

George Mason University  
School of Art  
Professor: Ed Bisese  
Contact: ebisese@gmu.edu  
Spring 2019 AVT 222 – 003 TR 4:30pm – 7:10pm  
Art and Design Building 2049 January 22 – May2, 2019

# **AVT 222 – Drawing 1**

## **Syllabus**

### **MASON CORE CLASSES**

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts. Mason courses in the film making, 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.

**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: 4 Credit Hours**

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.

### **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 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

### 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 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. Students are expected to be on time and prepared for class. Experience has proven students who do not attend class do poorly. All students are expected to 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 attend and participate in every class meeting.

Students are expected to attend every class. "On-time," means in the room and ready to work at the beginning of class. Arriving in the first thirty minutes of class counts as being late.

Three late arrivals count as an absence. Students arriving more than thirty minutes after the start of class will be counted absent for the day. Students are allowed 3 absences without penalty. Excused and unexcused absences are treated the same. (Students who begin the semester late lose the attendance buffer on a pro-rated basis.) Every absence or part exceeding the buffer of three lowers the final grade by one full letter. Every additional absence lowers the final grade by a half letter. Any student who is absent a total of 7 classes is expected to withdraw from the class. And should not expect a passing grade.

Class will start at the time it is scheduled. If you find yourself in the position of being counted absent due to lateness, come to as much of class as you are able. It is much easier to complete assignments with the resources available in the studio. Students are expected to stay until the end of class. Leaving class before it is dismissed will count the same as being late. 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 miss class, it is important that you contact me by email to explain the absence. Use your student account. If you are late or miss class, you 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. Make up work is due one week after the absence. It is your responsibility to show me the completed work. Drawing missing from the portfolio is graded zero and averaged into the grade.

#### Attendance Restated

- Lateness (first 30 minutes) counts as 1/3 absence. Early departures count the same.
- 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.
- Email Ed to explain every absence.
- 3= no problem, >3=-1, >5=-2, 7=F

#### **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.

In-Bag, Out of Bag, Rhythm

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with Contour drawing of objects.

Prompt: Reflect on lines and edges.

**Week 2**

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

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 different functions of line.

**Week 3**

Crit: 4-Hands

Cross contour, Gesture

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with gesture of moving people.

Prompt: Write a reflection of Gesture.

**Week 4**

Organizational Lines, Measuring, Blocking, Sighting, Sighting Stick, Viewfinder, Format, Eccentric Format, Arrangement, Focal Point

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with formats.

Prompt: Reflect on drawing by measuring.

**Week 5**

Composition, Balance, Rhythm, Positive/Negative Space

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with Pos./Neg.

Prompt: Write about composition.

**Week 6**

Value, Value Scale, Parts of a Shadow, Continuous Tone, Hatch, Cross Hatch, Open Marks, Stipple

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. Dug up drawing

Prompt: Write about drawing backwards.

**Week 7**

Crit: Value Scales

Airplane (or alternate)

Prepare Midterm Portfolio

**Midterm Exam**

Midterm Portfolio Review

Sketchbook Challenge: Fill 6 pages.

**Week 8 - Spring Break****Week 9**

Value, Ink Gradients, High Contrast, Ink Wash Collage

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with contrast studies.

Prompt: Reflect on drawing with ink, seeing a high contrast image..

**Week 10**

Dug Up Drawing, Subtractive Drawing, Texture, Stipple, Pattern

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with collected, imitated, and invented texture.

Prompt: Reflect on drawing in reverse, recognizing the surface as Texture/Detail, and how many marks are needed to create the illusion.

**Week 11**

Crit: Texture

Value Reversal, Value Balance

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with value studies.

Prompt: Write about drawing backwards.

**Week 12**

Self Portraits, Objective with a mirror, Subjective with a Point of View

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. Self Portrait studies

Prompt: What did you think about the experience of creating two self-portraits?

**Week 13**

Perspective, 1pt, 2pt, 3 Stacks of 3, Transparent Object, Hallway

Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages with corners.

Prompt: Reflect on the rules of perspective.

**Week 14**

Crit: Self-Portrait

Revisit Texture, Color, Visual Weight of Color, White Drapes  
Sketchbook Assignment: Fill 6 pages. Color  
Prompt: Write about using color.

### **Week 15**

Visual Weight of Color, Color Harmony, Eccentric Color, Color Portraits, Local Color  
Prepare Final Portfolio  
Final Portfolio Review  
Sketchbook due. 100 pages filled

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

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.

### **Model Privacy Policy:**

Any photographic recordation of models in class by any media is prohibited. Failure to observe this rule will result in expulsion from the class, a failing grade and disciplinary action at university level.

### **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. Schedule "formal" use of studio with Art Office.

### **Artsbus - Dates for Spring 2019**

February 23, 2019  
March 30, 2019  
April 13, 2019

### **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 2019

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/>

January 24, 2019

February 21, 2019

February 28, 2019

March 7, 2019

### Important Deadlines:

Martin Luther King Day (no classes)	Mon Jan 21
<b>First day of classes</b> ; last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed	Tue Jan 22
<b>Last day to add classes</b> —all individualized section forms due	Tue Jan 29
Last Day to Drop ( <b>with 100% tuition refund</b> )	Feb 5
Drop period begins with a TBD refund percentage	Feb 6
Final Drop Deadline ( <b>TBD tuition refund percentage</b> )	Feb 12
<b>Student Self-Withdrawal</b>	February 13 – February 25
Immunization Record Deadline	Thu Mar 1
Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via <u>Patriot Web</u>	Mon Feb 18 – Fri Mar 22
<b>Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only) (100% tuition liability)</b>	February 26 – March 25
Spring Break	Mon Mar 11 - Sun Mar 17
<b>Incomplete work from Fall 2018 due to Instructor</b>	Fri March 29
<b>Incomplete grade changes from Fall 2018 due to Registrar</b>	Tue April 2
Dissertation/Thesis Deadline	Fri May 3
<b>Last day of classes</b>	Mon May 6
<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.	Tue May 7

<b>Exam Period</b> (beginning at 7:30 a.m.)	Wed May 8 – Wed May 15
<b>Commencement</b>	Fri May 17
<b>Degree Conferral Date</b>	Sat May 18

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](http://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/>

**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
- Artist & Craftsman - 1201-1203 Brentwood Road NE, WDC, 844-534-4446

# AVT 222 – Drawing 1

## Materials List

### **PAPER**

- 1 pad of 18" x 24" sketch paper 100 sheets (smooth surface) (tape bound preferred)  
((Will need more than 100 sheets.))
- 1 or 2 sheets 19" x 25" Strathmore 500 Series Charcoal Paper, toned paper, select a medium value
- 2 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)

### **CHARCOAL**

- Vine charcoal sticks; 2 packages of 12 sticks, soft and medium (not hard)
- Compressed charcoal stick assortment; 2 soft, 1 medium, 1 hard
- White charcoal stick or pencil
- Colored chalk pastel set, 12-count, get intense colors, look for a wide range of value (dark and light colors), Avoid sidewalk chalk. Avoid very expensive pastels.

**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)

### **TOOLS**

- 5" x 7" natural chamois cloth (cotton rag is acceptable)
- Roll of 3/4" drafting tape
- Spray fixative (Krylon Crystal Clear)
- 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.)

### **EXTRA**

- *Drawing Board, 23-1/2" x 26", masonite (special considerations)*
- *water resistant Portfolio, 19" x 26" or larger*
- *2 binder clips, large enough to hold pad to board*
- *pad of 18" x 24" 24 sheets multimedia paper*
- *Charcoal pencils; Soft, Medium*
- *Graphite sticks; soft and medium*
- *Pink Pearl eraser*
- *glue stick*
- *Small hand mirror*
- *Strongly suggested for AVT Majors -Higgins Student Grade Waterproof Ink with wide mouth bottle, 1 Japanese Quill Brush, 1 Bamboo Reed Pen*
- *plastic cups*

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.