.

D: Below average work. This work indicates that a partial attempt has been made to solve the problem at hand and that the maker may have limited engagement with the assignment. Overall, the work fails to grasp the main objective of the assignment, demonstrates a lack of skill on the part of the maker, is poorly executed, and does not solve the problem as states.

F: Failing. The work reflects little or no understanding of the problem at hand, little or no thought or effort and even lack of skill. Work that shows neither awareness nor attention to the project assignment may also get a failing grade. Work that shows evidence of academic dishonesty will always earn a failing grade.

Grading Scale:	A:	93-100
	A-:	90-92
	B+:	87-89
	B:	83-86
	B-:	80-82
	C+:	77-79
	C:	73-76
	C-:	70-72
	D:	60-69
	F:	0-59

ASSIGNMENTS

Sketchbook:	12 points
Independent Project no.1:	10 points
Independent Project no.2:	10 points
Midterm Portfolio:	20 points
Independent Project no.3:	15 points
Final Portfolio:	25 points
Participation & Preparedness:	5 points
Extra assignments:	3 points
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Total:	100 points

LATE WORK

Prompt completion of projects is essential for academic and professional success. It is essential that all assignments be turned in on the due date. Late work will be accepted at my discretion. The minimum deduction for late work will be **one full letter grade per day**.

GETTING IN TOUCH WITH ME

My office hours are listed on top of this syllabus. In case you would like to meet with me notify me in advance personally or through email and we can schedule a meeting. When you email me, please do from your official FAU email address as these messages are certain to get to me. Also, please check in a frequent basis that your FAU mailbox has not filled up as this might result in not getting important reminders I will be sending you throughout the semester.

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS & CRITIQUES

If you would like to discuss your work and its progress at any time during the semester, I am happy to do so. Just let me know that you would like to schedule a meeting with me, and we will sit down and arrange a time when we are both available. It is important for each student to take individual responsibility for his or her performance. Please get into the habit of taking initiative when it comes to making sure that you succeed. I am happy to arrange meeting to discuss works in progress, project ideas, questions you may have about materials and readings or even questions regarding you grade and your progress in the class.

PORTFOLIO REVIEW

All studio art majors are required to participate in the Department of Visual Art & Art History's portfolio review. The portfolio review normally takes place twice each year. The portfolio review process will provide participants with feedback about the progress of their studio work. More importantly, the review determines which degree options are open to you as studio major. Students who pass the review are eligible to become BA majors or BFA majors, while students who do not pass are limited to the BA major. The BFA degree track allows you to specialize in an individual studio field (such as painting, printmaking, photography, or graphic design), while the BA degree is a more generalized degree track. BFA degrees are generally considered more prestigious and rigorous than BA degrees in the visual arts. The current guidelines for portfolio review are available on the department website. The best way to begin preparing is by reviewing the guidelines and carefully preserving the projects you make in all of your studio classes. The right time to go through the review varies somewhat from student, but in general, you should participate in the review while you are in your last semester of foundations (1000- and 2000- level) courses.

**This Spring semester 2011, the Portfolio Review is on March 14th and 15th

REQUIRED SUPPLIES

Things to have by Wednesday

- 1 sketchbook (around 8.5"x11") **A SEPERATE ONE FROM OTHER CLASSES** (preferably not spiral) *
- 1 small pocket sketchbook
- 1 newsprint pad, 18" x 24"
- 1 drawing pad, 18"x24" (by the end of semester we will need a 2nd or even a 3rd)
- Large artist's clipboard to hold your drawing pad 23"x26"
- Compressed charcoal: medium, soft, extra soft
- Assorted graphite drawing pencils from HB to 6B, pencil sharpener
- 1 roll of masking tape (1" wide)
- 1 box to hold all of your materials

Things to have by the beginning of week 3

- Willow charcoal
- Old clothes
- 1 kneaded rubber eraser
- 1 regular eraser
- 1 thin kneading needle
- An exacto knife
- Portfolio (see optional supplies for details)

Things we will use around midterm

- Sumi ink
- Couple of watercolour brushes
- Cheap natural bristle brushes of various sizes (at least 1 large house painting brush)
- Plastic containers

Optional Supplies

- Fixative: Krylon Crystal Clear Acrylic
- Fabric Portfolio with shoulder strap (especially if you plan to make art beyond this class)

* Suggestions for Sketchbooks:

- Moleskine Sketchbooks
- Cachet Hardbound Sketchbook
- Reflexions Line Sketch Book
- Global Art Flexi-Sketch Books

WHERE TO GET YOU SUPPLIES

Jerry's Art-o-Rama (10% student discount)

1. Deerfield: 954-427-6264
2. West Palm Beach: 561-434-2288

Utrecht Art Supplies 1-800-223-9132

1. Fort Lauderdale
2. Miami

Pearl Fine Art Supplies 1-800-221-6845x2297 in Fort-Lauderdale

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan 14 (Fri)	Last day to add/drop classes without fees
Jan 17 (Mon)	NO CLASS: M. L. King Holiday
Jan 21 (Fri)	Last day to drop without getting a "W" on your transcript
Feb 14 (week 6, Mon)	<u>Project 1 Due</u>
Feb 21 (week 7, Mon)	<u>Midterm Portfolio Due</u>
Mar 4 (Fri)	Last day to withdraw without getting an "F" on your transcript
Mar 7-13	SPRING BREAK!
Mar 21 (week 11, Mon)	<u>Project 2 Due</u>
Apr 13 (week 14, Wed)	<u>Project 3 Due</u>
Apr 13 (week 14, Wed)	<u>Final Portfolio Part I Due</u>
Apr 25 (week 16, Mon)	<u>Final Portfolio Part II Due</u>
Apr 27 (Wed)	Last day of class!
Apr 29 (Fri 7:45- 10:15 a.m.)	<u>Final Exam</u> – Return of graded work