

**Drawing ARTS 1316.02**

Sam Houston State University College of Fine Arts + Mass Communication

Department of Art

Spring 2018 12:00-2:50 am MW Art Complex Building D 116

Instructor: Tudor Mitroi

Office Location: Huntsville Campus, Art Complex, Building A, Room 105

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Office Hours: MW 11:00am-12:00pm and by appointment

**Course Description:**

An in-depth study of the fundamental principles of drawing and mark making. Students will draw from observation and develop the ability to create 2 dimensional representations using Line, Value, Shape, Edge, Plane and Volume, Space, Texture, Perspective, and Gesture. The use of negative space and compositional strategies are emphasized. Traditions of drawing are examined and drawing is placed in a historical context that emphasizes its importance in contemporary art.

**Prerequisite:**

None.

**Credit Hours:**

3 credit hours.

**Course Objectives**

After completing this course, students will be able to demonstrate:

Acquired foundational knowledge of observational drawing fundamentals

The ability to create expressive use of line and mark making

Use of value to describe form and light

Create compositions that incorporate the use of negative space and the entire page

Ability to use perspective to depict 3 dimensional space

Proficiency with a range of drawing materials, tools & surfaces

Exercise critical thinking in understanding and evaluating drawings

Knowledge of drawing techniques, and an increasing visual vocabulary with the ability to identify the elements and principles of design in studio critiques

Exercise the habit of discipline as it relates to both drawing research and craftsmanship

Ability to expand previous notions about drawing and art making

**Required Materials:**

Drawing: A Contemporary Approach by Teel Sale & Claudia Betti. 2012; 6th edition.

ISBN-13: 978-0495094913

ISBN-10: 0495094919

This textbook is available for rent via Amazon for \$45{rent}; Kindle Edition for \$42; a used paperback copy can be purchased for about \$94. See link here: [http://www.amazon.com/Drawing-Contemporary-Approach-Teel-Sale/dp/0495094919/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1439803837&sr=8-1&keywords=drawing+a+contemporary+approach](http://www.amazon.com/Drawing-Contemporary-Approach-Teel-Sale/dp/0495094919/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1439803837&sr=8-1&keywords=drawing+a+contemporary+approach).

NOTE: Additional required studio material list for Drawing is attached.

### **Grade Evaluation**

Grading will be based on acknowledging and rewarding your work. The individual class projects will count as 60% of the grade (an average based on the quality and expected quantity of work, and improvement). Sketchbook, readings, and outside assignments: 30%. Houston museum/gallery field trip: 10%. The work will be graded based on an average of daily/weekly assignments. Studio work and sketchbook/homework will be evaluated/graded every class meeting or weekly depending on the assignment. As a rule, work is due at the beginning of the next class meeting after it was completed. For instance, if we worked on a project on Monday, the drawing will be due at the beginning of the class on Wednesday. Occasionally a project may take more than one class time. In that case it will be due the next class meeting after the end of the project. Before you turn in your work you will need to have your name printed and the date of completion of the assignment (*not* the day you turn it in), usually the date of the previous class meeting. For the sketchbook or homework assignments it should be the date it is turned in. You must pick up your drawings after they have been reviewed and graded, usually at the end of the class they were turned in. The criteria related to the requirements and expectations for each category of drawings will be discussed in advance (usually weekly or before the assignment). Grades will be given in class individually, not online or over email. At any time you are welcome to inquire about your current performance. The final grades will be posted with the registrar before the university deadline. Late work will be graded 1 letter grade point lower for each class meeting it is late—see note below.

Extra credit: 0.25 of a letter grade, at the discretion of the instructor. It will involve an extra museum or gallery visit in Houston (options will be approved by the instructor) followed by an assignment/research report. Details will be provided at the time of the request. OR: perfect attendance.

### **Make Up/Late Work Policy**

Late work will be graded 1 point lower per class meeting it is late. The only exception is made if the student has an official documentation: e.g., signed doctor's or university note. This exception will not count as an excuse for the above attendance policy. If you must miss class you may ask a classmate to turn in your work for you and to pick it up once it has been graded.

All grades will reflect the following scale: {A} 100-90; {B} 89-80; {C} 79-70; {D} 69-60; {F} 59 and below.

### **STUDIO MATERIALS LIST**

All materials are required and cannot be substituted \*

- Drawing Pad (**Strathmore 400 Series** with micro perf edge) 18 x 24 (you will likely need 3 pads so plan accordingly!)
- Drawing board of appropriate size (20 x 26)
- Large spring paper clips (2 or 4)
- Sketchbook (8 X 5, micro perf edge recommended)
- Vine charcoal (soft, medium)
- Can of fixative spray, low odor
- Chamois
- Pencil sharpener
- Pencil (wooded, woodless, soft 2B-8B; 5-6 B recommended for most line projects; one HB or H pencil)

- Sharpie black/brown pens, fine and extra fine
- Compressed charcoal
- Conte Crayons/Pastel (Black, Brown/Sanguine, White)
- A couple shish kebab skewers or chopsticks (very straight)
- ruler (clear plastic recommended, at least 18", 24" is better; two rulers are helpful)
- Loose sheets of white and toned paper, approx. 18 x 24
- scissors
- X-acto knife
- Glue stick (UHU)
- Double sided tape or UHU Tac removable adhesive putty
- Ink (black or dark brown), e.g., Black Magic
- Pen nib (pointed, preferably not too small) and nib holder (e.g., Speedball Crowquill Holder and nib <http://www.dickblick.com/products/speedball-crow-quill-dip-pen-and-nibs/>)
- Watercolor Brush, round, pointed, about 1/4 - 1/2 in diam.
- Dip cup for ink (small cup with a leak proof cap, like a small medicine bottle)
- Hard cover portfolio large enough to accommodate your work

\* if any specific materials are needed for a particular project, you will be notified in advance and/or advised on what to select

### **Course Requirements and Class Procedures**

Students are expected to attend all presentations, critiques, and activities scheduled for the course. Course work will be discussed in group critiques as well as individually during class time. You will be notified in advance about further information, which will be e-mailed or handed out. There will be one field trip to Houston museums/galleries, details of which will be discussed in advance. There may also be a project involving research in the library, which will also be scheduled and announced in advance. Individual needs for specific projects will be accommodated as best as possible. Make sure you have all the needed materials handy at all times. Wear appropriate clothing that will keep you comfortable and safe. Given the nature of the studio environment and materials used, you are advised to wear clothes that you do not care if they get dirty. There will be no eating or drinking in class unless otherwise permitted by the instructor. If you need to spray fixative on your artwork, this should be done only outside the building—see also note about defacing university property.

### **OPEN MODEL SESSIONS**

You are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. Check the posted schedule.

### **Tentative Course Outline:**

Week 1 January 17 Introductions, discussion of course, supplies and textbook. Reading: Chapter 1  
 Week 2 January 22-24 Line: gesture--various approaches Reading: Part 1 Chapter 2 through Gestural Line Drawing; Part 4 Guide B  
 Week 3 January 29-31 Line: contour--various approaches Chapter 2: Other Beginning Approaches; Part 4 Guide A  
 Week 4 February 5-7 Line: proportions, sighting Part 2 Chapter 5  
 Week 5 February 12-14 Space: perspective, 1 and 2 point Reading: Part 2 Spatial Relationships of the Art Elements; Development of Spatial Response and Categories of Space  
 Week 6 February 19-21 Space: perspective, 2 and 3 point Reading: Part 2 Spatial Relationships of the Art Elements: through Conclusion  
 Week 7 February 26-28 Volume and Plane: planar analysis Reading: Part 2, Chapter 3 Through Silhouette  
 Week 8 March 5-7 Value: simple two-value Reading: Part 2 Chapter 4 Value: Definitions and Functions  
 Week 9 March 12-16 **Spring Break**

Week 10 March 19-21 Value: full value Reading: Part 2 Chapter 4 Ways of Creating Value  
Field Trip: Saturday, March 24  
Week 11 March 26-28 Value: toned paper Reading: Chapter 4, Value Used to Describe Light  
Week 12 April 2-4 collage, three value. Reading: Chapter 4 Summary: Spatial Characteristics of Value  
Week 13 April 9-11 Composition: organizing expressively the picture plane Reading: Part 3 Chapter 9  
Week 14 April 16-18 Abstract from life. Texture Part 2 Chapter 6  
Week 15 April 23-25 Pen and ink. Reading: Part 4 Guide C Part 3 Chapter 10  
Week 16 April 30-May 2 Brush and ink. Reading: Part 3 Chapter 11 **Last Class Meeting: May 2**

### **Field Trip**

The Houston museum/gallery field trip and the library research will be scheduled and announced ahead of time. Tentatively, the field trip is scheduled for **Saturday, March 24**. The field trip counts as class attendance and will replace one of the weekly regular class meetings decided in advance. If special circumstances prevent you from attending the group field trip you will have to contact the instructor for details *before* you go on your own, and submit adequate proof of completing the field trip in order to get credit and be considered present. The field trip details will be discussed in class in advance and info will be emailed before the trip.

### **Department of Art BFA Review**

The purpose of the BFA Review is to ensure that students have learned basic principles and techniques needed for advanced art courses.

All Art students must successfully complete all of the Art Foundation courses and the BFA Review before being accepted into a BFA program in Computer Animation, Photography, or Studio Art or Graphic Design. Graphic Design students must also pass a separate Graphic Design Review after the BFA Review.

The Art Foundation Courses are WASH, Drawing, and Foundations in Digital Art. (ARTS 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, & 2313). Students must pass each course with a grade of C or higher to take the BFA Review and proceed to upper level courses.

The semester after all of the Foundation courses are complete, students must sign up for the BFA Review. Students should see an art advisor every semester to ensure they take the BFA Review on time. It should be taken the semester immediately following the completion of the Foundation Courses.

Students who do not pass the BFA Review may re-take it the following semester. Students who do not pass on the second attempt will not be allowed to continue as BFA majors, but may follow the degree plan for the BA in Art. Non-participation after signing up or being advised to sign up will count as a failure of that semester's review.

Graphic Design students must pass the BFA Review, complete Principles of Graphic Design (ARTS 2323) and participate in a BFA Review at the end of the semester that they are enrolled in Typography (ARTS 3322).

For more information on the BFA review see the Department of art web page: <http://www.shsu.edu/academics/art/review/>

### **Defacing University Property:**

Defacing University property is prohibited by University policy. It is also a criminal offense. Students will be held responsible for the cost of damages to the facilities. Violations will be reported to University Police. Students should not paint on concrete, asphalt, trees, sides of buildings, interior walls or floors of buildings, locker doors, etc. When using any kind of paint use a drop cloth or tarp to protect the surface from overspray.

**Academic Dishonesty (Academic Policy 3810213)** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: Dean of Student's Office

### **Plagiarism:**

The University defines plagiarism as “the appropriation of another’s work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work of idea into one’s own work offered for credit.” Plagiarism is considered a serious academic and legal offense in our culture. Penalties for plagiarism can range from a failing grade on the assignment to expulsion from the university. The course instructor can determine the penalties of failure for the assignment to failure of the course. The university disciplinary committee determines penalties of suspension or expulsion.

### **Attendance**

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students are expected to be on time, have supplies ready to work in class, and stay for the whole duration of the class. Excessive absences, tardiness, or leaving early may be considered an absence at the instructor’s discretion.

Attendance and timeliness are mandatory for class time, individual meetings, presentations, critiques and all activities scheduled for this course. Class attendance is credited as a part of your course work and can’t be made up. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. Students will also sign in for attendance on a sheet provided for each class time. It is the students’ responsibility to make sure that their attendance has been correctly recorded. A student is allowed no more than four (4) class absences before the final grade is lowered by 1 grade point for each absence after four. 3 (three) late arrivals or early leaves count as 1 (one) absence. Students are responsible to be up to date with all the assignments and information presented in class, even if they were absent. Attendance is critical for the quality of the work. Most often it is very difficult for students to make up assignments for class times they missed.

### **Classroom Rules of Conduct**

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones must be turned off or muted (no vibrate or any other sounds) before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

### **Use Of Phone & Text Messaging In The Classroom (Academic Policy #100728)**

Note on mobile phones from the SHSU Academic Policy Statement 100728 (see also Classroom Rules of Conduct below):

“The use by students of electronic devices that perform the function of a telephone or text messenger during class-time may be prohibited if deemed disruptive by the instructor to the conduct of the class. Arrangements for handling potential emergency situations may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. Failure to comply with the instructor’s policy could result in expulsion from the classroom or with multiple offenses, failure of the course.”

## **MOBILE PHONES AND EARPHONES**

All mobile phones must be turned off (not on vibrate), and put away during class time. The phones should not be in view nor used for any reason during class time. If your phone rings or you are using the phone during class time, you may be considered and marked as absent. Individual and group feedback, and dialogue are very important in this course, so use of earphones is not allowed during class time. Music that does not interfere with concentration may be played for the class with instructor's approval.

## **Visitors in the Classroom**

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

## **Students With Disabilities Policy (Academic Policy #811006)**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail [disability@shsu.edu](mailto:disability@shsu.edu)). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/7ff819c3-39f3-491d-b688-db5a330ced92.pdf>

## **Student Absences On Religious Holy Days Policy (Academic Policy 3861001)**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: </dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf>

## **Academic Grievance Procedures Policy (Academic Policy 3 861001)**

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/bb0d849d-6af2-4128-a9fa-f8c989138491.pdf>

### **Department Of Art Laptop Requirement**

Students in the Department of Art are required to own a laptop as specified by each BFA program. Macintosh laptops are strongly recommended and can be purchased at discounted rates for students. The specifications for each BFA program and links to the Apple Store can be found on the Department of Art website: <http://www.shsu.edu/academics/art/resources/laptop-initiative.html>. Students will be required to have laptops and the Adobe Creative Suite software in art courses that require computers. Laptops must meet or exceed the specifications described and be capable of interfacing with Department printers and other peripheral devices.

## **OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES AND GUIDELINES FOR THIS COURSE**

### **FAQs**

**What is my grade in this class?** During the semester: all assignments are graded before they are returned to the students. You will find the grade on the back of the assignment. For your convenience, if you want a list of grades for the completed assignments, ask the instructor directly (not by email). See **Grading** paragraph. At the end of the semester: grades will be posted with the registrar before the university deadline (currently listed May 14, 2018 at noon). See **Grading** paragraph

**I don't have** (list missing supply here), can I be excused from class? No. **Can I substitute** (list missing supply here) with something else? No, there is a reason a particular material or tool is required. You may ask a colleague to borrow a particular material if possible. Otherwise your grade will reflect the use of material--a grade point will be deducted from the assignment grade. See **Materials** paragraph

**I'm not done yet/I haven't gotten there yet** (when receiving feedback from the instructor while the work is in progress). The point of the feedback is that at that particular stage, even very early, the work should already address/show certain elements. The process is as important as the result, which reflects the process. There is a reason why unfinished work by great artists is treasured, collected, and occasionally exhibited.

**I'm just sketching** (similar to the note above) A one-minute sketch should be done with the same seriousness as the "finished" work. Sketches tell us as much about artists as their "finished" work. Often they offer better insights into their vision and thinking. There's a reason why artists' sketches have been treasured, collected, and exhibited.

**Is this how you want the drawing?** The work you do is for your own benefit and growth as an artist. The instructor's requirements for a particular project are based on very important elements to address and learn, that have a long history in art, rather than the instructor's personal preference. If you need further clarification, do not hesitate to ask the instructor.

**I have missed more than four classes but I have a doctor's note, etc can my absence be excused?** No, the attendance policy is already generous. See **Attendance** paragraph

**I can't go on the Field Trip with the group.** Although it is best to go with the group and the instructor, some students due to their schedules are unable to go at that time. In that case, they will let the instructor know, ask for instructions, and show adequate proof of the visit. See **Field Trip** paragraph

### **NOTES**



1. **Importance of critiques** and critical thinking: along with the work involved in producing the drawings, critiques are essential and must be taken very seriously; comments on an artwork should be appreciated as an opportunity to learn and should never be taken personally. Critiques help us all to grow.

2. **Opinions/Subjective vs. objective** (*de gustibus et coloribus non disputandum*): Raphael vs. Rembrandt, Picasso vs. Matisse, Beatles vs. Stones, dogs vs. cats, rugby vs. soccer, etc. These are personal preferences anybody is entitled to have. However, the feedback and critiques deal with different problems. It is not the personal preference that is questioned, but how the elements are handled within that particular context. In other words, it's not the game, but how it is played.

**NOTE:** Just as hearing the sounds of the world doesn't teach you about music, simply seeing the world doesn't teach you about art. Informed opinions are based on knowledge of the best historical and contemporary examples and a long practice of art.

3. **Style** (a word to avoid): an elusive concept, generally understood as a mode of expression characteristic to an artist, a group of artists or a period. While anybody has a personality, style is something one usually develops with enough experience and knowledge. What style can you have in a language you are beginning to learn? Most often, in the early stages of learning art, what people call their "style" is no more than a habit. This class should encourage you to explore new ways of thinking and doing things.

4. **Artistic freedom:** often seen along with style as a license for "anything goes". Artistic freedom is encouraged as long as there is an understanding of the artistic and cultural context, as well as how the artwork functions in that context. See also no. 2 above

5. **Fun:** tourist vs. explorer. You need to see yourself as the latter rather than the former for this class to be "fun".

6. **Investment and returns:** in other words, our input will influence the results (the output).

7. **Source images:** the internet is almost always a bad idea. In fact the vast majority of images floating around are worthless from an artistic point of view (see point 6 above). If you absolutely need to use an image that was clearly not thought out carefully, especially if it doesn't belong to you, you will have to have a very good reason to do so.

8. **Materials and textbook:** they are needed, and their use is part of your experience in this class. There is no excuse not to have the required materials. If you think you cannot afford them this semester, you may consider taking the class at another time in the future.

9. **Instructor feedback:** you are encouraged to ask questions anytime you need to clarify a point. In addition to addressing your questions, the instructor may discuss additional issues in your work. You are expected to give serious consideration to those issues as well. Students will often say, "I'm just sketching", or "I just started", or "I'm not done yet", as if the sketches, and the process of drawing don't matter. They actually do in the highest degree. Every step counts. That's why sketches and unfinished work by great artists has been held in high esteem.

10. **Images shown in class:** a variety of images will be shown relevant to the topics discussed in class. Please note that some images may be considered offensive by some. While there is no intention whatsoever to offend anybody, if you have a problem with certain images please talk to the instructor.

11. **Pick up your work** at the end of the semester. The instructor, art department and university are not responsible for work left after the end of the semester.



12. **Save all your work** you have done during the semester for documentation or further reference.

### **Instructor Evaluations**

Students will be required to complete a course/instructor evaluation form towards the end of the semester. This evaluation will allow students to assess their achievement of the course objectives.

### **Syllabus Change**

While every effort has been made to prepare this syllabus and course schedule in final form, it will be the instructor's prerogative to make any changes as may be deemed necessary in order to meet the learning outcomes of the course. Student will be notified in writing of any change.