



COURSE OUTLINE

ART 104
Course Number

Life Drawing
Course Title

3
Credits

1/4
Lecture/Laboratory Hours

Catalog Description:

Experience in drawing the human figure and developing an understanding of form, volume, structure, and anatomy. Exercises include gesture drawing and sustained poses. Various media are used.

Prerequisites: ART 102

Corequisites: none

Required texts/recommended materials:

- Drawing board and clips -- large enough for an 18 x 24 pad
- 18 x 24 newsprint pad (rough)
- 18 x 24 drawing pad (heavy white paper with moderate texture)
- 19x25 gray pastel paper; Canson Mi-tientes (as needed)
- Pencils; full range of pencils, woodless, graphite crayon
- Charcoal; Vine and compressed; soft
- Kneaded eraser
- Conte crayon; black, white; soft
- Higgins brand india ink (waterproof)
- Brushes for india ink
- Nathan Goldstein. *Figure Drawing: the Structure, Anatomy & Expressive Design of Human Form*, 7th Edition

Last revised: 2011

Course Instructors:

Kyle Stevenson, ext. 3836, Y. Fiks 3543, P. Mordetsky

Course goals

- Develop perception of a 3-dimensional human form in space and then translate those perceptual cues into line and tone.
- Execute short and sustained drawings of a model throughout semester.
- Implement line, mass, contour and value in drawings.
- Acquire skills to represent the human figure in accurate proportion.
- Explore human anatomy and proportion through various media and techniques.
- Investigate the representation of the figure throughout Art History.

General Education objectives

- Develop foundational skills and techniques for drawing the figure
- Critique and analyze drawings using appropriate artistic vocabulary and criteria
- Evaluate and discuss visual and conceptual ideas

Units of study in detail

Unit I: Introduction to the Figure; Gesture Drawing

Learning Objectives

- Identify and execute various approaches to gesture drawing
- Visually analyze the figure and its components
- Describe and discuss ways of seeing as they relate to figure drawing

Unit II: Proportion and Measuring Techniques

Learning Objectives

- Comprehend and apply general principles of proportion in figure anatomy
- List, select and implement various techniques for measuring proportion
- Apply principles of gesture to proportionate figure drawings
- Isolate and address potential problems in sighting the figure

Unit III: Simplification and Mark Making

Learning Objectives

- Analyze the figure into component shapes and planes
- Apply various simplification and reduction techniques
- Assess and implement effective media and mark making approaches
- List, assess, and imitate various classical and contemporary masters

Unit IV: Creating Volume with Line and Value

Learning Objectives

- Implement various media and techniques used for creating volume
- Examine the concepts of mass and volume as they relate to light and tone
- Integrate concepts of shape and plane with mass, volume and value
- List, assess and imitate various classical and contemporary masters in approaches to volume and tonal value
- Evaluate and justify approaches in shifting emphasis and focus

Unit V: Basic Anatomical Structure

Learning Objectives

- Identify major muscle groups and bone structures
- Illustrate ideal proportions and apply figure drawings
- Apply anatomical structure in accordance with basic proportions to drawing (?)

Unit VI: Creating Movement and Describing Environment

Learning Objectives

- Use line and design elements to imply motion and drama
- Develop spatial relationships between figure and environment
- Assess and apply perspective to figure and environment
- List and summarize basic historical developments in approaches to figure drawing

Unit VII: Mixed and Nontraditional Media

Learning Objectives

- Combine media to make new approaches to drawing
- Evaluate and exploit the unique characteristics of various experimental media
- Discover new approaches to drawing using existing media

Evaluation of student learning.

The student's successful achievement of the course objectives will be evaluated through the use of the following tools:

- Mid-term and final portfolios of student drawings done in class over the course of the semester. A strong portfolio will have a specified number of drawings done in a variety of techniques that have been covered throughout the semester. Each drawing will demonstrate mastery of its particular medium and mastery of figure drawing in general. In a strong portfolio it will be evident that the student took meticulous care in following directions and building a clean, professional presentation.
- Active participation in class critiques and discussions. A successful participant contributes constructively to discussions and is willing to listen to and consider new or unfamiliar ideas. Attendance requirements are a major part of class participation. More than two absences over the course of the semester will negatively affect the student's grade.
- Successful completion of outside of class projects. Specific projects are designed to be extended examinations of issues addressed in class.

Evaluation Tools

Portfolios

Outside projects

Class participation

Percentage of Grade

50%

40%

10%

Academic Integrity Statement:

Students are expected to comply with the college-wide requirements for academic integrity. Mercer County Community College is committed to Academic Integrity—the honest, fair, and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud or deception. This implies that students are expected to be responsible for their own work. Presenting another individual's work as one's own and receiving excessive help from another individual will qualify as a violation of Academic Integrity. The entire policy on Academic Integrity is located in the Student handbook and is found on the college website (http://www.mccc.edu/admissions_policies_integrity.shtml).