The purposes of this course are to stimulate perceptual growth and visual awareness in the student; to introduce and familiarize the student with the materials used in drawing; to introduce the language of image making, expression, and analysis; and to develop awareness of the role of visual judgement (objective) and intuition (subjective) in making our creative decisions. We will address the form of drawing (the what), the process of drawing (the how), and the content of drawing (the why). We will draw, we will read and talk about drawing, and we will look at a lot of drawings. Our goals are to have many different drawing experiences (as young artists, we don’t know what kind of artist you may become), and to work hard at the discipline of drawing- to learn to think with the material in our hand!

Here is what you can expect from me and this class – that we will try to experiment with as many ways of drawing as possible; that we will focus on experience and product; that I will attempt to explain projects, concepts, and ideas articulately; that I will attempt to answer all questions; and that I will treat everyone’s work equally and without bias.

Here is what I should expect from you – that you will arrive to class on time and prepared to work, with your supplies and a good, open attitude; that you will work hard; that you will be open and willing to experiment and take risks; that you will pay attention; and that you will treat me and everyone else in the class with equal respect.

Students are required to keep all work done during the semester. Individual and group critiques will be our evaluation process. There will be homework assignments, be prepared to work independently out of class. There will be handouts throughout the semester – artists, writers, musicians, and historians speaking about their own studio practices and making observations about the meanings and functions of the arts. Students are required to read these, and to keep them in a folder during the semester. We will meet briefly at the beginning of each class, to explain what we will be doing during class, look at artists work, and answer any questions that we may have. It is important that you are on time – this is a group activity.

Students are required to bring their sketchbook and ink pens to every class. When you arrive, you will draw in this sketchbook for 10 – 15 minutes, until we begin our project for the day. Come to class, get set up, and BEGIN DRAWING – I will give instructions as you enter the studio. Date each drawing. This sketchbook is required, homework will be assigned, will be reviewed at the end of the semester, and will be part of your grade!
INTRODUCTION TO COURSE –

Syllabus, grading, class and studio rules
Materials and methods
Getting set up – the furniture, the studio
Care of materials and the studio, and clean up
A little art history

MATERIALS AND PROCESSES –
EXPERIMENTAL, NON JUDGEMENTAL DRAWING – WEEKS 1 - 5

Working with our materials – what do they allow us to do, what opportunities do we have, and what information do we get through our senses. Developing a visual vocabulary of marks, relying on variety, chance, improvisation, layering, and variation.

- Drawing from music, words, and actions
- Image generation, small studies – 72 gesture drawings using all of our materials
- Scaling up gesture drawings, layering and chance
- Variations of gesture drawings ( at least 3 )
- Variations Masterpiece – elaborate on your favorite

MATERIAL AND PROCESS DRAWING REVIEW –
scaled up gestures, variations, variations masterpiece complete for review

EXPERIMENTAL OBSERVATION – WEEKS 6 – 7

Experimental, non judgemental approaches to observational drawing

- Hidden Objects – line, texture in line ( using our sense of touch )
- Negative Space
- A Day of Line - Blind contour, contour line, varying value, weight, texture, material
- Line in Ink – brush, sticks, fingers – nature studies ( unusual tools )
- Random Color

OBSERVATION, FORM, VALUE, COLOR – WEEKS 8 - 12

- Introduction to measuring, proportion, and compositional planning strategies
  ( viewfinders, preliminary sketching )
- Erasure drawings – charcoal, still life –toned grounds, add darks, erase lights
  ( creating illusion of form, modeling and shading )
- Black and white pastel – mixing greys to create the illusion of form
- Crosshatching
- Introduction to color - color wheel, light and reflection, local color, color contrast
- Color – reflected light and reflected color
- Portraits - blind contour, contour, gesture, erasure, ink, cubism, pointillism

OBSERVATIONAL DRAWING REVIEW – all observational drawings to be complete for review

FINAL PROJECTS – WEEKS 12 – 15

- Full figure, life size self portrait – combining multiple approaches in one masterpiece
  or
- Series of 5 self portraits – 5 different approaches to the same subject ( how form creates content )
  or
- Series of 5 hands – 5 different approaches to the same subject ( how form creates content )

FINAL REVIEW – Final projects and sketchbook to be complete for review

GRADING CRITERIA –

A 0 to 2 absences

Works in an independent manner. Willing to try new approaches while constantly working on improving basic skills ( shows excellent improvement during semester ). Follows project rules. Finishes all class work and homework on time. Is always ready to work when class begins, and begins drawing when class begins ( sketchbook )! Contributes meaningfully to class critiques and discussions. Doing all of this will not guarantee an A, but you have no chance for an A without doing all of this.

B 3 – 4 absences

Works well in class, showing good improvement during the semester. Follows project rules. Finishes class projects and homework assignments on time. Participates in class critiques and discussions.

C 5 – 6 absences

Completes most work. Shows little skill development. Class assignments and homework not always completed on time. Rarely contributes to class critiques and discussions.

D 5 – 6 absences
Work often incomplete and/or missing. No significant contribution to class critiques or discussions. Not prepared to work.

NO PHONES IN CLASS -

TURN YOUR PHONE OFF, IT IS A DISTRACTION!

NO TALKING ON THE PHONE, NO TEXTING, NO CHECKING OF E-MAIL OR TEXT MESSAGES IN THE STUDIO!

IF YOU NEED TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD, LEAVE THE STUDIO!!

NO IPODS – you are here to think and listen – to me, to your classmates, to your inner voice!!

(1) MASON CORE CLASSES:

Mason Core Arts: Please include the following for sections of AVT 103, 104, 215, 222, 232, 243, 252, 253, 262, 272, 385:

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.

Mason Core IT; Please include the following for sections of AVT 180:

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Information Technology. IT goal: The purpose of the information technology requirement is to ensure that students achieve an essential understanding of information technology infrastructure encompassing systems and devices; learn to make the most of the Web and other network resources; protect their digital data and devices; take advantage of latest technologies; and become more sophisticated technology users and consumers.
1. IT courses will fulfill a majority of the following learning outcomes: Students will be able to use technology to locate, access, evaluate, and use information, and appropriately cite resources from digital/electronic media.

2. Students will understand the core IT concepts in a range of current and emerging technologies and learn to apply appropriate technologies to a range of tasks.

3. Students will understand many of the key ethical, legal and social issues related to information technology and how to interpret and comply with ethical principles, laws, regulations, and institutional policies.

4. Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate, create, and collaborate effectively using state-of-the-art information technologies in multiple modalities.

5. Students will understand the essential issues related to information security, how to take precautions and use techniques and tools to defend against computer crimes.

Mason Core Synthesis: Please include the following for sections of AVT 385, 497 and 498:

This course fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Synthesis. The purpose of the synthesis course is to provide students with the opportunity to synthesize the knowledge, skills and values gained from the Mason Core curriculum. Synthesis courses strive to expand students’ ability to master new content, think critically, and develop life-long learning skills across the disciplines. While it is not feasible to design courses that cover “all” areas of general education, synthesis courses should function as a careful alignment of disciplinary goals with a range of Mason Core learning outcomes.

A general education synthesis course must address outcomes 1 and 2, and at least one outcome under 3. Upon completing a synthesis course, students will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively in both oral and written forms, applying appropriate rhetorical standards (e.g., audience adaptation, language, argument, organization, evidence, etc.)

2. Using perspectives from two or more disciplines, connect issues in a given field to wider intellectual, community or societal concerns

3. Apply critical thinking skills to:
   1. Evaluate the quality, credibility and limitations of an argument or a solution using appropriate evidence or resources, OR,
   2. Judge the quality or value of an idea, work, or principle based on appropriate analytics and standards

(2) GENERAL INFORMATION; Please include in ALL syllabi:

Important University Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King Day (no classes)</td>
<td>Mon Jan 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First day of classes; last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed</td>
<td>Mon Jan 22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**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-A VT 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.

**ArtsBus - Dates for Spring 2018:**
February 24
March 24
April 14

**Visual Voices Lecture Series Spring 2018:** 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/](http://soa.gmu.edu/visualvoices/)

January 24 – Brian Noyes
February 1 – Teresa Jaynes
February 22 – Sharif Bey
March 1 – Juliet Bellow
March 8 – John Henry
**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.

**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’ 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 to see the

MATERIAL LIST

SMALL BOUND SKETCHBOOK
NEWSPRINT - 1 pad, 18”x 24”
DRAWING PAPER - 1 pad, 18” x 24”

FABER CASTELL ARTIST PENS – set of 4 black pens, brush – fine point
VINE CHARCOAL - 1 box of 24 sticks, soft or extra soft
CHAR - KOLE or ALPHACOLOR ( black) - 1 box
BLACK AND WHITE CONTE – 3 each
CHALK PASTELS - 1 box ( 12 or 24 colors , inexpensive )
OIL PASTELS or CRAYPAS - 1 box ( 12 or 24 colors)

INDIA INK - small bottle

KNEADED ERASER
ARTGUM ERASER

Can of spray fixative
scissors
1 roll masking tape
inexpensive portfolio
drawing board with clips, large enough for 18” x 24” pad

All materials required by the beginning of class

introduction to class, grading, materials
improvisational drawing

Improvisational drawing – from words
Improvisational drawing from words, music, gestures

Gestural improvisations
Scaling up, layering, diptychs

Scaling up, layering, diptychs
Variations

Variations

VARIATIONS CRITIQUE, assign Variations Homework
Experimental Observation - hidden objects

A Day of Line - line, line quality, value and texture in line, ink
negative space, random color, Variations Homework due

Observational drawing, measuring and proportion, value, erasure
Observational drawing, value, erasure, form, space, illusion

Observational drawing, value, black and white, form, space, illusion
Introduction to color, color systems, reflected light, reflected color,

Reflected light, reflected color
Portraits - blind contour, contour, gesture and erasure

Portraits - ink, Cubism, Pointillism
Final Projects
Final Projects
Final Projects

Final Projects
Final Critique - all work due!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!