Fall 2000

ART 201: Beginning Drawing

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Dordt College

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BEGINNING DRAWING
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Each student will develop her/his visual and creative gifts, reflecting the creative nature of our God.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Drawing is a multi-faceted process encompassing skill development, technical achievement, media sensitivity, conceptual awareness, and creative, artistic expression. Beginning Drawing will focus primarily upon developing technical skills, design, and techniques. Personal expression and content will also be explored.

GOALS / EVALUATION:

1. Develop a variety of drawing methods and techniques.
   Did you risk and try new ways to draw?
   Can you successfully use the following techniques:
   Modeling, perspective, and gesture drawing?
   Do you understand and use the craft of drawing?

2. Experience expressive and artistic growth
   Can you express yourself in an aesthetically pleasing manner?
   Do you understand and successfully use the elements and principles of design in your art?

3. Develop depth of insight, content, and sensitivity.
   Are you responsive to the drawing rather than simply executing a given concept?
   Are you digging deep and drawing meaningful subjects?
   Are you responding both intuitively and objectively to your work?

4. Gain the ability to critique artwork
   Do you address the strengths and weaknesses in your own work?
   In other’s work?
   Do you understand where your work fits in relationship to contemporary art?
EVALUATION

Artwork must be completed at the due date or time of critique. After critique or initial grading, if you are not satisfied with your work, you may create a new project and receive the better grade of the two.

FINAL GRADES WILL BE BASED UPON A FINAL PORTFOLIO COMPRISED OF ALL IN CLASS AND OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS. Grades will reflect both the quality of artwork and the amount of growth developed throughout the semester.

GRADE COMPONENTS:
70% Portfolio
20% Sketchbook
10% Journal

GRADING STANDARDS:
A= Outstanding work and effort
B= Above Average
C= Average
D= Below Average
F= Failing

COURSE PROJECTS
Mark making and design: use of materials
Value and lighting: modeling techniques
Realism, proportion, and interpretation
Gesture
Figurative work
Atmospheric perspective
Linear perspective: one and two point perspective
Landscape
Color (oil pastel)
Abstraction and contemporary drawing techniques
Exam

TOOLS AND MEDIA
Bring all materials to each applicable class session. You may wish to share supplies with another student in order to cut costs; however each student must have supplies to work with during class time.

Text: Drawing, Space, Form, and Expression by Wayne Enstice & Melody Peters
Graphite: pencils (H, 2B, 4B, 6B, 9B), compressed graphite stick
Charcoal: stick (charcoal pencil is optional)
Oil pastels (you may share with another student)
Kneaded eraser
Artgum OR pink pearl eraser
Chamois (You may cut a large chamois into pieces and share expenses.) (Walmart)
Sandpaper (You may share), used for pencil sharpening (Walmart)
Utility Knife (optional)
Paper: Large white paper (available in bookstore)
  Sketchbook (black bound, at least 6”x 9”)
  BFK or Arches paper (as needed for specific projects)

ATTENDANCE
To ensure a full learning experience, student participation and attendance is expected as well as significant work and thought outside of class hours. Classes are comprised of lectures, group and individual critiques, slides, discussion, and work time. It is almost impossible to reconstruct such material.

ASSIGNMENTS
Assignments will be given for work in class as well as outside of class time. Researching several artworks and artists relative to your project is highly encouraged.

Sketchbooks must be maintained throughout the semester and will be handed in periodically for review. 25 sketches are required. Your sketchbook is the forum for your personal exploration, expression, and searching---create what you enjoy. You may choose subject matter which is significant to you. Mixed media, creative thought, and personal exploration are encouraged. Evaluation will be based upon the quality and growth present in your work.

Journals must be maintained throughout the semester and will be handed in periodically for spot grading. Journals are a place for you to develop your personal perspective on art and deeply reflect upon ideas you wish to communicate through your art. You will be given weekly questions dealing with art, issues, subject
matter, and the process of creating. Reflect on the questions and record your responses and related questions you may have. All handouts on artistic techniques, creative processes, art history, and Christianity and art are to be read and placed in either the journal or sketchbook. You are responsible for this information.

CRITIQUES
Participation in class critiques is vital to your growth and understanding of the formal elements. Although critiques can be initially intimidating, remember each of you can contribute a perspective and insight on other's artwork. Critiquing is not a personal attack or debasement of one's work and self. Critical assessment is merely an attempt to objectively analyze the intent of a work and its ability to present those intentions successfully. Criticism is a constructive process best achieved in a group. Please share your resources even if your opinion differs from the teacher's perspective.

GUEST ARTISTS
Guest artists will be invited to share their art, techniques, and perspectives to encourage a well-rounded vision of the art experience. This is an excellent opportunity to ask questions and seek a different insight into your work---take advantage!!!

GALLERY CRITIQUES
We will periodically visit the Dordt College Gallery to discuss and evaluate exhibitions. We will also explore the artist's lifestyle and various art opportunities including competitive exhibitions and gallery representation if relevant.

INDIVIDUAL CRITIQUES
I encourage both group and individual critiques. ALWAYS feel free to set up a time to discuss your work, ideas, and growth with me.
HELPFUL IDEAS

DO NOT FEAR yourself or failure. Art is process and learning. I do not expect you to have experience, only a willingness to open yourself to trying and exploration.

If you are not making “mistakes”, you are not risking enough in your work.

Work from what you know. Choose subjects and emotions which are close to you in order to create honest, meaningful artwork. Search yourself and life with deep vision, then share it through your work.

Do not limit yourself!!!! If you have a vision for a project which does not fit within the confines of an assignment, see me and we will discuss its possibilities.

THINK ABOUT ART. Let daily life and thoughts inspire your ideas for art. Let your feelings find an expressive outlet on a regular basis in your sketchbook and other artwork. Look at the world around you and discover the role art has in each of our daily lives as Christians and human beings.

BECAUSE WE ARE IN THE IMAGE OF THE CREATOR, ART CAN AND WILL ADD A RICH FULFILLING DIMENSION TO YOUR ENTIRE LIFE AS BOTH ARTIST AND APPRECIATOR. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS SEEK THIS GOD GIVEN GIFT.