Drawing I
AVT 222-006
SPRING 2016
M/W 4:30 pm - 7:10 pm

Professor: Beth Hall
Email: ehall23@gmu.edu
Art Department phone: (703) 993-8898
Office hours available by appointment

Course Description
Introduction and exploration of the fundamentals of drawing methods and materials, with emphasis on observational study and critical analysis of the effective and expressive use of line, mass, value, perspective, and formal composition. Emphasis on problems involved in representational and abstract visual interpretations of forms.

Course Objectives
Students are expected to:

Form a basic understanding of how to create a conceptually sound drawing through exploration of a variety of media and methods of mark making;

Gain an understanding of how drawing is used as a means of creative exploration that enlightens and enhances the growth of interpretation and concepts;

Develop skills in evaluating visual works and clearly communicating observations using relevant vocabulary.

Course Requirements
Students must be prepared with all the necessary materials and work for the duration of the class period. Failure to bring required materials to class, or failure to use studio time productively will result in an absence. Students are responsible for all missed information and work completed in class.

Students are responsible for keeping all coursework safe and clean in a suitable portfolio for the duration of the semester. Portfolios are required for critiques and quarterly evaluations.

At the end of each class period, each student is responsible for cleaning their area and putting all classroom items in their proper place.

Attendance
Students are expected to arrive on time always. This is a matter of common courtesy to the professor and the class. Being late for class will affect classroom performance and concentration, and therefore your grade.
Consistent daily performance is a minimum expectation. Excused absences due to unusual circumstances will be taken into account, but participation is part of your grade.

Missing more than 20 minutes of class period, beginning or end, will count as an absence. Three tardies equals one absence. Two absences are allowed. Students will receive a letter grade reduction for each additional absence.

Electronic devices used for the purposes of texting, emailing or other social media are not permitted. Earphones for music may be used, as long as the volume allows you to hear announcements and does not disturb your neighbor. Cell phone or other cameras may be used to photograph projects in progress or completed works, however, there will be no photographing or videoing of anything else during class time.

**Grades/Grading**

A - Unusual and superior work that combines both excellent craft and ideas, and shows consistent effort through the entire process as well as constant involvement in class discussion.

B - Above average work that is a result of good craft and idea development. Care is taken at all stages of the drawing process. This grade may be given if the idea and effort are strong but the final product falls short of the ambition of the concept.

C - Average work that fulfills the requirements of the assignment adequately, yet falls short of conceptual development and/or craft.

D - Lack of ideas and effort, poor craft, and little time invested in the drawing process and development.

F - Little or no work completed.

Point system based on the assessment of portfolio work (70 total pts.), work habits and participation (65 total pts.), and homework (65 total pts.). Portfolios will be evaluated quarterly, but all work should be kept in chronological order in a portfolio for each evaluation.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarterly points:</th>
<th>Final points:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A – 50-45pts</td>
<td>A – 200-180pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>B – 44-39pts</td>
<td>B – 179-159pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>C – 38-33pts</td>
<td>C – 158-138pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>D – 32-27pts</td>
<td>D – 137-117pts</td>
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**This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts**

Mason courses in the filmmaking, visual and performing arts stress generative, inquiry based learning through direct aesthetic and creative experience in the studio environment. Art history courses address the intrinsic relationship of personal and cultural creativity, and the manifestation of aesthetics, visual culture and visual narrative within historical contexts.
Learning Outcome
Students who successfully complete a course in the Arts category must meet the first learning outcome and a minimum of two of the remaining four learning outcomes:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic process, and a work's underlying concept, and where appropriate, contexts associated with the work.
2. Identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary and critique appropriate to that form.
3. Analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form, as well as the works cultural significance and context.
4. Analyze and interpret the content of material or performance culture through its social, historical, and personal contexts.
5. Engage in generative artistic processes, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

University and School of Art Policies
In accordance with George Mason University policy, turn off all beepers, cellular telephones and other wireless communication devices at the start of class. The instructor of the class will keep his/her cell phone active to assure receipt of any Mason Alerts in a timely fashion; or in the event that the instructor does not have a cell phone, he/she will designate one student to keep a cell phone active to receive such alerts.

Commitment to Diversity
This class will be conducted as an intentionally inclusive community that celebrates diversity and welcomes the participation in the life of the university of faculty, staff and students who reflect the diversity of our plural society. All may feel free to speak and to be heard without fear that the content of the opinions they express will bias the evaluation of their academic performance or hinder their opportunities for participation in class activities. In turn, all are expected to be respectful of each other without regard to race, class, linguistic background, religion, political beliefs, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, veteran’s status, or physical ability.

Statement on Ethics in Teaching and Practicing Art and Design
As professionals responsible for the education of undergraduate and graduate art and design students, the faculty of the School of Art adheres to the ethical standards and practices incorporated in the professional Code of Ethics of our national accreditation organization, The National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Open Studio Hours
SOA teaching studios are open to students for extended periods of time mornings, evenings and weekends whenever classes are not in progress. Policies, procedures and schedules for studio use are established by the SOA studio faculty and are posted in the studios.

ArtsBus - Dates for Spring 2016
February 20
March 19
April 9
ArtsBus Credit
* Each student must have up to 5 AVT 300/Artsbus credits before graduation. For credit to appear on your transcript you must enroll in AVT 300. This also applies to anyone who intends to travel to New York independently, or do the DC Alternate Assignment.
* If you plan/need to go on multiple ArtsBus trips during a semester and need them towards your total requirement, you must enroll in multiple sections of AVT 300. Please go to the ArtsBus website: http://artsbus.gmu.edu "Student Information" for additional, very important information regarding ArtsBus policy.
* Non-AVT majors taking art classes do not need Artsbus credit BUT may need to go on the Artsbus for a class assignment. You can either sign up for AVT 300 or buy a ticket for the bus trip at the Center of the Arts. Alternate trips must be approved by the instructor of the course that is requiring an ArtsBus trip.

Visual Voices Lecture Series Spring 2016
Visual Voices is a year-long series of lectures by artists, art historians and others about contemporary art and art practice. Visual Voices lectures are held on Thursday evenings from 7:20-9:00 p.m. in Harris Theater: http://soa.gmu.edu/visualvoices/

Important Deadlines:

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<th>January 1 Day of Week</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King Day (no classes)</td>
<td>Mon Jan 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>First day of classes: last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed</td>
<td>Tue Jan 19</td>
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<td>Summer 2016 Graduation Intent Available via Patriot Web</td>
<td>Mon Jan 25</td>
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<td>Last day to add classes—all individualized section forms due</td>
<td>Tues Jan 26</td>
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<td>Last day to drop with no tuition penalty</td>
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<td>Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)</td>
<td>Fri Feb 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day to file your Spring 2016 Graduation Intent</td>
<td>Fri Feb 19</td>
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<td>Immunization Record Deadline</td>
<td>Tue Mar 1</td>
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<td>Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via Patriot Web</td>
<td>Mon Feb 15 – Fri Mar 18</td>
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<td>Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)</td>
<td>Mon Feb 22 – Fri Mar 25</td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Mon Mar 7 – Sun Mar 13</td>
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<td>Incomplete work from Fall 2015 due to Instructor</td>
<td>Fri Mar 25</td>
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<td>Incomplete grade changes from Fall 2015 due to Registrar</td>
<td>Fri Apr 1</td>
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<td>Dissertation/Thesis Deadline</td>
<td>Fri Apr 29</td>
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<td>Last day of classes</td>
<td>Mon May 2</td>
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<td>Reading Days</td>
<td>Tue May 3</td>
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<td>Reading days provide students with additional study time for final examinations. Faculty may schedule optional study sessions, but regular classes or exams may not be held.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam Period (beginning at 7:30 a.m.)</td>
<td>Wed May 4 – Wed May 11</td>
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<td>Commencement and Degree Conferral Date</td>
<td>May 14</td>
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Once the add and drop deadlines have passed, instructors do not have the authority to approve requests from students to add or drop/withdraw late. Requests for late adds (up until the last day of classes) must be made by the student in the SOA office (or the office of the department offering the course), and generally are only approved in the case of a documented university error (such as a problem with financial aid being processed), LATE ADD fee will apply. Requests for non-selective withdrawals and retroactive adds (adds after the last day of classes) must be approved by the academic dean of the college in which the student’s major is located. For AVT majors, that is the CVPA Office of Academic Affairs, Performing Arts Building A407.

**Students with Disabilities and Learning Differences**

If you have a diagnosed disability or learning difference and you need academic accommodations, please inform me at the beginning of the semester and contact the Disabilities Resource Center (SUB I room 234, 703-993-2474). You must provide me with a faculty contact sheet from that office outlining the accommodations needed for your disability or learning difference. All academic accommodations must be arranged in advance through the DRC.

**Official Communications via GMU E-Mail**

Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

**Attendance Policies**

Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but also to the class as a whole. Because class participation may be a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of nonparticipation. Students who miss an exam with an acceptable excuse may be penalized according to the individual instructor’s grading policy, as stated in the course syllabus.

**Honor Code**

Students in this class are bound by the Honor Code, as stated in the George Mason University Catalog. The honor code requires that the work you do as an individual be the product of your own individual synthesis or integration of ideas. (This does not prohibit collaborative work when it is approved by your instructor.) As a faculty member, I have an obligation to refer the names of students who may have violated the Honor Code to the Student Honor Council, which treats such cases very seriously. No grade is important enough to justify cheating, for which there are serious consequences that will follow you for the rest of your life. If you feel unusual pressure about your grade in this or any other course, please talk to me or to a member of the GMU Counseling Center staff.

Using someone else’s words or ideas without giving them credit is plagiarism, a very serious Honor Code offense. It is very important to understand how to prevent committing plagiarism when using material from a source. If you wish to quote verbatim, you must use the exact words and punctuation just as the passage appears in the original and must use quotation marks and page numbers in your citation. If you want to paraphrase or summarize ideas from a source, you must put the ideas into your own words, and you must
cite the source, using the APA or MLA format. (For assistance with documentation, I recommend Diana Hacker, A Writer’s Reference.) The exception to this rule is information termed general knowledge—information that is widely known and stated in a number of sources. Determining what is general knowledge can be complicated, so the wise course is, “When in doubt, cite.”

Be especially careful when using the Internet for research. Not all Internet sources are equally reliable; some are just plain wrong. Also, since you can download text, it becomes very easy to inadvertently plagiarize. If you use an Internet source, you must cite the exact URL in your paper and include with it the last date that you successfully accessed the site.

**Writing Center**

Students who are in need of intensive help with grammar, structure or mechanics in their writing should make use of the services of Writing Center, located in Robinson A116 (703-993-1200). The services of the Writing Center are available by appointment, online and, occasionally, on a walk-in basis.

The Collaborative Learning Hub Located in Johnson Center 311 (703-993-3141), the lab offers in-person one-on-one support for the Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, Blackboard, and a variety of other software. Dual monitor PCs make the lab ideal for collaborating on group projects, Macs are also available; as well as a digital recording space, collaborative tables, and a SMART Board. Free workshops are also available (Adobe and Microsoft) through Training and Certification; visit ittraining.gmu.edu to see the schedule of workshops and to sign up.

**Drawing Journal**

Students are required to keep a journal in which they produce at least six observational drawings per week based on the approach to drawing covered in class.

**Class Overview**

**Week 1 - Jan 20**

- Introduction to the class
- Line: Gesture drawing

**Week 2 - Jan 25 & 26**

- Line: Gesture continued
- Line: contour, blind contour and cross contour

**Week 3 - Feb 1 & 3**

- Positive and negative space

**Week 4 - Feb 8 & 10**

- Shape, mass and value

**Week 5 - Feb 15 & 17**

- Volume & Value

**Week 6 - Feb 22 & 24**

- Chiaroscuro drawing
Week 7 - Feb 29 & March 2  
Foreground, middle ground, background

Spring Break - March 7 & 9

Week 8 - March 14 & 16  
Perspective

Week 9 - March 21 & 23  
Portrait

Week 10 - March 28 & 30  
Portrait

Week 11 - April 4 & 6  
Figure

Week 12 - April 11 & 13  
Brush and ink

Week 13 - April 18 & 20  
Markers

Week 14 - April 25 & 27  
Mixed media

Week 15 - May 2

Exam period - May 4 -11

**Local sources for Materials**

Plaza Art Supply Store, 3045 Nutley Street Fairfax, VA 22031  
Utrecht Art Supplies, 13th and I Street, NW, Washington, DC (202) 898-0555  
Bookstore, Campus
Materials

Masonite Sketch board for 18x24” paper
Wire spiral sketchbook - 8.5x11”
Newspaper pad - 18x24”
Drawing pad - 18x24”
Artist tape
Metal ruler
Kneaded eraser
Staedtler mars plastic eraser
Workable fixative – to be used outside only
Pencil sharpener with shavings cap
Graphite Pencils - HB, 2B, 6B, or full set
1 woodless graphite pencil
1 white charcoal pencil
Small pack of compressed charcoal, soft
1 small box soft vine charcoal, soft
1-3 Conté crayons - either sepia, rust or black
1 white Conté crayon
India ink
Watercolor brushes
Felt tip pens
Art bin – to carry drawing materials
Portfolio 18x24”
6 -10 sheets of Rives BFK rag paper 18x24”