

George Mason University  
School of Art  
Professor: Ed Bisese  
Contact: ebisese@gmu.edu  
Fall 2017 AVT 222 – 002 TR 1:30pm – 4:10pm  
Art and Design Building 2049 August 29 – December 6, 2017

# **AVT 222 – Drawing 1**

## **Syllabus**

### **MASON CORE CLASSES**

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts. Arts goal: Courses aim to achieve a majority of the following learning outcomes: students will be able to identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary appropriate to that form; demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic technique and the expression of a work's underlying concept; analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form and cultural context; analyze and interpret material or performance culture in its social, historical, and personal contexts; and engage in the artistic process, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

### **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.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

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.

### **EXPECTATIONS:**

The course is comprised of studio assignments, homework assignments, research, written assignments and the keeping of a sketchbook. 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. Students are expected to come to class on time and prepared for class. You are expected to research and prepare for studio work as asked. 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.

### **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.

### Homework Drawings

Homework drawings will be assigned. Plan to give as much or even more attention to the homework drawings than you give in class assignments. 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. Late drawings will receive lowered grades, except as negotiated before the deadline.

### 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 is to 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)

-- It is recommended that you use the sketchbook to repeat classroom work to expand and reinforce your understanding of the material covered.

- Class notes, Reflections, observations (saw, heard, did, thought), ephemera, poems, current events, critique, and unexplained phenomenon

--The Sketchbook assignment includes "Image Reflection". At least six times during the semester, find artwork that relates to our classroom activities. Print a picture of the work. Glue the picture into the sketchbook. Write a paragraph or two about the image, the artist, your observations, and your reflections on drawing class activities. Try to find connections between what we are doing in class and the drawing you select. Write what is important to you. Think critically. Make your own judgments.

### Portfolio Review

There are two reviews scheduled. (7<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 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. Store all the work you do flat and dry throughout the semester. Do not fold your drawings.

### Preparation

Students are expected to bring materials to every class meeting and arrive prepared to draw. Students who attend without materials and are unable to work, 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 at the start of class on the date due. Late assignments will receive lowered grades, except as negotiated before the deadline.

### Attendance: Participation

AVT 222 is a studio course. Evaluation is strongly based on work done in the studio. 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. 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.

Students are allowed 3 absences without penalty. Excused and unexcused absences are treated the same. Every absence or part exceeding that limit lowers the final grade. A fourth absence lowers the grade by one full letter. Every additional absence lowers the final grade by half a letter grade.

If you can't be on time, attend as much of the class as you can. It is much easier to make up work when you know what we did. Lateness counts as 1/2 absence. Early departures count as half an absence. Students arriving 30 minutes or later for class will be counted as absent for the day. Students leaving 30 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.

\_\_If you are going to miss class for any reason, it is important that you contact me by email.

\_\_If you are late or miss a class, you will miss important work. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed from one of your classmates. You must make up the work outside of class whether your absence was excused or unexcused. Drawing missing from the portfolio is graded zero and averaged into the grade.

\_\_Make up work is due one week after the absence. It is your responsibility to contact me and show me the completed work.

\_\_Any student who is absent a total of 7 classes is expected to withdraw from the class. And should not expect a passing grade.

### **DON'T BE LATE, DON'T LEAVE EARLY, DON'T MISS CLASS!**

**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.

### **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

- Understanding and use of 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 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 every class day, writing thorough, well-researched and thoughtful papers, and executing assignments on time with special attention to learned formal skills, content, craftsmanship, and presentation. The letter grade “A” will not be given if you have more than three absences from class. (A = takes your breath away)
- “B” work exceeds the basic requirements of the course, above average participation. The letter grade “B” will not be given if you have more than five absences from class. (B = good, You get it.)
- “C” work meets the basic requirements of each assignment. Completes work with uneven results. The letter grade “C” will not be given if you have more than seven absences from class. (C = Average, You did the drawing)
- “D” minimal effort. (D = didn’t quite do it)
- “F” no effort.
- + or - will be assigned to letter grades.

60% Drawing, including in-class work and homework

30% Participation (includes: attendance, active listening, active response, effort and the appearance of effort)

10% Sketchbook

**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.

Material Try-out, Blind Contour, Modified Blind Contour, Looking Contour

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with Blind Contour.

Prompt: Reflect on drawing without looking.

**Week 2**

Contour Line, Cross Contour, 4-Hand Drawing, Doodle

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with different kinds of contour lines; Exterior, Interior, Cross Contour, Doodle, Pattern.

Prompt: Write a reflection of drawing lines.

**Week 3**

Crit: Line Study

Gesture, Positive/ Negative Space,

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with gesture from moving images

Prompt: Write a reflection of Gesture and Negative Space.

**Week 4**

Organizational Lines, Measuring, Blocking, Sighting, Sighting Stick, Viewfinder

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with organizational lines.

Prompt: Reflect on drawing by measuring.

**Week 5**

Parts of a Shadow, Value Scale, Tone as Value, Hatch, Cross Hatch

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with Value.

Prompt: Write about value and seeing.

**Week 6**

Dug Up Drawing, Subtractive Drawing

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. Dug up drawing

Prompt: Write about drawing backwards.

Prepare Midterm Portfolio

**Week 7**

Crit: Peanut

**Midterm Exam**

Midterm Portfolio Review

Sketchbook Challenge: Fill 6 pages.

**Week 8**

Value Reversal, Tonal Value Study

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with value studies.

Prompt: Write about drawing backwards.

**Week 9**

Explore Formats, Arrangement, Balance, Rhythm

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. Balance, rhythm, eccentric formats

Prompt: Reflect on this week's drawing experiments.

**Week 10**

Hatch, Cross Hatch, Open Marks, Stipple

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. Line networks

Prompt: Write about how many marks are needed to create the illusion.

**Week 11**

Texture, Stipple, Pattern

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. Texture as value

Prompt: Write about making marks to imitate value.

**Week 12**

Crit: Stipple

Self Portraits, Eccentric Point of View

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. Portrait studies

Prompt: What is the experience of creating a self-portrait?

**Week 13**

Perspective, 1pt, 2pt, 3 Stacks of 3, Transparent Object  
 Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. 1 point and 2 point spaces  
 Prompt: Reflect on the rules of perspective.

**Week 14**

Color, Visual Weight of Color, White Drape  
 Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. Color  
 Prompt: Write about using color.  
 Prepare Final Portfolio

**Week 15****Final Exam – Capstone Drawing**

Final Portfolio Review  
 Sketchbook due.

Note: We have the possibility of working from live models in Drawing 1. If you have an objection to drawing a nude model please inform me of your issue as soon as possible.

Note: The Course Schedule is tentative and may require revision. You will be alerted of any change as early as possible.

Consortium Registration Deadline	TBD
<b>First day of classes</b> ; last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date	August 28
Labor Day, university closed	September 4
<b>Last day to add classes</b> —all individualized section forms due <b>Last day to drop with no tuition penalty</b>	September 5
<b>Last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty</b>	September 19
<b>Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)</b>	September 29
Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via <a href="#">Patriot Web</a>	September 25 – October 20
Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)	October 2 – October 27
Columbus Day recess (Monday classes/labs meet Tuesday. Tuesday classes do not meet this week)	October 9
Incomplete work from spring/summer 2017 due to instructor	October 27
Incomplete grade changes from spring/summer 2017 due to Registrar	November 3
Thanksgiving recess	November 22 – 26
Last day of classes	December 9
<b>Reading Days</b> 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.	December 11 – 12
<b>Exam Period</b>	Wed December 13 – Wed December 20
<b>Degree Conferral Date</b> The Winter Graduation Ceremony will be held on Thu December 21.	Sat December 23

ArtsBus - Dates for Fall 2017:

September 23  
 October 21  
 November 18

ArtsBus Credit and Policies: You are responsible for knowing and following Artsbus policies and rules. Please go to the ArtsBus website: <http://artsbus.gmu.edu> "Student Information" for important information regarding ArtsBus policy. 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\* 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 Fall 2017 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/>

August 31...Simon Schwartz

Sept 14... Andy Birnbaum

Oct 5...Patricia Bello-Gillen

Oct 19...Sadie Barnette

Nov 11... Walter Kravitz

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 your instructor 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.

Cell Phones: 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.

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, and are responsible knowing the rules, as stated on the George Mason University website's Academic Integrity page (<http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code-2/>). "To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, trust, and fairness among all members of the Mason community, and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code:

*Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.*

Mason's Commitment: To create an environment that is innovative, diverse, entrepreneurial, and accessible—helping you avoid accidental or intentional violations of the Honor Code.”

### **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](http://ittraining.gmu.edu) to see the schedule of workshops and to sign up.

### **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/>

**University Policies:** <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/>

### **Art Supply Stores:**

- Blick: 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

# AVT 222 – Drawing 1

## Materials List

### PAPER

- 1 pad of 18" x 24" sketch paper 100 sheets (smooth surface) (tape bound preferred)
- 1 pad of 18" x 24" newsprint paper 50 sheets (smooth surface) (tape bound preferred)
- 1 or 2 sheets 19" x 25" Strathmore 500 Series Charcoal Paper, toned paper, select a medium value
- 3 sheets 19" x 25" Strathmore 500 Series Charcoal Paper, black
- 1 sketchbook or journal, 9" x 12", 100 sheets (spiral bound preferred) (100-page composition notebook, 9-3/4" x 7-1/2" is acceptable)
- water resistant Portfolio, 19" x 26" or larger

### CHARCOAL

- Vine charcoal sticks; 2 packages of 12 sticks, soft and medium (not hard)
- Compressed charcoal stick assortment; 2 soft, 1 medium, 1 hard
- Charcoal pencils; Soft, Medium
- White charcoal pencil, or stick
- Colored chalk pastel set, 12 count, get intense colors, avoid cheap pale sidewalk chalk,

**Purchase chalk, chalk pastels, or soft pastels. Do not purchase hard pastels or oil pastels.**

### PENCILS

- Drawing pencils; 6B, 4B, HB, 2H
- Kneaded rubber eraser, white vinyl eraser

### INK

- 1 Tombo ABT N15 BrushPen, black
- 1 Super Twin Tip Sharpie, black (or 1 Super Sharpie and a Chisel Tip Sharpie)
- Strongly suggested for AVT Majors -Higgins Student Grade Waterproof Ink with wide mouth bottle, 1 Japanese Quill Brush, 1 Bamboo Reed Pen

### TOOLS

- 5" x 7" natural chamois cloth
- Drawing Board, 23-1/2" x 26", masonite (special considerations)
- 2 binder clips, large enough to hold pad to board
- Roll of 3/4" drafting tape
- 1/8" diameter dowel stick 10" long or suitable alternative (shish-kebab skewer)
- Viewfinder, (Can be purchased) Bring chipboard, matboard or illustration board to make in class. 2 - 10" x 10" L-shapes about 1-1/2" thick and two paper clips (Can be made from a cereal or similar box.)
- Small hand mirror
- Spray fixative (Krylon Crystal Clear)

### EXTRA

- *pad of 18" x 24" 24 sheets multimedia paper*
- *Graphite sticks; soft and medium*
- *Pink Pearl eraser*
- *glue stick*
- *plastic cups*

#### **Optional for non-art majors**

- *Higgins Student Grade Waterproof Ink, 1 bamboo reed pen*
- *Assorted brushes—1 Japanese Quill Brush*

You may run out of materials and/or find that we do not get a chance to use all of the materials you purchase. Additional materials and individual sheets of drawing paper may be purchased as needed. Italicized items need not be purchased. You will be informed ahead of time if these items are needed for a specific classroom or homework assignment.