

Syllabus – Fall 2009

ART K111: Drawing I

CRN: 30340

TH 12:30 pm - 03:15pm

Dates: 08/26-12/18

Three Rivers Community College

Room E211

Sean Langlais, Instructor

Email: slanglais@trcc.commnet.edu

Course Description

This class will be an introduction to basic drawing skills. The goal of the course is to familiarize you with the fundamentals of drawing so you can use it as an expressive tool. We will work with still life, landscape, self portrait, and interior space.

This class will emphasize the importance of drawing through careful observation. A variety of techniques and styles will be introduced to arrange compositions and to create the illusion of volume and perspective in your drawings. Exercises will be done in class in addition to assignments that will be done on your own time.

Areas to be covered

Observation

-preconceived notions

-positive and negative space

Line

-contour

-gesture

Value

-creating mass, depth and the illusion of light

-chiaroscuro

Composition

-analyzing composition

-creating interesting compositions

Perspective and Depth

-1 and 2 point perspective

-atmospheric perspective

Learning Outcomes

This class is primarily a hands-on studio class. Exercises will be done in class in addition to projects that will be done on your own time. Group critiques will be held on assignment due dates. The format of this class is designed to encourage each student to develop his or her own understanding of drawing according to his or her own skill level and pace. You should plan to spend a minimum of two hours on your work outside of class for each hour spent in class (six hours per week.)

Evaluation Procedures

All materials involved such as sketches and the end product for each project will be collected on assignment due dates. On their due date, assignments should be complete at the beginning of class. Assignments will be graded primarily on the amount of time and effort that is put into them. Those that put forth effort in this class will inevitably show improvement in their work as the class progresses.

Class Discussion

You are expected to be in class with a positive attitude. A positive and amicable environment is a good learning environment. Participating with energy and enthusiasm in class exercises and critiques is to everyone's benefit. Everyone should contribute at least once in each critique. Those who participate more will receive a higher grade in this area.

Course Requirements

Attendance- Please plan to attend all classes and to miss class only for extenuating circumstances. Attendance on critique dates is mandatory. An absence on a critique date will be recorded as two absences, absence at the final critique will be recorded as three absences (unless a legitimate excuse is provided.)

Tardiness/Leaving Early- Most class announcements are made either at the beginning or end of class. Students who arrive late to class or leave class early will not only miss hearing important information, but also are disruptive to the rest of the class, as the instructor may have to repeat information. Every two times a student leaves early or arrives late equals one absence.

Deadlines- Assignments not completed on time will be lowered one letter grade for each class they are late (an A becomes a B.)

Completion of all assignments- No student may receive a passing grade for this class without completing all 4 assignments.

Explanation of Criteria for Evaluation/Grade Weights

Projects- The average of all project grades comprises 80% of the final grade.

Class Participation/Attendance- This comprises 10% of the final grade.

Effort/Improvement- This comprises 10% of the final grade.

Grading System

A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F

Numerical Components

A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty shall in general mean conduct which has as its intent or effect the false representation of a student's academic performance, including but not limited to (a) cheating on an examination, (b) collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course, (c) plagiarizing, including the submission of others' ideas or papers (whether purchased, borrowed, or otherwise obtained) as one's own, (d) stealing or having unauthorized access to examination or course materials, (e) falsifying records of laboratory or other data, (f) submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course, and (g) knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

Inclement weather

In the event of inclement weather, students should call the college's main number at 860-886-0177. There will be a recorded message indicating whether or not classes are being held.

Cell Phones

Cellular phones and beepers are allowed in class only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

Revisions to Syllabus

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of the instructor.

College Withdrawal Policy

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once class has met must provide written notice to the Registrar. Withdrawal forms are available at the Registrars on all campuses. Nonpunitive "W" grades are assigned to any withdrawal requested before the various unrestricted withdrawal deadlines listed in the calendars published in front of each session's course listings. Withdrawal requests received after these deadlines must bear instructor signatures. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class preceding the final exam. Students who do not obtain an official withdrawal, but simply stop attending classes, run the risk of receiving an "F" grade for the course.

Disabilities Statement

If you have a hidden or visible disability which may require class modifications, please notify me as soon as possible. Students with Learning Disabilities should contact the Learning Specialist, Chris Scarborough at 860.892.5751 or at cscarborough@trcc.commnet.edu as soon as possible to ensure timely accommodations. Students with Physical Disabilities should contact Judy Hilburger at 860.892.5744 or at jhilburger@trcc.commnet.edu or Matt Liscum at 860.383.5420 or via email at mliscum@trcc.commnet.edu to facilitate accommodations.

Final Portfolio/Student Art Show

On the last class meeting, students will submit all of their work from the course. This comprises the final portfolio. A pick-up date for students to get their portfolios back will be scheduled within two weeks following the last day of classes. The professor will inform students of this date once it has been scheduled. There is a college-wide Student Art Show at the end of every academic year in May. All students who take an art class are invited to submit one piece done in each class to this show. Students should notify the professor when submitting their final portfolios and she will hold their work and submit it to the show if requested. Several cash prizes are awarded to students whose work is displayed in the Student Art Show by an outside juror.

General Course Outline (subject to changes and revisions)

Aug. 27	Introduction to class. Assignment 1 introduced: Contour Drawing.
Sept. 3	In-class drawing session. Bring supplies.
Sept. 10	In-class drawing session. Group critique. Bring supplies.
Sept. 17	Assignment 1 due. Group critique. Assignment 2 introduced: Still Life with Value.
Sept. 24	In-class still life drawing session. Bring supplies.
Oct. 1	In-class still life drawing session. Bring supplies.
Oct. 8	Assignment 2 due. Group critique. Assignment 3 introduced: Landscape.
Oct. 15	Introduction to perspective.
Oct. 22	In-class exercises in perspective. Bring supplies plus ruler.
Oct. 29	In-class exercises in charcoal and landscape. Bring supplies.
Nov. 5	In-class exercises in charcoal and landscape/still life. Bring supplies (plus mirror and lamp). Assignment 4 introduced: Self Portrait
Nov. 12	In-class work on assignment 4. Bring supplies plus mirror and lamp.
Nov. 19	Assignment 3 due. Group critique. In-class work on assignment 4. Bring supplies plus mirror and lamp.
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Recess - College Closed
Dec. 3	In-class work on assignment 4. Bring supplies plus mirror and lamp.
Dec. 10	FINAL CRITIQUE Assignment 4 due. Group critique.

Supply List

You are required to purchase the following, which are available at the bookstore in kits or at any art supply store.

18" x 24 1/2" Strathmore Dry Media Paper Pad

4 Pencils with varying softnesses including: 2H, 3H, 4B, 6B

1 Ebony Pencil

Pencil sharpener

White plastic eraser

Tuff Stuff thin Eraser stick

1 medium hardness charcoal pencil

Box of 3 sticks of AlphaColor black soft compressed charcoal- do not buy "General's" Brand

Package of 3 sticks soft willow/vine charcoal

Package of 3 sticks medium willow/vine charcoal

Package of 3 sticks hard willow/vine charcoal

Can of Workable Spray Fixative

20" x 26" Portfolio case with handles (optional)