

## **Basic Drawing ART S115**

Summer B Tuesdays and Thursdays: 1pm-4:15pm  
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### **Learning Objective:**

This is an introductory drawing course designed to expand the student's knowledge, skills and concepts through observational mark-making processes. The class offers students an opportunity to begin to understand the relationship between form and meaning while relating the core elements of drawing including value, scale, form, line and contrast to broaden concepts of visual language. This drawing course enables students of all experience levels to practice drawing as a means of thinking, questioning, analyzing and critique in order to make out the role of observational drawing in contemporary culture.

### **Subject Pre-Requisite:**

No Pre-Requisite

### **Course Content:**

An introduction to drawing, emphasizing articulation of space and pictorial syntax. Class work is based on observational study. Assigned projects address fundamental technical and conceptual problems suggested by historical and recent artistic practice. No prior drawing experience required.

-Students will develop technical skills in drawing focusing on composition, contrast, scale, value, illusory space and more.

-Students will consider conceptual ideas within their drawing practice and how to build on personal connections to their work.

-Student's will build a vocabulary and knowledge about historical and contemporary artists that allows them to further analyze and speak about their work and visual text as a whole.

-Student's will experiment and play in order to examine what their goals are and work together as a communal unit to offer feedback and learn from.

### **Grading and Student Assessment:**

A - Excellent, outstanding. A high level of understanding of the key concepts studied and techniques practiced. All work is complete and professionally presented. Independent research was conducted and applied in the work. The student has exceeded project requirements to achieve a further understanding of exercises

showing enthusiasm, dedication and focus in the materials and concepts. Showed engagement in process, experimentation and exploration.

B - Strong work, above average. Drawings clearly accomplish all project requirements and demonstrate understanding of key concepts. Proficient engagement in class discussion, visual measuring and media handling.

C - Average. Acceptable drawings with room for improvement concerning engagement, visual measuring or media handling. Work could use a little more time to develop but shows some understanding of the basic content of the subject. Student shows minimal engagement in classroom discussion.

D - Below average. Work shows little to no understanding of the key concepts studied and techniques practiced. Does not meet minimum expectations or requirements. Little to no engagement in class discussion. Please re-submit!

Inc. - Incomplete grades will not be given unless there are documented medical or family reasons. Failure to complete assignments for any other reason will result in a drop in your final grade.

\*If you are having trouble keeping up with the course, please email me and we can work to find a solution\*

Lectures, demonstrations, and critiques are complemented by hands-on studio problems designed to stimulate student exploration and experimentation.

### **Assessment will include:**

- Studio-based exercises and projects
- Contribution during class critique, lectures and class discussion
- Keeping a sketchbook and using it continuously.
- Lectures and critique will be an integral part of what we do. Take notes. Ask questions!

When creating your work, consider these key components:

Process:

This is the foundation for any successful problem solving. It helps you to define problems accurately, to consider all the variables and to convert your thinking into visual terms.

Use all available resources: libraries, museums, movies, publications, fellow students. Document what you find: sketch, photograph, keep notes. Keep a record of what you do.

Product:

\*How effectively did you communicate your idea? How well did you handle the medium or technique?

\*How well did you orchestrate the elements to create a unified whole? Is every element considered?

\*Are you clear on the technical and/or conceptual goal for the work?

\*Was your idea conveyed in a way that felt genuine and original? Did you struggle to develop and perfect it? How effectively did you use your time? Did you strive for the best execution or the easiest alternative?

### **Examinations:**

There will be two unit projects and a final project.

Student involvement:

Learning in this class will be both individual and collective. Your ability to solve problems will be improved when you work in class and engage with other students. Drawing is an exploratory endeavor, failures and successes are often equally valuable. It is essential for you to participate fully in class. This means listening to others in class discussions and thoughtfully making contributions.

You will be expected to do around six hours of homework per week. This time should include finishing projects begun in class, beginning new homework assignments, drawing in your sketchbook and other miscellaneous assignments.

### **Expectations:**

1. To be present, phones should not be out. Please excuse yourself in an emergency.
2. You are expected to arrive to class on time and ready to work.
3. Do not come to class without the necessary supplies to work. If you come unprepared and have to miss class to get materials, this will count as a tardy.
4. Unexcused absences will adversely affect your grade. An early exit from class will count as a tardy, unless it is discussed with me in advance.
5. It is your responsibility to find out what you have missed in class as a result of an absence. It is also your responsibility to have assignments completed and materials needed for the next class.
6. The studio must be cleaned up after every work session.

### **Attendance:**

Because this is an accelerated course you must be present for every class meeting. One unexcused absence is a grade drop and a second will result in a failing grade. Health and other emergencies can be discussed as needed.

Late arrivals and early exits to and from class will not be allowed, tardiness will result in points lost from your homework.

### **Disability accommodation**

Yale University strives to provide academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Accommodations are approved by the Student Accessibility Services (<https://sas.yale.edu/>).

Please do not hesitate to let me know if there is something you need to make the classroom set-up, lectures or environment a more conducive learning space.

### **Materials list:**

You may have some of these materials already:

We will be working primarily in monochrome (black and white), color will be introduced later in the semester. Please feel free to use materials of your choosing in sketchbook exercises (unless a certain material is required) or if you wish to use materials not on the list for out of class projects (unless a certain required material is required).

### **Provided Materials:**

Mixed Media Drawing Paper Pad 18"x24"

Drawing pencils (4B, 2B, HB, 2H, 4H)

Color pastels

White Chalk Pencil or stick (NOT GENERALS WHITE CHARCOAL) Kneaded eraser

Rubber Eraser

Vine or Willow Charcoal, soft, medium-large size. Micron Pens or some sort of Drawing Grade Pen Compressed Charcoal (sticks or pencils work)

### **Recommended Materials:**

Sketchbook at least 8"x10"

Portfolio case 24"x36" for drawings and materials

Artist tape

Spray Fixative for charcoal drawing

Watercolor brushes (assorted sizes) cheap brushes are perfectly fine

Materials To Consider:

Watercolors

Chalk Pastels

Micron pens

Toned paper

Art stores:

Hull's Art Supply and Framing (1144 Chapel Street, New Haven, CT 06511)

Blick Art Materials (341 Cooke St, Plainville, CT 06062, United States)  
Artist and Craftsman Supply (821-825 Chapel St, New Haven, CT 06510, United States)

### **Course layout:**

Each class will consist of a critique of homework followed by a lecture and demonstrations of concepts and technical methods. The students will then practice the drawing exercise, and participate in group critiques.

### **Unit 1: Charcoal- Form and Spatial Relationships**

**July 2:** Introductions, Lecture on still life, charcoal demo, still lifes

HW: 5 Still life sketches (see in assignments tab)

Reading: Reading for July 4th- "Drawing: Space, Form and Expression (see in files)

Materials for next class: charcoal, erasers (kneaded and pink), sketchbook, drawing pad

**July 1:** Go over reading and sketches, Rendering depth demo, Perception of space as a conceptual tool, Space Drawings, Unit project Intro: "Still Life: Capturing a Story"

Videos: [Rose Salane \(Lost and Found\)](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

, [Anna Valdez \(Still Life Paintings\)](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

, [Tschabalala Self \(Bodega Run\)](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

HW: Start and bring in your "Capturing a Story" Pieces (at least 40% finished by July 9th)

Reading: Reading for July 9th- "Drawing: Space, Form and Expression (see in files)

Materials for next class: charcoal, erasers, in-progress "Capturing a Story" drawings, sketchbook

**July 3:** Unit project in-class peer workshop, gesture and mark making exercise, in-class time for unit project

Homework: Finish "Capturing a Story" pieces

**July 8:** "Story Through Object" critique, Realism Unit Introduction

HW: Two drawings

Materials for next class: pencils (4h,2h,2b,4B), erasers, drawing pads, sketchbooks, two drawings homework

## **Unit 2: Graphite/Pen and Ink- The Subjectivity of Realism and Conceptual Uses of Formal Inference**

**July 10:** Sight size drawing exercise, See Yourself unit project

**July 15:** selective minimalism project (trompe l'oeil homework exercise: using mark making and contrast to create convincing dimensionality) and in-progress workshop for "See Yourself" project

Lin TianMiao (Bound Unbound)

**July 17:** In-Class Critique for "See Yourself" project, final unit introduction

## **Unit 3: Open Material (pastel, digital, mixed media, etc.)- Perception and Mark Making**

**July 21:** Material and meaning project, Introduce final "Home" assignment. Found object exercise

Leonardo Drew (Investigation)

**July 24:** In-class workshop for "Home" projects, in-class time to work on projects Do Ho Suh (Rubbing/Loving)

**Jul 29+31:** Final Critique for "Home" projects