

Drawing 162 fall 2003
instructor Bogdan Achimescu
course outline

sign-up by instructor permission.
see this website for updates and information

University of Virginia
McIntire Department of Art
COURSE OUTLINE: DIGITAL ART
Spring Semester 2004
ART 162-3
schedule 74322

class meets
1530-1800 MW
(in civilian english that is 3:30 to 6 PM Monday and Wednesday)
the class meets in the Brooks Hall Studio, street level.
Office hours:
6 to 7 PM Monday and Wednesday
My office is Brooks 103

Students that do not show for the first class meeting will be dropped, irrespective of whether they have signed action forms or not.

FIRST

Don't take this class if you are looking for easy credit.

CONCEPT

This course views drawing as an exploratory method rather than a productivity tool. Drawing is a foundation and a common ground for all visual arts. Drawing is seeing, feeling and thinking before it becomes representing, expressing, and communicating.
This course is not based on lecturing, it is 100% hands on. Explanations will be made from time to time but the focus is work, exercise, work, work.

OBJECTIVES

To convey the basics of representational drawing. The emphasis will be put on three-dimensional perception and representation as well as on composition and form analysis.
To develop taste for self – imposed exercise and discipline.
To familiarize students with diverse drawing methodologies.
To assess the particular function of drawing inside each student's professional "toolbox".

GRADING

Grades are not meant to create a competition situation; they will reflect improvement, attendance, commitment and other factors. If someone has previous drawing experience I will simply expect more work (and improvement). Grading takes into account the contents of the mid-term portfolio and final portfolio. Overall, grades will reflect improvement based on work.

In no case will the grade reflect only the esthetical quality of work. In this class, drawings that go through many trials and errors are worth more than quick successful sketches.

Please note that no late work is accepted; the due dates for the portfolios are final.

If you want a high grade you have to:

1. Be present at all class meetings
2. Complete your work in time
3. Have work that adheres to all the aspects of the assignment
4. Show constant improvement
5. Go beyond the minimums assigned
6. Participate in class discussion

If you bring me masterpieces at the end of the semester without participating to class I will flunk you.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is absolutely mandatory. You have to be in class every time, on time and stay for the full class time.

1. You are allowed a maximum of 5 absences for whatever reason (including religious holidays and illnesses).
2. There is no distinction made between unexcused and excused absences. You need not present medical excuses, athletic preparation vouchers, notes from Dean of Student's Office or other written or verbal excuses.
3. If a student is absent more than 5 times before the withdraw date, I will encourage him/her to withdraw.
4. If the attendance limitation is exceeded after the 8th week of class, a grade of F will be awarded for the course. To prevent this from happening the student should initiate a withdrawal.
5. Come to class prepared and ready to work. If you are in class but work on something else (e.g. a paper for another course) you are considered absent. Also, the time for shopping for supplies is not during class. This class requires your full attention at all times.
6. It is seldom possible to make up missed classwork due to the nature of studio work.
7. If for whatever reason you miss a class you are responsible for getting all the necessary information about what was done, assigned and demonstrated during that meeting. Take two phone numbers of two of your fellow students and ask them when you need such information. I will not give demos or lecture separately for you if you missed the class.
8. Work outside the course hours is encouraged, however, since there is no manual or textbook I expect you to be present (body and mind). Work outside the course will affect your grade, and you are encouraged to include it in the portfolio, but will not compensate for missed classes.

IMPORTANT DATES (more to come)

Final Registration - Wednesday, January 7 - Friday, January 16

Courses begin - Wednesday, January 14

Add/Drop/Withdrawal - Contact the Office in Fayerweather Hall for this info

Spring recess - Saturday, March 6 - Sunday, March 14

Courses end - Tuesday, April 27

Examinations - Friday, April 30 - Friday, May 7

Final Exercises - Sunday, May 16

MATERIALS

You are responsible for bringing your own supplies. Materials can be purchased from any art store. The University BookStore is also a good resource.

You will need inexpensive photocopy paper or newsprint in large amounts, drawing paper (18x24 inches approx.), sketchbooks, sticks or bamboo pens, black India ink, black oil sticks, charcoal, pencils and graphite sticks (soft-grade), utility knife and razor blades, bulldog clips, fixative (one spray can).

Note that, in general, art supplies will cost a lot if purchased in small amounts. Do not waste your money by buying minuscule ink flasks that will be empty in 5 minutes (or that are too small to hold your sticks or other instruments). I discourage the use of markers, ballpoint pens and other material that is primarily for writing, not for drawing.

OTHER RULES

Please clean after yourself. Don't leave papers and other rests in the lab.

No music, with or without headphones during the class.

No cellphones to be used in class. Turn them off, period.

Absolutely no chemicals of any sort down the drain! If you are not sure what to do with a certain type of waste, ask an instructor.

No fixative spray or any other harmful chemicals are to be used in this building. You can use fixative spray to conserve your drawings but you need to do this outside.

Please negotiate with each-other the usage of storage lockers. Due to their number you might need to double in one locker. Buy padlocks. Please mark your locker with your name, the course number and the period. Observe the date when the lockers will have to be vacated (it will be posted). After that date the locks will be cut and the contents destroyed.

You are responsible for your belongings (materials, tools and works), protect them from damage and loss. Only store drawings flat in a portfolio or between boards; do not roll them.

Please note that works in the portfolios have to be flat (not roll up when taken out), signed on the reverse and treated with fixative if needed.

Important: be sure to claim your portfolio in time. You are responsible for your belongings, including artwork, at all times. Unclaimed portfolios will be destroyed.

Please note: this information is not a substitute for attending classes.

The web pages are being amended and changed as the classes progress.