

2014-2015
ARTS 102: Drawing 1
Kenyon College - KAP Course
New Albany High School
Instructor: Juliette Montague
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Course Objectives

As a visual artist, you need to become familiar with the language and application of visual art in order to successfully communicate your ideas to others. Becoming a successful artist is a matter of learning how to use this language and the techniques involved in this language to find your own “visual voice”. You are still at the beginning of this journey.

This course is specifically related to the act and action involved with drawing. Drawing is a physical skill, it has to be practiced if an artist wants to improve. Today, drawing plays a stronger role in contemporary art than it ever has before. In the past drawings usually played a supporting role. They were preparatory for something “better” (i.e. a painting, sculpture, or a work of architecture). Now drawings are valued as finished works that give direct insight into the mind of the artist and the creative act. The notion of what is considered a drawing is also expanding. Artists are constantly pushing the boundaries of what drawing can be with new media and new practices.

It is a matter of using drawing to address the ideas that are vital to your creative practice. Great drawings can manifest themselves in many different ways. In this course we will work on learning how to see and how to communicate our ideas through drawing.

Critiques will be an integral part of the class. They are an essential way to gain feedback on your work in order to make improvements and to detect how others are “reading” what you have done. Do not rob each other of the constructive criticism that will lead to improvement. It is important to remember that when we are criticizing your drawing we are not criticizing you as a person. It is helpful to make this distinction for yourself during critiques. Learning to talk about art is an important skill that we will begin to develop. Your participation in critiques will be considered in your overall class grade.

Grading

Grading in this course will be based upon how well you meet the requirements set for each exercise or project using a standardized rubric shared with you before each assignment. Your final grade will be comprised of the project grades (which will be graded more heavily toward the end of the year), one artist presentation grade, critiques and class discussions and digital portfolio of work.

Attendance

Regular attendance is *critical* to this class. Being on time is also critical to success in this course. Demonstrations, drawings, critiques and discussions will all be done in class. You will complete the artist presentation outside of class time, however you will present it during class time.

You need to be in class to learn the techniques and receive the important feedback and processes involved in art making. If you cannot attend a class for some reason you need to contact me in advance to discuss it with me.

As per Kenyon College rules:

Two unexcused absences will result in a drop in your grade by a third of a grade. Each late arrival to class counts as half of an absence. It is mandatory that you be present for critiques, and that your work be completed by the deadlines given.

Your grade will be a calculation of the scores given to the projects that you complete using the common rubric for each assignment. There will be a section on each rubric for a self-assessment and reflection of the project.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Q1

Pre-assessment drawings and skill building

Outside sketchbook assignments

Project #1 Animal Portrait

Q2

Project #2 Textile Design on Silk

Mid-term project

Interior (light and perspective) with surreal objects

Q3

Project #3 Altered Book with Self Portrait

Project #4 Color Theory Painting

Q4

Project #5 Many of the Same Drawing in media of choice

Project #6 Bicycle Drawing or Extreme Close up drawing in media of choice