

DRAWING STUDIO

ART 2353C

SPRING 2026 | 3 credits

Monday + Wednesday | Period 8 - 10 | 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Studio Room: FAD 101

INSTRUCTOR:

Maria Arrieta (she/her/hers)

Email: ma.arrieta@ufl.edu

Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Development of drawing, design, philosophical, and critical skills for making observational and expressive works in drawing media.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Through individual and collaborative projects, exercises and sketchbook research, students participating in this class will be able to:

- Accurately represent perceptions in 2D format
- Make informed choices in representation to promote the communication of content
- Apply knowledge of historic and contemporary sources in the development of content
- Use drawing and design skills to visually communicate abstract concepts
- Make informed choices in drawing tools and materials
- Apply a visual vocabulary of marks to achieve expressive outcomes
- Embody in critique uses of representation and translation through historic and contemporary precedents
- Describe one's own philosophy of drawing
- Critique works based on technical, aesthetic, and philosophical considerations
- Be conversant in the embeddedness of drawing in all art practices

SKILL SETS

- Develop a full range of drawing skills and vocabulary of mark-making
- Accurate perceptual drawing
- Develop a thematic body of drawings
- Knowledge and application of 2D design principles
- Able to make informed choices about drawing tools and materials
- Develop critical vocabulary and research skills
- Develop understanding of the relationship between the history of art and contemporary art practice

MAJOR TOPICS

- Elements of Drawing: line, shape, volume, value, space, texture, composition
- Principles of Art: balance, proportion, rhythm, emphasis and unity
- Drawing Practices: contemporary, historical
- Philosophies of Drawing
- Drawing Media: traditional, contemporary technologies
- Critical Conversations about Drawing

COURSE CALENDAR

*All assignment descriptions and due dates will be posted on canvas.

*Calendar is subject to change

E-learning/Canvas: Includes announcements, weekly calendar and due dates, project/sketchbook assignments, course materials/readings, office hours/class zoom links.

WEEK #1 January M/12 &W/14	Introduction. Review class syllabus. In-Class Drawing: 30-minute drawing, Still Life Sketchbook #1: Visual Chronicles
WEEK #2 January W/21 *UF Holiday M/19	In Class Drawing: Gesture, Contour, Cross Contour, Positive and Negative shapes Sketchbook #2: Line, Mass and Scribble Gesture
WEEK #3 January M/26 & W/28	Portfolio Drawing#1: Cross Contour Tree Sketchbook #3: Line, Mass, Contour and Scribble Gesture
WEEK #4 February M/2 & W/4	Critique: Cross Contour Tree In Class Drawing: Analyzing positive and negative space Sketchbook #4: Value Scales (1 charcoal, 1 in graphite)
WEEK #5 February M/9 & W/11	In Class Drawing: Glass and Fabric/ charcoal toned paper and other exercises Sketchbook #5: Out of Class Drawing; Composition/thumbnailed sketches/using a viewfinder
WEEK #6 February M/16 &W/18	In Class Drawing: Perspective Portfolio Drawing #2: Perspective: Outdoor Courtyard (in class and homework) Sketchbook #6: Experimenting with linear perspective
WEEK #7 February M/23 & W/25	Critique: Perspective In Class Drawing: Exploring Surface, Texture, Materiality Sketchbook #7: Texture and Light
WEEK #8 March M/2 & W/4	In Class Drawing Portfolio Drawing #3: Value, Texture, Light (Fur and Bone Drawings)
WEEK #9 March M/9 &W/11	Critique: Fur and Bone Drawings In Class Drawing: Diagonal Energy Still Life and other exercises Begin research on artists list for final exploring the series project
SPRING BREAK	
WEEK #10 March M/23 & W/25	Portfolio Drawing #4: Illuminated Self Portrait Sketchbook #8: studies on body & facial features
WEEK #11 March M/30 & April W/1	Critique: Illuminated Self Portrait In Class Drawing: ink paper bags/atmospheric perspective Portfolio Drawing #5: Dynamic Tension/Atmospheric Perspective- The Jungle Drawing/Sketchbook #9
WEEK #12 April M/6 & W/8	In Class Drawing: The Jungle Critique: The Jungle Begin Portfolio Drawing #6-8: Approaching the Series (in-class and homework)

WEEK #13 April M/13 & W/15	Portfolio Drawing #6-8: Approaching the Series (in-class and homework) DUE M/13: Sketchbook #8: Research for final series project
WEEK #14 April M/20 & W/22	Portfolio Drawing #6-8: Approaching the Series (in-class and homework) Critique: Exploring The Series Mandatory Clean-up
WEEK #15 FINALS WEEK April M/27 & W/29	All final work and portfolio PDF uploads are due on canvas (due dates on e-learning)

TEXTBOOKS

Course reading materials will be available on E-learning or distributed in studio. No textbook is to be purchased.

MATERIALS

Below is a list of supplies you will need to purchase as soon as possible.

Quantity, Materials

1-2, 18 X 24 Strathmore Drawing Pad -white	1, large Kneaded Eraser
1, 18 X 24 Newsprint Pad	1, Tri-eraser w/refill
5 sheets, 22 x 30" Stonehenge Paper- White	1, large Art gum eraser
(optional) 1-2 sheets, 30 X 40" Stonehenge Paper – White	1, Artist Tape 1/2"
2 packs, Compressed Charcoal	1, X-acto knife and blade refill
2 packs, Vine Charcoal - Soft	1, Long Metal Ruler
1 pack, Vine Charcoal - Medium	1, Workable Spray Fixative
1 pack, Vine Charcoal – Hard	1, Pencil Sharpener
1 medium Charcoal Pencil	4-6, large bull clips
1 pack, Stick of Alpha Color – White	1, Portfolio for Transporting/Storing Drawings (24 x 36" or larger)
1 pack, Alpha Color Conte Crayon, Sepia	1, Box for drawing materials
1, Faber 12 Pencil Kit	
1, Black China Marker	Optional:
1, Water soluble Sketch Pencil 4b	Any other drawing media you would like to experiment with in some of the open sketchbook assignments.
1, Pelikan India Ink	A Tube for transporting and storing 30" or larger drawings
1, #4 Bamboo Brush	
1, medium Tortillions 5/16"	
1, Ball point pen	
1, Ebony Pencil	

Supplies may be purchased at:

- Dick Blick: <https://www.dickblick.com>
- Utrecht Art Supplies: <https://www.utrechtart.com>
- Jerry's Artarama: <http://www.jerrysartarama.com/>
- Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/>
- Michael's: 3644 SW Archer Rd, Gainesville, FL 32608, <http://www.michaels.com>
- SoMa Art Media Hub: 435 S Main St, Gainesville, FL 32601

EVALUATION

Work completed in Drawing Studio will be graded on specific criteria defined by individual project goals. However, all projects will be graded on their success in the following areas: **concept development, excellent design decisions, craftsmanship, risk-taking, experimentation, ambition, and meeting deadlines.** These same guidelines apply to the sketchbook which must be finished within the specified deadlines.

The course grade for each student will be evaluated on the basis of:

- The completion and success of all in class and out of class exercises and drawings
- Completion of all assigned readings and discussions
- Attendance
- Participation in all assigned activities
- Research – the conceptual tools you employ to inform your practice
- Technical competence, craft, and inventive use of materials
- Presentation – all work should be presented in a finished and professional manner
- Effort, hard work, and a diligent, consistent effort toward excellence
- Active participation and discussion

75% Projects and Assignments

60%	In class exercises and drawings
15%	Final Portfolio - High quality, well cropped and well labeled photographs of all drawing projects are expected in addition to submission of actual drawings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes will include exercises and/or work on more developed drawings that may occur over several class periods. • Final Portfolio consists of 8 drawing projects. High quality photographs, no smaller than 1920 x 1920 pixels, and labeled (StudentLastName_Draw1_.jpg) will also be submitted on canvas.

15% Sketchbook

15%	Sketchbook – Homework projects and individual artist research on contemporary drawing are due weekly at the beginning of class. Weekly exercises will be posted on e-learning/canvas.
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10% Participation

10%	Participation includes attendance, arriving at studio on time ready to work, with materials in hand, conscientious studio clean up, following health and safety guidelines, and active participation in critiques and class discussions. *Participation grades will be determined and submitted on canvas at midterm and then once more at the end of the semester.
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GRADING

Letter Grade and Corresponding Grade Points

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E	WF	I	NG	S-U
4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	.67	0	0	0	0	0

Specific criteria for grading include **adherence to the assignment parameters, research/studio practice, concept development, formal resolution, and craft/presentation**. Late projects will not be accepted.

Project grades in this course are considered in the following way:

A 4.0 Exceptional work, all criteria of assignment have been surpassed in a distinguished manner and solutions to problems presented exhibit a depth of understanding. In addition, students are engaged in exceptional studio practice, which includes active research, looking up artists recommended, asking relevant questions about other artists' works or ideas, and being thoroughly engaged in the course of content.

A- 3.67 Well-presented, superior work: all criteria of assignment were surpassed in a distinguished manner (including exceptional studio practice highlighted above). Minimal improvements could be made to the project overall.

B+ 3.33 Very good work: all criteria of assignment were surpassed; minor changes could be considered and executed to bring piece together and studio practice was exceptional.

B 3.0 Very good work: above average solutions and clear potential. Most criteria of assignment were surpassed with some improvements to be made. Execution was well done. Studio practice during the project was commendable.

B- 2.67 Good work: most criteria of assignment were met. Work showed promise with a few significant improvements to be made. Studio practice was adequate.

C+ 2.33 Slightly above average: work, most of the criteria of the assignment were met. The work is not yet a unified whole or cohesive statement, yet effort was made. Studio practice was adequate but could be more reflective and thoughtful.

C 2.0 Average work: the assignment directions were followed, and the requirements were met in a relatively routine way. Slippage in levels of craft, originality and presentation-studio practice was adequate, but could be more reflective and thoughtful.

C- 2.67 Slightly below average work: the assignment directions were followed, and the requirements were minimally met, but there is much room for developing concepts further. The level of craft and skills and depth of idea development need to be improved. There is some evidence of studio practice, but the quality and quantity are lacking.

D+ 1.33 Below average work: an attempt to solve the problem was made, but there is much room for improving skills and developing your concepts further. The criteria of the assignment are barely met. Basic craftsmanship skills have been neglected and there is a lack of breadth and depth of idea development. There is minimal evidence of studio practice, but the quality and quantity are lacking.

D 1.0 Inadequate, below average work: the requirements of the assignment are not addressed. The execution of the work is careless and represents an incomplete effort. Work is substandard. There is little or no evidence of studio practice.

D- .67 Unacceptable work and effort: the requirements of the assignment are not addressed. The execution of the work is careless and represents an incomplete effort. Work is substandard. There is little or no evidence of studio practice.

E 0 Unacceptable work and effort: the work submitted is inadequate; the requirements of the problem are not addressed. The piece represents carelessness and/or incomplete effort. No evidence of studio practice. Work is substandard. Or the assignment was not submitted.
For more information: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx> Students must earn a grade higher than C- to earn credit toward their major.

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ATTENDANCE

As a studio course, your attendance and active participation are required. Students are expected to attend all classes. You are required to arrive on time, work, and participate for the full duration of the scheduled class period. Full participation includes showing completed work during all scheduled critiques and actively participating by sharing ideas and commentary about your work and that of your peers. Unexcused absences will result in lower participation grades.

University Attendance Policy: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

LATE WORK

All projects, reading responses, and research projects must be completed on time for full credit. Due dates are announced in class and posted on canvas.

- Late work is not accepted (unless with prior approval from instructor due to an excused absence).
- If the timeline states that a project is due at the beginning of class, turning it in at the end or after class is considered late.
- You must have work finished before the start of class on critique days or your work will not be critiqued.
- It is the student's responsibility to turn in all work on time.

COURSE COMMUNICATION

Students must check their school email accounts regularly and the E-Learning course site. Students are responsible for any information, deadlines, and updates emailed to their UF email accounts. The instructor will take care to answer emails within a 24-hour period.

CELL PHONES AND OTHER DEVICES

Avoid distraction by putting away all devices before entering the classroom. Students may not use headphones during class time.

LOCKERS AND STORAGE

The SAAH is not responsible for items in lockers. Please watch for posted signs on lockers regarding their use. Each student must share a locker with three students. You are responsible for keeping the locker form always attached to your lockers. Lockers will be cleaned out at the end of each semester. When storing materials, you must write your name on everything with a black marker, the course you are in and the instructor's name. The SAAH is not responsible for items left in classrooms.

STUDIO USE

Please read and respect studio use guidelines posted in classrooms. Do not pour solvents down sinks. Fixative must be sprayed in the FAC 2nd Floor spray booth * NO exceptions. *Each student is responsible for assisting in studio clean-up. Your instructor will assign you a duty at the end of each class. The classroom should be organized at the end of each class 10 minutes prior to the beginning of the next class with the help of all students enrolled in the course. No food or open drink containers are allowed in the studio.

SHARED STUDIO

Always leave the studio clean. Regardless of the condition you find it in, we request that you leave it clean for the next person. Remember to place all work in progress on the storage shelves. Leave the work tables clear and clean. This is a shared workspace, and we all need to be diligent together to keep it an immaculate and productive environment.

HAZARDOUS WASTE SATELLITE ACCUMULATION

SA+AH facilities have an area designated for art materials/hazardous waste pickup. This area should NOT be used for art making. Bins and storage containers utilized in this area should NEVER be moved or used for any other purpose. When in doubt about the safety or disposal of your art materials, please speak with faculty. A Handbook of Hazardous Wastes Disposal, Health and Safety is posted in the studio for consultation as well.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA - ACADEMIC POLICIES AND RESOURCES

All links to UF Academic Policies and Campus Resources can be found at: <https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>