

ART 4301-002

Adv Studio Concentration I

Spring 2026: T-TH 6:00-8:50PM, VAPA 201

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Office Hours: M-W 5-6, T-TH 10am-11am VAPA 009

Course Description:

Art Studio Conc: Drawing is based on the development of contemporary concepts in composition while applying major principles of design: emphasis, pattern, rhythm, balance, proportion, and unity. The principles and elements are applied to the individual assignments referencing concepts of contemporary composition in art, while strengthening drawing skills and the application of good visual communication skills

Works will be created using concepts of composition like elements of art covered in Drawing I and Drawing II figure/ground, line, value, contour, gesture, linear, texture, space, color and aerial perspective are studied using a variety of drawing techniques and media. We will emphasize the use of a variety of materials as well as increasing powers of visual observation and drawing from life or abstract ideas/concepts. Through regularly scheduled critiques students will develop visual literacy and the ability to evaluate and describe works of art.

Supplies

Class Fee: In this course we will have a fee of \$150, in order to supply you with materials to have a successful Art Studio Conc: Drawing experience. (Or bring your own supplies, given that this class is more independent). This fee may be paid in three payments if needed, at least \$75.00 must be paid before you are given any supplies to work with.

We begin working on the second day of class. I will supply the initial materials for you.

You can pay for it through the cashier's office "Art Stores" Account.

Be sure to bring a receipt.

The supplies for the semester include everything needed: paper, ink, charcoal, pastels, pencil, kneaded erasers and special kit where you can keep your materials.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course students will:

- Understand contemporary concepts of drawing and composition
- Develop of good observational, compositional and drawing skills
- Learn to think visually and to learn how to "See"
- Begin to expressively communicate an original idea or concept through original art work.
- Understand correct art terminology and how to use it in writing about Art.

- To learn time management: and complete each assignment on time and to scale, to put in the time and effort it takes to develop a drawing; be willing to experiment, work outside of a comfort zone and take chances.
- To give you the opportunity to develop, learn and apply the principles and elements of art and applied color theory to your watercolor compositions.
- To be aware of safety practices and hazards in the studio environment.

PLO's:

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to expressively communicate an original idea or concept visually through an original artwork.
2. Students will demonstrate proficiency in writing within the art discipline.
3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of professional practices pertaining to their area of specialization.

Marketable Skills:

1. Creating ideas with independence of thought.
 - a. Students will learn to produce work in a timely manner.
 - b. Use of original concepts and non-clichéd ideas.
 - c. Demonstrate the ability to create and curate a cohesive professional exhibition of well-crafted and thematic work with a defined technique or personal style.
 - d. Ability to produce professional documentation including advertising (posters & postcards), artist statement, press release, resume, digital records.
 - e. Faculty will integrate the information into lectures, workshops, etc.
2. Communicating professionally through written and spoken presentation.
 - a. Students will demonstrate the ability to create a cohesive capstone with a defined technique or personal style.
 - b. Ability to produce a professional portfolio that meets current industry standards.
 - c. Faculty will integrate the information into lectures, workshops, etc.
3. Solving problems through critical thinking.
 - a. Students will learn to produce work in a timely manner.
 - b. Use of original concepts and non-clichéd ideas.
 - c. Demonstrate the ability to create and curate a cohesive professional exhibition of well-crafted and thematic work with a defined technique or personal style.
 - d. Ability to produce professional documentation including advertising (posters & postcards), artist statement, press release, resume, digital records.

Structure:

Demos: Any new material or idea introduced will be led by a detailed demonstration or presentation. Attendance is mandatory as students' presence and participation in demonstrations are crucial to the learning process.

Exercises: The best way to learn how to draw is to practice! In class, exercises will be assigned to reinforce terminology and develop technical skill.

Sketchbook Assignments: You are required to use a sketchbook to this course that will result in an archive of images and research. There will be Sketchbook Assignments assigned as homework to reinforce technical skills covered in exercises. This sketchbook will be a record of your interests, progression, and art making practice. Always bring your sketchbook to class as you will be required to

work in it during class. Developing a sketchbook practice is an important step in becoming an artist – I recommend decorating the cover and bringing it with you wherever you go!

Projects: Each project will present new challenges and techniques to investigate. They will be given in conjunction with themes and techniques to be covered. Projects are more formal, finished works of art. You will be given time to work on these in class but will also require time outside of class. Projects will be formally critiqued by the class.

Portfolio Reviews: At midterm and towards the end of class I will conduct individual Portfolio Reviews to assess the progress of your exercises, sketchbook assignments and projects.

Critiques: At the completion of certain projects, a critique will be held where we will address the technical, conceptual, and formal issues presented. It is mandatory that all students participate in these discussions. Your grade for each project will be based on your work as well as your involvement in critique. Critiques are a chance to share, question, and learn from each other – providing constructive feedback while upholding an environment for growth.

Attendance & Class Participation: Art studio classes are performance-based and interaction with other students and the professor cannot be replicated outside of class time. Your attendance counts towards your participation grade in this course as well as your attentiveness during demonstrations, scheduled critiques, and your contribution to shop cleanliness. Being unprepared or failure to bring in required or assigned materials will also count against your participation grade.

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY and will be taken at the beginning of each class. You are expected to arrive on time and stay until the class is over. Arriving late and leaving early are disruptive and you will be considered absent if this is habitual. If illness is going to affect your attendance, please bring a doctor's note. Please note that excused and unexcused absences are both counted as absences. For both types of absences you are responsible for NOTIFYING ME ASAP. If you miss a demo, critique, or studio clean up, it is **YOUR** responsibility to initiate getting the required information from myself and your fellow classmates.

You are permitted five excused or unexcused absences during the semester. Each subsequent absence, up to 9 absences or 20% of scheduled classes, will result in your course grade being lowered by 5 points. After 9 absences, you will fail the course. If you are late three times (by more than 10 minutes) that will count as an absence. If you are late by more than 30 minutes you are counted absent. *Sul Ross policy states a student may be dropped after 9 (nine) absences and that one absence is equal to 50 minutes. More than two absences from a studio class will result in the lowering of the final evaluation by one letter grade. You may be dropped with Three (3) absences. Tardiness, and leaving early will be considered as partial absences, three of which will equal an absence. More than 8 minutes late is a tardy.*

After 5 absences (including excused) = grade dropped by 5 points

3 tardy arrivals = 1 absence

9 absences = failure

If for some reason you encounter an issue which makes you unable to attend class for an extended period of time (ie. -family situation, medical issues, etc.), please NOTIFY ME IMMEDIATELY so it can be discussed and reasonable accommodations can be made. If you are worried about your attendance and participation score I have extra assignments that can be done to boost your grade.

Disabilities: Please notify me if you have a disability that requires accommodation. If you would like to request such accommodation because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the ADA Coordinator for Program Accessibility in student life/ the Student Center.

Evaluation & Grading Policy:

Grading: Students are expected to perform to the best of their abilities. I understand that everyone has a different level of skill and preparation, and will assign grades on an individual basis. However, I expect all students to exhibit abilities appropriate for this level. I will assess performance based on a professional evaluation of each student's work and work habits, asking the following questions.

- *Are your assignments evident of the energy necessary to produce your best work?
- *Did you work at the highest level of maturity, discipline, and motivation?
- *Did you complete all parts of your assignment by the due dates?
- *Does your work demonstrate that you have fully comprehended and incorporated the material covered in class?
- *Did you fully participate in class activities?
- *Have you missed enough classes to affect your grade?

****** What do I see? What does the work look like? ******

Projects are graded on a 5-letter scale:

- A** 100% - 90% **SUPERIOR** / signifies that the evaluation criteria has been performed and completed to the highest possible quality and is excellent in both concept and execution
- B** 89% - 80% **ABOVE AVERAGE** / signifies that the evaluation criteria has been performed and completed to an above average quality and is very good in both concept and execution
- C** 79% - 70% **AVERAGE** / signifies that the evaluation criteria has been performed and completed to average quality and is good concept and execution
- D** 69% - 60% **BELOW AVERAGE** / signifies that the evaluation criteria has been performed and completed to a below average or poor quality in both concept and execution
- F** <60% **FAILURE** / does not meet the basic standards of acceptance for work requirements

Assignments: This class will include specific drawing problems designed to teach students both technical skill and refine conceptual sophistication. Looking at the work of historical and contemporary artists will support the concepts, media, and techniques explored with each drawing. Additionally, there will be required sketchbook assignments and readings, to be done outside of class. Critiques will be held 4 times during the semester. There will be a total of 8 projects divided into two sections. I will assign the first four projects, and define objectives for each. Afterwards, students will be expected to propose and develop projects based on creating a cohesive body of work that communicates their own formal and conceptual interests and objectives.

- Exercise #1** – Presentation (see separate assignment description), proposal Studio exercise #1: benchmark assessment, specific exercises, skills review
- Exercise #2** - Color, mark making, figuration, portrait or self-portrait
- Exercise #3** - Mixed media, experimental media
- Exercise #4** - Collaboration, Rules

***all projects must be at least 30" x 22" or in multiples of 3.**

- Exercise # 5- 8 based on student proposals; individual inquiry.**

Classroom Policies:

Studio Etiquette: You are responsible for cleaning up after yourself in the classroom. Improper use of equipment/materials and leaving a mess in the classroom is unacceptable and will result in a lowered grade. The room is both a classroom and a creative environment, and behavior must be appropriate for both purposes. Anyone who is disruptive, disrespectful to others, or endangers the health and safety of others will be asked to leave, marked absent, and/or referred to administration. Good classroom conduct must be observed at all times, including appropriate language and attire. During work time, please behave in a way that is peaceful and conducive to getting work done and be quiet and respectful of others.

Phones and Music: In general, phones are not allowed during class time in an effort to promote a positive and respectful learning environment. Please silence your phone and resist the urge to text. Using your cell phone during a critique or demonstration will result in a lowered participation grade for that assignment. It is disruptive to others, disrespectful to the instructor, and distracting to you. Phones may be used to search for image or research inspiration during brainstorming periods. Headphones are permitted in class during work periods but please leave one ear bud out as you might miss out on important information.

Inclusivity: In order to foster individual development as artists, it is integral to feel comfortable expressing ourselves in an honest, open, and non-judgmental environment where our ideas will be treated with respect and dignity. In critiques, we will encourage an open dialogue discussing the positive and negative compositional and technical aspects of each work, as well as considering context and subjective meaning. Under no circumstances, however, will discussion be permitted that is personally disrespectful. We will treat each member of the class with the same measure of respect, regardless of age, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, personal appearance, disability, or any other visible or invisible differences.

Note taking: Your notes are your best resource for success. For each technique, I will provide you with a handout, written by me, that mirrors my demonstration and tries to codify exactly what I show you in class. I highly encourage you to take your own notes, clarifying the process in language that makes sense to you. I will only supply you with the physical handout once, and I expect you to keep these handouts in a convenient place so you can refer back to them as needed.

Originality/ Copyright/ Fair Use: All work created in this class must be original and may not be made in or used for credit in any other course. Violations of this policy will be treated as academic dishonesty and will result in an (F) for the project in question, a referral to the Student Conduct Office, and possible failure of the course. Refer to the Academic Integrity Policy in the Student Handbook for more information.

All work and imagery used in this course must be your own, or fall within the confines of fair use if incorporating existing copyrighted material. Fair use means that artists cannot use existing copyrighted material in a way that does not generate new artistic meaning, and that merely changing the medium of a work may not be enough to meet this standard. Refer to CAA's Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for the Visual Arts for general guidelines on fair use.

Storage: There is a small amount of drawer space available. But space is limited, so be prepared to bring materials with you as needed each day. The VAPA is not responsible for damage, theft, loss, or destruction of personal property including items left unattended in a hallway, restroom, classroom. Thefts have occurred from drawers in the past so avoid leaving valuables here.

Email Communication: All emails should be school generated emails.

Reproduction of Photographic Images: During the semester your instructor or other representatives from Sul Ross State University may photograph you or your artwork for promotional, educational and or accreditation use. If you wish not to have images of you or your work used by SRSU or the VAPA (FAB), please submit a written statement to the Department office so that we may honor your request.

Studio Access (After Hours): Students have authorization to use all assigned classrooms and studios for each class in which they are enrolled. Access is permitted during official building hours except when other scheduled classes are in session. All students are encouraged to work independently outside of class and are welcome to use the Art Department facilities as long as they conduct themselves responsibly. Students should regard and abide by all studio safety policies. Work areas must be thoroughly cleaned after use and all tools and equipment must be properly used and maintained.

Advanced Concentration: Drawing

CALENDAR:

WEEK 1: Introduction

1/15 Syllabus: Start sketching, research.

WEEK 2: Introduce Project 1

1/20 Lecture and Demo time. Start sketching.

1/22 Finish sketch; start prepping materials

WEEK 3:

1/27 Work Day

1/29 Work Day.

January 29: Last day to drop a 16 week term course without creating an academic record

WEEK 4: Introduce Project 2. Demo Project 2.

2/3 Lecture. Start researching for ideas. Finish project 1?

2/5 Show sketches, or keep sketching. Or begin printing.

Visit Chinati Foundation?

Week 5: Keep working on Project 2.

2/10 Work Day. Critique Project 1.

2/12 Work Day.

WEEK 6: Finish Project 2.

2/17 Demo and lecture for Project 3. Start to use Emulsion.

2/19 Continue with demos for project 3 and start sketching.

WEEK 7: Continue with Project 3.

2/24 Work Day

2/26 Work Day/Critique project 2.

WEEK 8: Introduce Project 4.

3/3 Lecture/Demo: Start sketching ideas.

3/5 Work Day. Submit project 3.

Spring Break March 08- 13

WEEK 9: Review, refresh and keep working on project 4.

3/17 work day.

3/19 Work Day.

WEEK 10:

3/24 Studio Work- Demo framing, matting and installing prints.

3/26 Studio work. Critique Project 4.

WEEK 11 Introduce Project 5

3/31 Studio work

4/02 Studio work.

WEEK 12: Work on Project 5

4/07 Work day

4/09 Work Day 5.

Friday April 10: Last day to withdraw from the 16-week course/term with grade of 'W'. Drops must be processed and in the university registrar's office by 4 p.m.

WEEK 13

4/14 Work Day

4/16 Studio work

WEEK 14: If we have extra time, we will do a last project. Print on shirts

4/21 Students will continue their last project.

4/23 work day

WEEK 15: Finish prints

4/28 Work Day/ Clean up

4/30 Dead Day

FINAL MAY 5TH 3:00-5:00P.M.

Individual portfolio reviews

***I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus and calendar throughout the semester to satisfy the needs and goals of the class.