**Course Syllabus**

ART 7: Beginning Drawing

Summer 2016

Monday - Thursday: 8:00am - 10:15am

**Instructor**

Kevin Bowman

Email: kevin.bowman@reedleycollege.edu

**Course Description**

***ART 7*** is a beginning level drawing course which is focused on the development of fundamental methods of drawing as well as general study of the elements of art and the principles of design. Issues related to observational drawing, representation, abstraction and personal expression will be addressed. Content includes work from still life, live models and outside subject matter, media use of pencil, charcoal and ink. Work outside of regular class time required.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

The goals of this course are as follows:

**1.** Students will develop drawings using methods of observation-based pictorial representation.

**2.** Students will develop drawings with an emphasis on dynamic compositional structures.

**3.** Students will develop an awareness of historical and contemporary drawing styles and concerns.

**4.** Students will develop the ability to objectively criticize one’s own artwork as well as the artworks of others by developing awareness of reasons, methods, and standards for critical evaluation.

**5.** Students will develop a vocabulary of terminology relevant to understanding art, drawing and the process of critical evaluation.

**Implementation**

Class time will be divided between lectures and demonstrations, in-class drawing sessions, out-of-class homework assignments and critique discussions. Throughout the semester we will study the work of historical and contemporary artists with particular focus on the use of line, value, texture, shape, and space as tools to describe form. Homework assignments will further investigate the concepts addressed in class.

***Projects/ Exercises:***

The primary work in this class will consist of visual exercises and problem solving in the form of creative homework projects and in-class drawing sessions. These will be described in detail throughout the course and will be performed on a “deadline” basis. Due dates for these projects will be provided with each individual project description.

***Sketchbook:***

Students will maintain a sketchbook as a major part of their work in the course. A sketchbook is a very important tool for artists to record creative ideas. These ideas may be recorded visually or verbally. Both methods will strengthen the artist’s work by providing the initial ideas for artwork, clarifying concept, resolving technical/formal considerations, and serving as a reminder of the artist’s thoughts and ideas. Vocabulary terms should be recorded in the sketchbook.

***The sketchbook represents an ongoing project which plays a significant part in every other project in this class. It must be brought to class every session without exception.***

***Class Discussion/ Critiques:***

Announced class critiques will be held throughout the course to stimulate thinking about the creative process and visual communication. Projects should be ready for review and students should be prepared to offer and receive constructive criticism.

***Late Homework Projects:***

Projects that are not turned in by the deadline will receive an automatic one letter grade reduction. It should be noted, however, that a project not turned in by the deadline will not automatically be accepted if it is turned in later. Simply not being finished is not reason enough to receive an extension. The work must show significant progress towards completion at the time of the deadline before an extension will be given. At that time, a new deadline will be set. Students who cannot meet these criteria will receive a “0" for that project.

***Mid-Term Review, Mid-Term Exam and Final Exam:***

Each student will have a one-on-one review with the instructor at Mid-Term to evaluate their progress in the class to that point. ***This Mid-Term review will require the student to bring to class all In-Class Drawings, the Sketchbook, and all Homework Projects assigned up to that point.***

Written exams will be held at mid-term and at the final exam meeting. These exams will cover terminology and concepts covered in the course.

**Grades**

***Grading Scale***

A 1000 – 900 points

B 899 – 800 points

C 799 – 700 points

D 699 – 600 points

F 599 or fewer points

***In-Class Drawings*** – 300 points (10 points per session)

***Sketchbook*** – 200 points

***Homework Projects*** – 400 pts (100 points per Project)

***Midterm Exam*** – 50 points

***Final Exam*** – 50 points

***Total Points Possible*** ***- 1000 points***

***Grading Criteria***

The following criteria will be considered in determining the student’s grade:

**1.** Demonstrated understanding of the concepts presented.

**2.** Demonstrated improvement in the skills and techniques introduced.

**3.** Demonstrated attention to craftsmanship and presentation.

**4.** Consistency of effort towards assignments and exercises.

**5.** Quality of contribution to the class; willingness to communicate, share ideas, and participate in critiques and discussions.

**6.** Attendance. See below.

***Attendance and Preparedness***

Mandatory. Students are expected to attend class, to be on time, to remain in class for the entire session, and to be prepared with necessary materials and assignments. Students are allowed three absences for the duration of the course. Any absences beyond three will result in the lowering of the student’s final grade at a rate of one letter grade for every absence beyond the third absence.

***Any combination of 3 tardies or early departures or unpreparedness = 1 absence***

***Grading Scale***

1. The student who earns an “**A**” does consistently excellent work. The depth of research, amount of growth, and personal involvement exceed expectations of a student at this level. Technique, craftsmanship, and expressiveness are generally superior. The student has strong work habits and assumes a responsible and productive role in classroom discussions and criticism. The student meets all class and departmental obligations in a timely manner.
2. The quality of the work of the student earning a “**B**” is consistently above adequate work, showing comprehension, craftsmanship, and growth. The student has good work habits and makes an adequate commitment to assignments, exercises and discussions.
3. A grade of “**C**” is earned by doing consistently adequate work. The student makes an adequate commitment to assignments, exercises and discussions.
4. A grade of “**D**” shows less than adequate improvement, and inconsistent commitment to the assignments, exercises, and discussions.
5. A grade of “**F**” indicates consistently inadequate performance and a failure to meet the expectations of a student at this level.

***Reworking Homework Projects*:**

If a student is unsatisfied with a grade earned, they may rework that assignment as many times as desired. Only the highest grade earned on each project will be considered as a part of the final course grade. This only applies to projects which meet the initial deadline.

***Note:*** *Reworking goes beyond minor cosmetic changes to an existing artwork, and often requires a completely fresh start, based on knowledge acquired in classroom discussion and advice from the instructor.*

***Final Grades***

Grades for the course will be determined in view of the criteria above with each project and/or quiz being equal in value for purposes of determining the final grade.

***Incompletes***

Students should consult the Reedley College General Catalog regarding the purpose and availability of an “incomplete” grade. An “incomplete” grade will be issued only in extreme circumstances requiring extended absence from the class at crucial times in the learning process. It will be issued only to a student who has shown diligence and responsibility, and who has completed a significant amount of the course work. When an “incomplete” is given it is the student’s responsibility to note the deadline set by the instructor for completion of the work required. It is also the student’s responsibility to schedule meetings with the instructor for assessment of progress in the course. A final consultation must take place by the set deadline or the instructor will issue the grade which would have been earned if the “incomplete” had not been issued.

**Course Drop Policy**

It is the student’s responsibility to drop the course for any reason at any time.

**Students with Disabilities**

If you have a disability for which you may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Disability Resource Center (559-730-3805) as early as possible in the semester.

**Health and Safety**

Because it is important for any artist to understand and respect both the potential hazards of the materials an artist works with and the environment an artist works in, students will receive instruction on safety concerns throughout the course.

**Class Policy on Headphones and Cell Phones**

Headphones may not be worn during class time. Cell phones should be set to silent. If you should need to be available to receive calls or texts during class, this should be discussed with the instructor in advance. Students who disregard this policy will be asked to leave class for the session and considered as absent.

**Materials List**

Sketchbook, 9" X 12"

Drawing Pad- 18” x 24” White Drawing Paper

Graphite Pencils (One each of 6B, 2B, and any “hard” 2H, 4H, or 6H, etc.)

Box of Medium Vine Charcoal

Kneaded Eraser

Vinyl/ Plastic Eraser

Roll of Masking Tape

One can of Aqua-Net hairspray or Spray Fixative

Micron Drawing Pen – Archival Black Ink (size 08, possibly some smaller sizes)

Bamboo Calligraphy Brush

Small Bottle of India Ink (water soluble)

Small containers for water (one or two)

18” (or longer) ruler

Portfolio Case

Drawing Board with clamps

**Recommended Texts**

***Drawing Essentials: A Guide to Drawing from Observation*** *by Deborah Rockman*

***Drawing: Space, Form, and Expression*** by Wayne Enstice and Melody Peters

***Drawing: A Contemporary Approach*** by Teel Sale and Claudia Betti

***A Guide to Drawing*** *by* Daniel Mendelowitz

***Drawing*** by Daniel Mendelowitz