AVT 323 – Drawing II

Syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Students develop observational drawing, sketching, rendering and experimental drawing skills. Drawing II includes an introduction to a range of materials, methods, formal concepts, drawing in series, and critique vocabulary.

COURSE GOALS:
The goal of AVT 323 is to develop an investigative approach to the formal and expressive issues in drawing. By exploring visual means of both traditional and contemporary approaches in drawing a student will understand the relationship between working from observation and the processes of abstraction and selection. Through active discussion in class a student will increase verbal communication skills and achieve confidence with various concepts of contemporary drawing.

EXPECTATIONS:
The course is comprised of studio assignments, homework assignments, research, written assignments and the keeping of a sketchbook. Students are expected to come to class on time and prepared for class. Active participation is expected in the studio. This will be demonstrated by meeting assignments with curiosity and interest, by asking good questions, by working hard and being prepared to discuss your results and experiences as well as evaluating finished work. AVT 323 is designed to include assignments that require time outside of class to complete. You are expected to research and prepare for studio work as asked. You are asked to maintain a personal sketchbook in order to develop ideas and issues introduced in class. You are expected to demonstrate curiosity and appreciation of Art History. Every student is expected to display originality and the ability to respond confidently to challenging drawing assignments.

E-MAIL:
All students enrolled in this class are required to have an operative e-mail account set up through the registration process with George Mason University.

COURSE FORMAT:

Studio Assignments
A variety of assignments and exercises will be undertaken each week in class. It is the student’s responsibility to come to class prepared to work on the day’s activities. Students are required to take necessary care of all studio work throughout the semester. You will be required to formally present your work for portfolio review in good condition. Quality of presentation reflects student respect for the treatment and functions of materials and will be considered an important part of your review.
Independent Research
Every other week you are asked to research artists who draw and write a brief observation about the artist’s work. You will be assigned a 3 to 5 page research paper about drawing. This course requires a minimum of 4 hours per week outside of class. Class time will be devoted to reviewing, discussing and developing your drawing.

Sketchbook
A personal sketchbook is a requirement for this course and will be graded accordingly. Maintaining a sketchbook is good practice for developing drawing ideas and provides a less constrained format for visual note taking. Your sketchbook will be dedicated to AVT 222. As a drawing student your sketchbook should be used to take notes in class and should show continued evidence of visual idea development. Every student is expected to completely fill at least one 100 page sketchbook during the semester. (6 pages per week are assigned) Bring the sketchbook to EVERY class.

Portfolio Review
There are two reviews scheduled. (7th and 15th weeks) These are opportunities to present an overview of your progress for diagnostic evaluation. All relevant coursework, sketchbook and assignments will be submitted for review. Any missing work warrants appropriate alteration of your grade. Non-submission or late portfolios will receive a grade of F, unless prior arrangements have been made. More specific information will be delivered prior to portfolio submission dates. Keep all of the work you do throughout the semester. Keep it dry and store it flat.

Preparation
Students are expected to bring materials to every class meeting. If you arrive without materials and are unable to work, you will be counted as absent for that day.

Clean-up
Students are responsible for cleaning up after themselves so that the room is ready for the next class. At the end of the semester, please thoroughly clean out your locker/file. Do not leave anything behind.

Critiques
We will hold periodic informal critiques after projects. The critiques are designed to help students improve their work and develop a vocabulary to discuss their own work as well as the work of their classmates. Participating in the critiques is mandatory.

Due Dates
Assignments are expected to be complete and prepared for presentation on the date due. Assignments turned in late will not receive full credit.

Attendance: Participation
Experience has proven students who do not attend drawing class do poorly. All students are expected to attend and actively participate in classroom discussions and critiques. This is a studio course. Evaluation is strongly based on work done in class. Your ability to articulate key ideas and critically evaluate work is an important part of your development in this course. It is imperative that you participate in every class meeting. It is almost impossible to make up work if a class is missed.

Students are allowed a maximum of 3 excused absences. Any request for an excused absence must be in writing. Each additional absence will reduce the final grade by one letter grade. Work, doctor’s appointments, family visits, family crisis, extra curricular
activities, car breakdowns, laundry and deadlines for other classes do not justify an excused absence. Submit written documentation of excused absence within one week of the occurrence. Maintain documentation for submittal at the end of the semester. Lateness counts as 1/2 absence. Early departures count as half an absence. Students arriving 15 minutes or more late for class will be counted as absent for the day. Students leaving 15 minutes or more before class ends will be counted as absent for the day.

Class will be dismissed with time provided for packing materials and cleaning up. Please do not prepare to depart before class is dismissed. It is disruptive and unfair to your classmates.

The following are considered excused absences:
1. Family emergency
2. University established religious holiday
3. Illness with a dated doctor’s note
4. University sponsored events, documented

** If you are going to miss class for any reason, it is important that you contact me.

**If you miss or are late to a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from one of your classmates. The work will have to be made up outside of class. Missing work is graded as zero.

DON’T BE LATE, DON’T LEAVE EARLY, DON’T MISS CLASS!

GRADING POLICY:
All students are graded on an equal basis for the work completed. Students who attend class regularly and satisfy the requirements of each assignment should expect a C in this class. The grade of A is reserved to recognize exceptional effort, intensity and involvement. Grades in this course will be evaluated based on the following criteria and system:

Factors considered in assessing final grade:
- Attendance, punctuality, preparedness for and active participation in class
- Understand and use the formal elements of art (use of line, color, texture, shape and value) to explore emotional, social or cultural content
- Use of media and an understanding of the transformation of visual ideas through the use of a variety of materials, Technical skill with a variety of materials
- Respect for peer ideas, Responsive attitude to critique and tutorial input
- Demonstrates understanding of formal language
- Verbal demonstration of analytic and critical skills
- Awareness of the role of aesthetic judgment, intuition and critical analysis in making creative decisions
- Visual research (accumulation of written and/or visual resources)

Letter grades that will be assigned:
• “A” work is considered outstanding within the context of the course. This includes actively participating in class every day, writing thorough, well-
researched and thoughtful papers, and executing assignments on time with special attention to learned formal skills, content, craftsmanship, and presentation. An “A” letter grade will not be given if you have more than one unexcused absence from class.

• “B” work exceeds the basic requirements of the course, above average participation. A “B” letter grade will not be given if you have more than two unexcused absences from class.
• “C” work meets the basic requirements of each assignment. Completes work with uneven results. A “C” letter grade will not be given if you have more than three unexcused absences from class.
• “D” minimal effort.
• “F” no effort.
• + or - will be assigned to letter grades according to letter scale.

50% Drawing, including; in-class, home work
30% Participation (includes: attendance, active listening, active response, effort and the appearance of effort)
10% Sketchbook
10% Research (includes; research, writing a 5 page paper, oral presentation)

Ask yourself these questions throughout the semester:
• Have I done the assignments, fulfilling the requirements of each?
• Do I participate in class discussions and critiques?
• Do I pursue learning outside of lecture/studio time?
• Is this the best I can do? Are my efforts outstanding?
• Is my work unique and creative?
• Have I been present, prompt, prepared and resourceful?

Materials List
PAPER
- 9” x 12” spiral bound sketch pad
- 1 pad of 18” x 24” sketch paper (smooth surface)
- 18” x 24” multimedia (or 70 lb. drawing) paper
- 18” x 24” charcoal paper
- 1 roll of 42” wide paper, suitable for drawing (optional)

DRY MEDIA
- Vine charcoal sticks; 1 package each of soft and medium (not hard)
- Compressed charcoal sticks; min. HB (hard), 2B (med.), and 4B (soft)
- Charcoal pencils; 6B, 4B, 2B, 2H (or Soft, Medium, Hard)
- White charcoal pencil
- Drawing pencils; 6B, 4B, 2B, HB, 2H, 4H
- Graphite sticks; soft and medium
- Kneaded rubber eraser, white vinyl eraser, Pink Pearl eraser
- Colored chalk/pastel set, 12 count minimum, Look for intense colors. Avoid pastel tints.
- black and white lecturer’s chalk (1” x 1” x 3”)

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- Oil based crayons, Cra-pas

**INK**
- Black India ink with wide mouth bottle
- Assorted brushes—bamboo brush, assorted sizes from 1/2” to 3”, (at least one 1” to 1-1/2” wide)
- bamboo pen
- black and color markers

**TOOLS**
- X-acto knife and replacement blades
- glue stick

**RECOMMENDED**
- 1 pad of 18” x 24” newsprint, rough
- carbon pencils, soft, medium, hard
- white conte pencil
- graphite sticks
- workable fixative
- water resistant Portfolio, 19” x 25” or larger
- ½” artist tape (masking tape)

Additional materials may be purchased as needed. You will be informed ahead of time when items are needed for a specific classroom or homework assignment.

**Art Supply Stores:**
- Utrecht: 1250 I St., NW, WDC, 202-898-0555
- Plaza: 3045 Nutley St., Fairfax: 703-288-4500
- AC Moore: 9650 Main St., Fairfax: 703-764-2004

**ASSIGNMENTS**
**Sketchbook** – each week fill 6 pages in the sketchbook (84), Goal to completely fill a 100-page sketchbook,

- Class notes, Artist Study, observations, ephemera, artist studies, poems, current events, critique, and unexplained phenomenon

--The Sketchbook assignment includes artist research. At least seven times during the semester, select an artist that you are interested in, print a picture of the artist’s work, glue the picture into the sketchbook, and write a paragraph or two about the image. Try to find connections between what we are doing in class and the artist you select. Write what is important to you about the artwork or the artist. Think critically. Make judgments. Avoid repeating someone else’s thoughts.

You get extra points for using art vocabulary correctly, but it isn’t critical. When time allows we will share our artist discoveries.

**ArtsBus** – Art Majors Beware of the ArtsBus requirement. The ArtsBus is NOT assigned for this section of Drawing II.

**Museum Visit** – We will try to arrange a visit to an art museum in DC together.
Written – A research project about drawing artists, processes of drawing, art movements or any other aspect of drawing will be assigned. The student is encouraged to research personal interests, compose a 5 page paper and deliver the information to the class.

COURSE OUTLINE
This is a tentative schedule of the topics that will be covered. It is subject to change as deemed necessary. Works are due at the beginning of class on due/critique dates. An explanation of my expectations for each project will accompany each assignment.

Tuesday Class: Slide talk, introduction of new materials, demonstration
Class projects due from previous week
Critique of completed work
Drawing

Thursday Class: Technical instruction
Project discussion
Discuss individual research
Drawing

Week 1
Discussion of class procedures, materials list, syllabus, etc.
White Still Life; Review of Line and Line Qualities, Gesture, Expressive Line, Doodle
Homework: Doodle
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with line.

Week 2
White Still Life; Review of Line and Line Qualities, Blind Contour, Partial Peek, Contour, Modeling
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with contour.
Written Assignment: Artist Study

Week 3
White Still Life; Review of Blocking, Sighting, Organizational Lines, Sensitive Line
Review of Focal Point,
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages.

Week 4
Model; Review Gesture, Contour, Modeling, Sensitive Line, Focal Point,
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with found figure.

Week 5
Still Life: Format, Positive/Negative Space
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages.
Written Assignment: Artist Study
Bring object for abstraction.

Week 6
Still Life: Abstraction, Transformation
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with abstraction.
Homework: Bring eggs.

Week 7
Still Life: Review of Value Structure (eggs), General to Specific (projected slide)
Sketchbook Assignment: Value Scale, Fill 6 pages with value studies.
Written Assignment: Artist Study
Homework: Value Scale
Week 8
Still Life: Dug Up drawing
Model: Dug Up Drawing
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages.
Homework: Collect 2-D image for transfer

Week 9
Grid Transfer Drawing, Distorted Grid
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with grid
Written Assignment: Artist Study

Week 10
Series, Time Management, Organization: 50 in 5
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with prep studies.
Homework: Collect Old Master

Week 11
Working with old masters
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with copies.
Written Assignment: Artist Study

Week 12
Time, Rotated Still Life, Touch Portraits, Model: 500 Marks
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 12 pages.

Week 13 & 14
Personal Project
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 12 pages.
Written Assignment: Artist Study
Final Portfolio, Final Critique

Gen Ed Boilerplate
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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<thead>
<tr>
<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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<tr>
<td>Summer 2016 Graduation Intent Available via Patriot Web</td>
<td>Mon Jan 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day to add classes—all individualized section forms due Last day to drop with no tuition penalty</td>
<td>Tues Jan 26</td>
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<td>Last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty</td>
<td>Tues Feb 2</td>
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<td>Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)</td>
<td>Fri Feb 19</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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<tr>
<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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<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.

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**University Libraries “Ask a Librarian”**

http://library.gmu.edu/mudge/IM/IMRef.html

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS):** (703) 993-2380;

http://caps.gmu.edu

**University Catalog:** [http://catalog.gmu.edu/](http://catalog.gmu.edu/)

**University Policies:** [http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/](http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/)