

The University of Western Ontario Department of Visual Arts

Course: Image Explorations Visual Arts Studio 2100A, Fall 2018

Time: Friday 9:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. In Rm. 206

Professor: Kim Moodie komoodie@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Friday 2:00 – 3:00 pm Office 118.

This is an introductory course exploring two-dimensional design, primarily in drawing, and imaging principles such as the study of composition and color theory, examining critical frameworks for reading and discussions, and expanding image literacy through communal research. Classes will consist of varying combinations of slide lectures, class discussions, technical demonstrations, critiques and studio time. **The course primarily focuses on figure and representational images.**

Students will produce a body of work that demonstrates their understanding of the technical skills and key concepts presented in each of the course sections, which will be informed by course readings, slide lectures, independent research, group discussions and critiques.

Learning Outcomes

Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

- Students will acquire the range of skills required to engage in the material practice of Drawing, and will have a greater understanding of the genesis of those skills historically.

Knowledge of Methodologies

- Students will gain an understanding of the critical potential of the medium, be able to identify various ways works in that medium operate critically, and will apply their understanding in creative ways to the realization of their projects. Several examples of contemporary drawing practices will be discussed.

Application of Knowledge

- Students will use their capacities with the medium as a critical, discursive and expressive tool to develop creative works; understand the potential viability of their works, and will utilize their reflections on their works to explore and develop further projects in order to create a body of work.

OWL / Sakai /Class email list

Readings and documents pertaining to lessons will be posted on Owl/ Sakai in the resources folder. It is your responsibility to ensure you read and understand them before class time. Or readings and class assignments will be forwarded through a class email list.

<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

Cell Phones & Social Media

The use of cell phones & computers during class time for any purpose other than research related to our course is not permitted. Please turn off ringers and refrain from checking & replying to texts & messages. Phones can be left on silent vibrate if you are dealing with a family crisis. If an emergency is involved please leave the classroom quietly.

Sketchbook

A sketchbook is a visual diary of one's influences, emotions, experiences and thoughts, a place to practice techniques, and can serve as resource file, notebook. Each student is to be actively maintaining a sketchbook throughout the semester.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to punctually attend *all* class sessions and come prepared to participate in all class activities and critiques. This is a Studio course, and great emphasis is placed upon in-class work, feedback and discussion. Under university regulations, students who miss more than 15% of the course hours (4 classes per semester) without prior consultation or documentation (medical or bereavement vetted through student's faculty academic advisor) can be debarred from final studio critiques and examinations. Note that if a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cut-off and be disbarred.

Students are responsible for making themselves aware of all assignments, procedures and due dates. It is the student's complete responsibility to keep informed of any such changes.

Students are expected to complete all assignments on due dates stated in the syllabus unless a previous agreement has been made with the instructor. Failure to complete assignments or present completed work in scheduled critiques without prior consultation with the instructor will result in a failing grade. Penalty for late work is 2% per day (Monday to Friday, weekend considered one day).

Students are expected to arrive at the beginning of class with all project materials listed in the project description, and thoroughly clean their workspace after each session. It is particularly disrespectful to a model to arrive late, or unprepared, for

life-drawing sessions; as well as being a waste of limited resources.

Students should spend a minimum 4-8-hours per week working outside of class fulfilling course requirements.

Students must adhere to health and safety guidelines in accordance with departmental regulations, failure to comply could result in removal from the course with a failing grade.

Medical Policy: Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counseling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. The instructor or the department cannot grant academic accommodation. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments. Accommodation for missed assignments, or attendance, of less than 10%, due to medical reasons, may be arranged with the instructor as long as the student contacts the instructor no later than the day after the assignment or attendance is due.

Mental Health Policy: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf> Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca>

All grades will reflect the student's ability to clearly demonstrate:

Successful completion and understanding of general course objective [as above], and specific assignment objectives.

Technical and conceptual development of all assignments.

A demonstrated understanding of project concepts and the ability to clearly communicate those concepts

A degree of inventiveness and ambition displayed in completed assignments

Class participation through involvement in class activities. i.e. crits.

In order for students to have a high-class participation grade it is necessary for them to attend the majority of classes punctually, and to engage actively in critiques and discussion of readings

Grade Breakdown:

Studio assignments including sketch-book= 85%

Each section will be broken down into percentages relative to smaller and larger projects.

Participation, Attendance, Punctuality=15%

Grades will be assessed as follows:

90-100 (Outstanding, A+) The studio work shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated analysis and synthesis involving complex theoretical and conceptual thinking are demonstrated. Mastery of complex ideas is immediately evident. The studio work has originality, clarity and ambition. The project is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is exemplary.

80-89 (Excellent, A) The studio work shows originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. The work is clearly focused and intelligently presented. Mastery of complex ideas is demonstrated. The studio work has clarity and ambition. The quality of the studio production immediately engages the viewer. The studio work has been sufficiently developed and demonstrates mastery of techniques so that results are compelling. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is impressive.

75-79 (Very Good, B+) The studio work shows above average analysis, critical thinking and independent thought. It demonstrates a clear awareness of the parameters of the assignment and a very good attempt to respond creatively to them. The work demonstrates reasonable depth and/or breadth and engages in a production that is appropriate to the level of the course. The quality of studio work engages the viewer and demonstrates above- average mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is very good.

70-74 (Good, B) The studio work shows a satisfactory attempt at analysis and critical thinking. It shows a good attempt to respond to assignment parameters. The work demonstrates some depth and/or breadth, making references to appropriate course material/art context. The studio production engages the viewer and demonstrates a sufficient mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is satisfactory.

60-69 (Competent, C) The studio work demonstrates adequate engagement with the project. It shows an attempt to respond to assignment parameters but does so at a very basic level that lacks creativity. Engagement with studio production demonstrates basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is competent.

50-59 (Marginal, D) The studio work shows less than adequate engagement with

the topic and with the material covered by the course. The studio work waivers in its attempt to respond to assignment parameters and tends to be simplistic. Engagement with studio production demonstrates less than a basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is less than satisfactory.

Below 50 (Unacceptable, F) The studio work demonstrates a failure to comprehend/engage the topic. The studio work is incomplete and lacks redeeming creative merit. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is unacceptable.

POLICIES – VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Student Conduct:

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_19

Attendance:

A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams, or participation in final studio evaluations. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.

Prerequisites:

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism, which may be defined as “The act or an instance of copying or stealing another’s words or ideas and attributing them as one’s own,” will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from [Black’s Law Dictionary](#), 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170). (Refer to http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_189 with

regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.) This includes presenting the visual or aural work of another creator as your own. Visual or Aural Plagiarism may involve both hand-based media such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, as well as digital media such as photography, video and sound. It includes work subsequently manipulated or transferred between different media, as well as self-plagiarism – work submitted for assignments previously produced and graded for another course. Similar to textual plagiarism, all student work involving the visual or aural work of others must be appropriately cited/identified whether in print or orally. Failure to do so will lead to similar academic penalties as those identified in Western’s Academic Calendar.

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments.

Mental Health:

“Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western https://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”

Building Access (September 1st to April 30th):

The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:00pm each night Monday to Friday. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00pm-5:00pm unless otherwise posted; access by side entrances only. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:00pm and 5:00pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

Permission re: Promotion:

You grant permission for Western University to reproduce your name, information describing your artwork, representations of your work and any other information you have provided for the purpose of display, promotion and publicity either now or in the future.

By installing your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you grant Western University an irrevocable, perpetual, royalty-free world-wide licence to photograph your artwork and use such photograph(s) for the promotion of your artwork and/or Western University, including, without limitation, advertising, display, editorial, packaging, promotion, television, social media, the Department of Visual Arts website, flickr, Twitter, Instagram etc.). Students wishing to not have their work photographed should not exhibit it in the Visual Arts Centre, Artlab Gallery or Cohen Commons. As the area is open to the public, students, faculty, staff and other

visitors will not be prohibited from photographing your artwork while on exhibit at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre.

You otherwise retain all ownership in your artwork.

Artwork Installation Liability Release:

You understand that the area where your artwork will be hanging or displayed is unsupervised and is in a part of the building that may be open to the public, day and evening, whether or not the building is open. Western University accepts no responsibility for damage to, or loss of, artwork at any time while on display or while being transported to or from the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. By displaying your artwork in the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, you accept all risk of loss or damage to your artwork. Western University does not provide insurance for the artwork on exhibition. **If you wish to insure artwork, it is your responsibility to do so.**

Removal:

Western University reserves the right to dispose of artwork not picked up by April 15th of each year.

Please remember:

One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Professor C. Barteet (tel. 519-661-3440; vaugc@uwo.ca). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty. Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the academic counselors in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities located in University College Room 2230.

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; www.sdc.uwo.ca) offers a wide range of useful services including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.

The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: www.lib.uwo.ca.

Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program which offer part-time positions on campus for Western students. Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail finaid@uwo.ca; or check out their website at http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html

Academic Sanctions:

In instances of non-payment of prescribed tuition and other fees, the University shall seal the academic record. When an academic record is sealed, the student will not be able to: a) view grades; b) register in future courses; c) receive transcripts or a degree diploma; d) obtain admission or readmission.

The above prohibitions shall be in force until such time as indebtedness to the University, including payment of fee for removal of the seal, has been cleared to the satisfaction of the University

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&Keywords=academic%20sanctions&SubHeadingID=169&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_169

****Required materials**

**Pencil set (2H-8B), pencil sharpener, 1 Pad Newsprint or Manila, 18"x24" in., 22 x 30 in. Drawing board & clips for paper, eraser (hard & soft) Charcoal- 1 box of Willow & 1 of compressed sticks, Conté, crayon sticks (assorted set either colored or earth tones) 5 sheets Stonehenge, Mayfair or similar quality paper [approx. 22 x 30 in., small & large ruler (24") Matt workable Fixative (1 can will be enough for a few students) Portfolio case [if you wish,], sketchbook (11 x 17 in. or 18 x 24 in.), small set of pencil crayons, small set of oil or chalk pastels. You can reuse any materials you have from previous classes.

Description of sketchbook:

Each student will keep and maintain a sketchbook. It is a visual diary of inspirations, insights, daily practice, exercises, doodles, sketches, notes, and recollections . . . whatever you feel you need to keep in touch with your artistic energies. You will be graded based on the quantity, quality, creativity & interest of your entries.

Timeline**Week 1, Sept. 7**

Introduction to syllabus. Locker allocation. Discussion of Materials and what is needed for next class. For next class. Please read: John Berger Drawing is Discovery

[John Berger: Drawing is discovery - New Statesman](https://www.newstatesman.com/culture/art-and.../05/john-berger-drawing-discovery)

<https://www.newstatesman.com/culture/art-and.../05/john-berger-drawing-discovery>

For next class please bring 5-6 sheets of newsprint, 2H-6B pencils, charcoal, conte, 24 in. ruler, drawing board and clips, sketchbook. Please start collecting collage materials in your sketchbook.

Week 2, Sept. 14

Discuss Berger Reading

Figure Drawing from live model. Materials needed-HB-6B pencils, charcoal, conte, drawing board, clips, sketchbook,

Topics: High-key & low-key tones, line, shading, texture, positive and negative space, **scale and orientation on surface of the paper.**

Next Reading: Vitamin D Preface

Artists to research –Philip Pearlstein, Wayne Thiebaud, Leonardo DaVinci.

Due next class 1 Representational Drawing, as well as 2 contour line drawings in sketchbook of common items. one drawing could be shaded. Drawings should be detailed enough to recognize internal sections of object chosen. Drawings should optimize size of paper.

Week 3, Sept. 21

Drawings from Live Model –Materials-Pencils, Charcoal, Conte, Newsprint, one sheet of higher quality paper that fits drawing board, drawing board and clips.

Topics: line, gesture, contour, directional lines, foreshortening, gesture.

Artists to look at on web- Kathy Kollowitz, William DeKooning, Kiki Smith, Honore Daumier.

Submit 2 Complete drawings from this class for for next class.

Homework: Three contour line drawings in your sketchbook, of various sizes relative to projects so far. One of these should be shaded.

Reading; The Three Dimensional Space of a Drawing, drawing [3rd. ed. space form and expression], pg. 21-43, Wayne Enstice and Melody Peters. isbn 0-13-098113-3

Read a web article on one of the example artists.

Week 4, September 28

Transformation of the body: Using the body to make a personal or social statement allegorically. Please bring to class collage material and research on symbols to facilitate this drawing. As well bring an image of figure you would like to draw from. This drawing will concentrate on how much you can transform this image to make a statement.

Artists to research, Leon Golub, John Scott, Jenny Saville, Sheri Boyle, Carne Griffiths, Antonin Artaud [Theatre of the Absurd].

Reading

[Automatism in Art: Definition, History, Characteristics, Surrealist ...](#)

www.visual-arts-cork.com/definitions/automatism.htm

Week 5, Oct. 5

Work period: Transformation of the body: Using the body as a means of personal and/or social context.

Week 6, October 12 -Fall Break

Week 7 , Oct. 19: *Crit of transforming the body*

Week 8, Oct. 26

Topic - Contemporary Still-lives

Composition, color, and space/perspective [linear, overlapping, diminishing size and detail, transparency, tonal gradation, relationship to horizon line. linear perspective]

Still life study, need all materials, two sheets of good paper, 22 x30 in.

Readings

[Discover Degas Pastel Techniques...Watch A Simple Demo](#)

www.explore-drawing-and-painting.com › Pastels

[Basic Color Theory - Color Matters](#)

<https://www.colormatters.com/color-and-design/basic-color-theory>

[A Cornucopia of Contemporary Still Life -ARTnews](#)

www.artnews.com/2014/02/10/contemporary-still-life-is-high-tech-and-high-concept/

A Guide to Drawing,, chapter 12 “Still Life” Pages 221-236. Authors Daniel M Mendelowitz, Duane A. Wakeman, David L. Faber, isbn 0-534-62496-0

Week 9, Nov. 2

Still life Studies, a level of abstraction, drawing from your imagination, working with repeated shapes.

Composition, color, and space/perspective [linear, overlapping, diminishing size and detail, transparency, tonal gradation, relationship to horizon line.]

Still life study; need all materials, two sheets of good paper, 22-x30 in. and your sketchbook.

Readings

www.explore-drawing-and-painting.com › Pastels

The Three Dimensional Space of a Drawing, drawing [3rd. ed. space form and expression], pg. 21-43, Wayne Enstice and Melody Peters. isbn 0-13-098113-3

Week 10, Nov. 9

Still life Studies, a level of abstraction and imagination.

Reading:

Visualizations: Drawing upon Your Imagination. From Drawing, Space, Form and Expression [3rd. ed.], pg. 274-289, by Wayne Enstice and Melody Peters. isbn 0-13-098113-3

Week 11, Nov. 16

Continuation of still life, -drawing from the imagination.

Homework. Please use collage materials to do small surreal drawings in your sketchbook.

Week 12, Nov. 23

Self Portraits: [Selfies] using your own sense of self to show how you relate to the world. Bring a selfie print out. Materials-any materials that are on the class material list, all materials should be present for rest of term. This project should use color. Create 2 image of yourself that express your sense of self or what you want known about yourself. Size at least 22 x 30 in. You can use collage materials in these projects.

[Why do artists make self-portraits? – The Art Junket](http://theartjunket.wordpress.com/2015/.../july-16-why-do-artists-make-self-portraits/)

<https://theartjunket.wordpress.com/2015/.../july-16-why-do-artists-make-self-portraits/>

[What Artists Reveal with Self-Portraits - Artists Network](http://www.artistsnetwork.com/art.../portrait.../what-artists-reveal-with-self-portraits)

<https://www.artistsnetwork.com/art.../portrait.../what-artists-reveal-with-self-portraits>

[Famous Self-Portraits Show Self-Portraiture Trend Throughout Art ...](#)
<https://mymodernmet.com> › Art

Week 13 Nov. 30

Continuation of self-portrait project.

Week 14 Dec. 7; Final Crit.