Art 500  Advanced Drawing
David Hewitt  San Diego State University
Fall 2016

TTH 12:30--3:10 pm; course schedule #20271
Office hours: Thursdays, 11 am-12 noon; and by appointment
Offices: room Art 501B (inside A501); room Art 576 (both are located in the School of Art and Design)
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Blackboard: www.sdsu.edu
School of Art and Design office telephone 619/594-6511

Course Description and Objectives
[including student learning outcomes]

This is an advanced-level drawing course for students interested in exploring drawing as a contemporary art medium, and in pursuing the conceptual and expressive challenges of drawing. The course is designed to explore the medium of drawing through a range of projects that are intended to develop skills as well as critical and creative thinking. The objectives and student learning outcomes for the course are to achieve a thorough understanding of the concepts and formal language of drawing; to attain competent facility with a variety of drawing media, techniques, and approaches; and to develop an ability to interpret and fluently discuss drawing in terms of aesthetic and conceptual issues. The course will focus upon integrating the elements of art, the principles of design and composition with the theoretical and expressive issues critical to artistic development specific to drawing.

The course will focus upon expanding the physical, historical, and conceptual boundaries of drawing. Further, it will encourage the exploration of various methods and techniques of drawing, integrating history, theory, and criticism. Individual research for visual and art historical references is required. Students will be asked to explore drawing as a fundamental element of visual thinking, as a language to communicate and express ideas, and as a form of conceptual problem solving.

Students will explore drawing, with an emphasis on experimentation, exploration, and invention. The course is comprised of a series of projects incorporating personal concepts and perceptions relating to structured topics. Projects are designed to present various creative, technical, and conceptual problems that the student is asked to solve through the exploration of the medium of drawing. Each assignment will be introduced via lecture, assigned readings, and/or discussion.

This is a course for disciplined and motivated students. (A further objective of the course is to assist students in the development of a more independent direction in their work.) Students must be able to work with a degree of independence. Students will be responsible for generating avenues of exploration, directions of inquiry, and the development of ideas for drawing projects. Collaboration, large-scale, and new media projects will be encouraged. A minimum of ten hours per week of studio time is required for this class. There will be weekly meetings for discussion and critique of work in progress. Group critiques will be scheduled on a regular basis. It is mandatory to attend and participate in critiques. Activities outside of class will include attending art related lectures, and viewing art gallery and museum exhibitions. An exhibition of work produced for the class will be organized and exhibited in a student gallery during the semester.

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Grading
Grading for this course will consist of evaluating the student’s work, participation, and progress. Work will be evaluated for quality—skill, creativity, and concept. Progress relates to the student’s development and improvement during the semester. Every assignment/project is worth a designated number of points. Each major assignment will have a grading rubric that will be part of the introduction of a new assignment. The rubric will establish the criteria upon which your drawing will be graded. Graded assignments will consist of drawing exercises, drawing assignments/projects, preparatory research for assignments, sketchbook assignments, and writing assignments in response to issues addressed in class.

Each student’s points are accumulated throughout the semester, and will be posted regularly on Blackboard Grade Center by assignment. All coursework will be graded on a traditional percentage scale: 100-97% A+, 96-93% A, 92-90% A-, 89-87% B+, 86-83% B, 82-80% B-, 79-77% C+, 76-73% C, 72-70% C-, 69-67% D+, 66-63% D, 62-60% D-, below 59% F.

Assignments: drawing exercises, preparatory research for drawing assignments, and writing assignments 10%

drawing assignments/projects 80%

Effort on assignments, progress, and participation in discussions and critiques 10%

The final critique is scheduled for Thursday, December 15 at 10:30 am. Attendance is required. This is the scheduled finals time.

Letter grade descriptions and criteria—An “A” grade represents outstanding achievement and excellence, work has been developed to a high degree on both a technical and conceptual basis, critical and conceptual understanding is evidenced through visual and verbal class participation that further evidences both scholarship and leadership; a “B” is given for praiseworthy achievement (for very good work), the work, its presentation, and the student’s class participation shows competence in terms of ideas, skill level, and execution; a “C” is given for satisfactory, average work (for all required work completed satisfactorily on time); a “D” or “F” represents unsatisfactory work. Effort is an important contribution to an earned grade, however results are critically important.

Policies
Attendance is essential. Students are expected to attend all classes, to arrive on time, to remain until the end of each class, and to come to class prepared. Each assignment must be completed on time. Late work will not be accepted. Please let me know if there is an emergency situation or serious problem. Your work may be documented for educational purposes. Please turn off cell phones before bringing them into the classroom, and please refrain from texting in class.

It is a health and safety violation for food or drink containers to be used for any purpose other than food/drink storage. Do not use food or drink containers (water bottles, peanut butter jars, coffee cans, paper or styrofoam coffee cups, yogurt cups, etc.) for mixing ink, storing solvents, or for any purpose other than what they were originally intended.

All containers must be clearly labeled.

Academic Assistance
If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact Student Disability Services at (619) 594-6473. To avoid any delay in the receipt of your accommodations, you should contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive, and that accommodations based upon disability cannot be provided until you have presented your instructor with an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services.

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**Academic Integrity**

Academic fraud is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Cheating and plagiarism (and all other forms of academic fraud) will result in a failing grade on the particular assignment or project. Each student must be the sole artist/author of her/his original artwork. Copying artwork from the internet is not be allowed.

**Required Materials + Supplies**

[I encourage you to use any supplies that you have from previous drawing courses.]

Put your name on everything—sketchbooks, drawing boards, supply boxes, drawing pads, etc. I recommend NOT leaving anything of value in the studio. Large storage drawers will be available for your use during the semester.

**Sketchbook**—any size, bound, unlined
**Newsprint drawing pad**—18” x 24”
**Drawing board with clips**—18” x 24” minimum

**Paper**—there is a wide range of superior, reasonably priced drawing papers, including—

**Arches**—22” x 30”
**Arches Cover**—various sizes; white, black
**Arches Watercolor** (for wet or dry media)—hot press (smooth), cold press (slightly rough)
**Arches Oil Paper** (for wet or dry media)—22” x 30”
**Rives BFK**—22” x 30”; various tones
**Stonhenge**—22” x 30”, 30” x 44”, 38” x 50”; various tones
**Strathmore Watercolor** (for wet or dry media)—22” x 30”
**Yupo** (synthetic; for wet or dry media)—26” x 20”
**Canson Mi-Teintes**—19” x 25”; wide range of colors

**Dry media**

**Graphite drawing pencils**—HB, 4B, 6B
**Charcoal pencil**—extra soft
**Vine charcoal**—(soft, at least two thicknesses)
**Compressed charcoal** (at least two densities—eg., soft, extra soft)
**White chalk pastel**
**Conte and/or chalk pastels**
**Oil sticks**
**Powdered graphite or powdered charcoal**
**Erasers**—kneaded and white plastic or gum
**Blending stump**
**Chamois**

**Liquid media**

**India or China ink**—black or dark color
**Watercolors**
**Brushes**—sumi, medium size
**Bamboo pen**
**Mixing cups**—at least two

**Miscellaneous**

**Chart-Pak Colorless Blender**
**Matte medium**
**Fixative spray**
**Ruler**—at least 18” long, preferably metal
**Glue** or rubber cement
**Scissors** or x-acto knife

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**Recommended References**

Vitamin D, *New Perspectives in Drawing*, Emma Dexter
Vitamin D2, *New Perspectives in Drawing*
*Drawing Now: Eight Propositions*, Laura Hoptman
*Drawing, A Contemporary Approach*, Sale and Betti