COURSE SYLLABUS

Pre-Requisites: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Fundamentals of observational and subjective drawing in a variety of media. Art 100 is an introduction to observational drawing and composition to develop the ability to perceive and define shape, contour, volume, space, and light using a variety of drawing media and subject matter. Emphasis is on clarity of observation and the ability to order and translate 3-dimensional form and space into 2-dimensional drawings.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be competent in the application of a variety of drawing media in the following areas:

- Identify visual relationships that help determine scale/proportions.
- Demonstrate proficiency in a variety of visual perspective systems including linear perspective, atmospheric perspective and foreshortening.
- Demonstrate proficiency in a variety of approaches to line drawing that develop a translation of form and space from three-dimensions to two-dimensions.
- Demonstrate the ability to use the elements, principles of organization, and a variety of drawing media to create informed, creative and inventive compositions.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the effects of light and how to describe them in a variety of media.
- Be able to discuss, critique and evaluate their own drawings, as well as those of their classmates.
- Be able to discuss and write a critical evaluation of drawing, using the appropriate vocabulary and terminology pertaining to the basic elements and organizing principles of drawing.
- Be able to examine, compare, and analyze historical and contemporary examples of drawing within a global context.

COURSE STRUCTURE:
The aim of this course is for us to learn to see more carefully and intelligently: we will study drawing as a technical skill and as a means of gaining knowledge and understanding. We will begin by studying the traditional subject of the still life and the fundamentals of drawing form in space, including measurement, linear structure, and light logic. We will use these skills in order to explore on-site landscape drawing, and to exploit the conceptual potential of formal tasks. In addition to in-class drawing time, our class sessions will include instruction on drawing concepts, demonstrations of observational drawing techniques, and discussions of art history and contemporary practices. Homework and sketchbook assignments will reinforce the course content and further our own understandings of drawing. Various drawing media will be used throughout
the course, and each will be explored in terms of its own intrinsic physical and metaphorical possibilities. As we try to understand the visual complexities of the world around us, we will humbly attempt to fuse sight and insight.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**
Each person is required to be present and prepared for each class and expected to complete all in class and outside assignments including readings, writings, research, field trips and journal development. This includes being punctual and prepared for critique sessions. It is expected that you contribute to class dialogue, with energy and focus, and participate in critique discussions as well as presentations and projects.

**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 is worth a designated number of points. Each student’s points are accumulated throughout the semester, and will be posted regularly on the 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.

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 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 critical. 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. Students are responsible for all material covered in class lectures. Notes on lectures, discussions, readings, and slide and video presentations should be carefully taken. Please turn off cell phones before bringing them into the classroom. Please refrain from texting in class. Drawing is an engaging activity, remember to dress appropriately.

**STUDIO SAFETY:**
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 paint or ink, or for any purpose other than what they were originally intended. All containers must have secure lids and 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.

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.

REQUIRED MATERIALS LIST
It is important that students bring basic drawing materials to every class. Additional materials (from the list) will be required as assigned in class. Put your name on everything. I recommend NOT leaving anything of value in the drawing studio.

☐ 18” x 24” drawing pad (clean tear/perforated)
☐ drawing board, 20” x 25” with clips
☐ portfolio 20” x 26” x 2” to hold finished drawings
☐ 9” x 12” sketchbook, spiral bound, 60 pages, unlined
☐ graphite drawing pencils (2H, HB, B, 2B, 3B, 5B). A set of six assorted #’s is great.
☐ erasers (white plastic and kneaded)
☐ hand-held pencil sharpener with shavings catch (for graphite and charcoal pencils)
☐ ruler, 24”
☐ vine or willow charcoal, soft, several
☐ compressed charcoal, 1 box/package
☐ charcoal pencils, white and black
☐ white pastels, or white conte crayon and black conte crayon
☐ conte crayons, sanguine (red or brown)
☐ Higgins black India ink with dropper top
☐ round brush (Chinese/sumi) for ink
☐ bamboo or calligraphy pen with nib for ink
☐ blending stump
☐ supply box to carry all your materials (tool boxes or tackle boxes work well)
☐ T square
☐ 2 sheets of 18” x 24” gray/neutral toned Canson paper
☐ roll of 1” masking tape
☐ cardboard with rectangles cut out. To make handmade viewfinder with 3” x 4” opening and 1.5” x 2” opening.
☐ scissors/exacto knife

Optional Additional Supplies
☐ soft cloth rags, old t-shirts for blending conte crayon
☐ roll of paper towels, hand wipes
☐ apron
☐ binder or folder for class handouts
☐ 24” x 18” pad newsprint paper
☐ workable spray fixative (optional, but necessary to preserve your charcoal drawings)
☐ plastic container for water and ink, plastic palette with several wells

* Materials in bold are due at the beginning of the first class session. All other materials are due in class when needed (see calendar and listen for instructions).