Instructor: V. Michelle Smythe  
E-mail: michelle.smythe@tamucc.edu  
Office Hours: MW 1:30-2:30  
Office: CA 111

Course/Section: ARTS 1316.002  
Time: MW 3:30-6:20 pm  
Classroom: CA224  
Phone: 887-6834 (K Space)  

It is best to email.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students learn the basics of observational drawing. Through lectures, guided studio exercises, assignments and critiques, students learn to see and compose physical space. This course is required for all art majors. No Prerequisite.

TEXT: In lieu of a textbook, students will be given readings.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will

- learn and apply the principles central to linear perspective theory
- be introduced to numerous drawing exercises to help them navigate form and space
- research still life as it exists in historical paintings, drawings and prints
- gain proficiency in the use of grids to transcribe imagery
- be introduced via diagram and skeleton to the human anatomy
- exercise their understanding of the principles of organization through still life
- learn how each of these outcomes contributes to the suggestion of form and space

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance & punctuality are mandatory for this class – much of your work will be done in class. If you anticipate missing four or more absences, I urge you to reschedule this class. You are allowed 3 absences. Your final grade will be lowered one letter grade on your fourth absence, 2 letter grades on your fifth and so forth.

Tardies/Leaving class early: I will call your name after the official start of class at 3:30 pm. If you are not at your easel with the proper materials when I call roll, you will be marked as tardy. If you are in the hallway or restroom when I call roll, you will be marked as tardy. Arriving late or leaving early two times equates to one absence. You will be given a 20-minute break around 5 pm. If you are not in your seat at the break’s end, you will be marked as tardy.

The last 10-15 minutes of class will be devoted to the cleanup of the studio and each student’s personal space (ex. desk, floor). Failure to help clean up the studio and your space will result in an absence. Other grounds for absences include: noisy or disruptive behavior in the studio, making or receiving calls and texting or receiving texts.

Student Handbook: Students who are representing the University in an official capacity (i.e. athletes, Student Government Association) will be excused, but must make up all missed work. If this concession applies to you, it is my hope that you will make every attempt to save your three allotted absences for such obligations to your school.
Course Format
A majority of the course will consist of in-class assignments corresponding with various drawing techniques, tools and theories. Outside assignments will include homework (drawings) and sketchbook studies to reinforce class lectures and assignments. At the end of the semester a final exam (final drawing assignment) will be given, which will correspond to the assignments done in class throughout the semester.

Course Evaluation and Requirements
Grades in this course will be taken from portfolios, homework, attendance/participation and a final exam. There will be twelve drawing assignments during the course of the semester. Each individual assignment is worth 25 points. There will be three portfolios turned in during the course of the semester containing four assignments each. Each portfolio is worth 100 points.

Four homework assignments will be given during the course of the semester, which will correspond to and reinforce class assignments. Each homework assignment is worth 25 points each and will be graded using the same method as class assignments. The 4 homework assignments will be added together and is worth 100 points.

Your Sketchbook is also worth 100 points. The sketchbook is indispensable to your growth as an artist and/or designer. It will benefit you tremendously if used properly and often. I would like for you to use it daily as a repository for drawings, thoughts, magazine clippings, etc. I may review your sketchbook at any time during the semester, so bring it to class. Your sketchbook will be turned in at Midterm and again at the end of the semester. You will be required to complete at least 10 studies by mid-term and another 10 studies by semester's end. Please begin with a new sketchbook containing at least 100 pages. Please leave my mid-term notes intact until the semester is over. Sketchbooks are not subject to group critiques.

MidTerm Sketchbook Checklist
- Syllabus
- Class Notes
- Class Thumbnails
- Ten 1 hour studies numbered

Final Sketchbook Checklist
- Midterm Notations
- Syllabus
- Class Notes
- Class Thumbnails
- Ten more 1 hours studies numbered (20 total)

Final Grade is determined as follows:
1st Portfolio (100pts.)
2nd Portfolio (100pts.)
3rd Portfolio (100pts.)
Sketchbook (100pts.)
Participation (100 pts)
(500 total pts.) Grade average will be determined by dividing points earned by 500.

GRADING SCALE—
100-90 point average = A
89-80 point average = B
79-70 point average = C
69-60 point average = D
59– 0 point average = F
Letter Grades:
Grades are based on effort, creativity, craftsmanship and class participation. You are expected to spend time outside of class to complete projects on time.

A  fully engaged in the process of learning; each assignment demonstrates commitment and effort; a willingness to push yourself to do the very best work

B  a strong effort, good participation, good growth, good quality of work

C  average performance, which may be determined by attendance problems, on and off again commitment, effort, or work. Work that is acceptable but not your best.

D  poor attendance, poor quality of work or poor participation

F  lack of work, attendance too low, disruptive to learning process

Assignment Evaluation Criteria (Assignments 1-12)

Process: 10pts.
Planning: Did you prepare adequately?
Method: Did you follow directions? Did you stretch your problem solving skills?
Creativity: Is your assignment thoughtful and courageous?

Product: 10pts.
Outcome: Did you exhibit an understanding of the lesson?
Content: How well did you synthesize design, media and content?

Presentation: 5pts.
Finish: Is the work presented in a thoughtful manner?
Craftsmanship: Is the quality of the work high and consistent throughout?

General Policies and Procedures
Your courtesy to the instructor and fellow students is greatly appreciated. Please turn off your cell phones, laptops, ipods, etc. while in the classroom/studio. Do not use the studio’s electrical outlets to charge your personal electronic devices. Please no texting at anytime during the class.

The use of appropriate language and common courtesy when interacting with your fellow students and instructor is expected.

Only students who are enrolled in the course are allowed in the classroom. Please do not bring visitors to the class.

Students are responsible for all art supplies, sketchbooks and portfolios.

I do not give individual students extra points, assignments, credit, etc. Any assignments or extra credit is given to the entire class during the course of the semester and not after.

Any changes in course requirements, the grade value assigned to the requirements and the method of determining the student's final grade, etc. is at the instructor's discretion. The instructor will announce any such changes ahead of time.
Notes
If you are unsure of your grade in this course it is your responsibility to find out your status. I am available to discuss course issues with students in person both before and after class. I am usually in the classroom 30 minutes before the start of class and I am available after class as well. I can also be contacted through e-mail or through calling or stopping by the Art Office and leaving me a message.

ACADEMIC HONESTY is of the utmost importance. Student Handbook: Students who violate academic integrity and regulations (see current Univeristy Catalog) by plagiarism, other academic dishonesty or disruptive behavior will be held accountable by faculty and may have their grades adjusted accordingly.

*NOTICE TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

**ACADEMIC ADVISING**: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

***GRADE APPEAL PROCESS.*** As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Please retain this syllabus, refer to it regularly throughout the semester and follow all deadlines as listed unless otherwise notified during class. You are expected to turn in all work on time and be prepared for all examinations without reminders from me.
**SUPPLY LIST:**

Drawing Pencils (2B, 4B, 6B)
Package of Char-Kole (12 sticks)
3-4 Sticks of Compressed Charcoal (soft or medium)
Vine or Willow charcoal – multiple widths
Erasers: Sanford Magic Rub plastic eraser and Design Kneaded Rubber eraser
18”x24” Newsprint Pad and/or 18”x24” Drawing Pad
9”x12” Sketchbook
Spray Fixative (Aquanet Hairspray)
Sighting/Measuring Stick (ruler will do)
Portfolio
Old sock or t-shirt material (soft material)
Dust Masks – if you are sensitive to the charcoal dust
Masking tape
Bull Clips to secure drawing pad to drafting table
Class Schedule:

The following is a tentative class schedule. Assignments and topics may vary somewhat during the course of the semester.

August
Aug. 24 – First day of class. Handouts and instructions
Mon 29 – Line Variation & Gesture
Wed 31 – Gesture & Contour

September
Mon 5 – HOLIDAY no class
Wed 7 – Intuitive Perspective & Contour
Mon 12 – Intuitive Perspective/Grid
Wed 14 – Positive/Negative Shape
Mon 19 – Measurement
Wed 21 – Measurement/Proportion
Mon 26 – The Golden Mean
Wed 28 – Cross Contour

October
Mon. 3 – 1st Portfolio Due - Critique
Wed. 5 – Foreshortened Circles
Mon 10 – Linear Perspective
Wed 12 – Linear Perspective
Mon 17 – Outdoor spaces
Wed. 19 – MID-TERM SKETCHBOOKS DUE
Mon 24 – Value/Chiasocuro
Wed 26 – Value/Chiasocuro
Mon 31 – Value/Chiasocuro

November
Wed 2 – 2nd Portfolio Due - Critique
Natural Form
Mon 7 – Natural Form
Wed 9 – Historical Perspective
Mon 14 – Composition
Wed 16 – Composition
Mon 21 – Expressive Drawing
Wed 23 - No Class
Mon 28 – Final Assignment
Wed 30 – Final Assignment

December
Mon 5 - Last Day of Class – Critique
3rd Portfolio Due
Final Sketchbooks Due