



ART 2900

Division: Fine Arts

Department: Visual Art

Course: ART 2900

Title: Figure Drawing for Art Majors

Catalog Description:

This is a drawing class that builds upon skills developed in beginning drawing and which introduces the exploration of the human figure as subject matter. This exploration will include the study of the internal components (anatomical structure), as well as the external appearance and representation of the live human figure. A lab fee will be required.

General Education Requirements: N/A

Semesters Offered: Spring

Credit/Time Requirement: Credit: 3; Lecture: 3; Lab: 3

Clock/Hour Requirements: 0

Offered for Non-Credit: No

Prerequisites: Art 1110, Art 1120, and Biol 2150 or consent of instructor

Corequisites: N/A

Justification:

This course is an integral part of the art foundation curriculum for all visual arts programs in the country. Its primary goal is to provide a sound foundation in the visual representation and composition of the human figure. It is offered at every other higher education institution in the state as a core requirement during the first two years of study. Figure drawing is a very marketable skill; animation studios as well as graphic design firms stress the importance of this ability in their job searches. It will also be a complementary course to BIOL 2150 Human Anatomy for the Artist, offered to art majors through the Science Department. The human figure also reflects a major area of emphasis for one of the faculty members in the Department of Visual Art.

Similar courses are taught at the following two year, higher education institutions: Art 1410 Introduction to Life Drawing (Dixie State College), Art 2410 Advanced Life Drawing (Dixie State College), and Art 1260 Figure Drawing (Salt Lake Community College).

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- observe the human figure from life, execute a visual search and represent it as a two-dimensional drawing on paper
- recognize the components of a successful drawing and apply this knowledge to their work
- explore the physical characteristics of dry drawing media and be able to recognize and perform a drawing with each

- verbally articulate the work of their peers through critical analysis and discussion
- discover that figure drawing is a process of visual search in which to better understand themselves as well as the visual world around them
- value figure drawing as an important means of visual communication and self-expression.

Content:

This course will include:

- drawing from live male and female nude and/or half- draped models
- drawing Demonstrations of the human figure
- exercises designed to develop spatial skills by training the mind to consciously recognize angle, size, position, and shape relationships
- development of stronger eye-brain-hand coordination
- schematic and diagrammatic drawing explorations of the male and female human anatomy
- study of how light affects the human form and how to communicate this on a two-dimensional surface utilizing value relationships
- the study of various drawing mediums and traditional applications of each
- drawing the human form and skeletal structure
- two-dimensional visual structure and presentation
- slide lectures and discussions
- media and stylistic experimentation.

General Education Outcomes:

1) Read effectively, constructively, and critically.

Each student will be required to read the textbook and be able to retrieve information to be tested through written exams and direct application of this knowledge into their own drawings.

3) Speak effectively in a variety of contexts.

Students will be expected to participate in verbal critiques of their own work and the work of their peers. This will include verbal articulation of anatomical terminology in their responses.

7) Apply scientific reasoning to a variety of contexts.

Students will research and gain a working understanding of the anatomical structure (muscular and skeletal systems) of the human figure. This scientific knowledge will be directly applied to their observational drawings, aiding in their ability to accurately represent the human body. Students will develop a working knowledge and vocabulary of the human figure and its components. Both of these goals will be achieved by in class drawing from life, out-of-class muscle and skeletal drawings, as well as investigating historical and contemporary artists, their working processes and achievements in figure drawing.

9) Respond with informed sensitivity to an artistic work or experience.

Each student who has completed this course should be able to look at any figure drawing and respond to it subjectively and objectively to appreciate it for its formal and conceptual qualities.

Key Performance Indicators:

Each student will be evaluated on:

- weekly in-class exercises to evaluate how well students incorporate concepts taught: 20% of the final grade
- weekly out-of-class drawings assigned to evaluate how well the student can apply what they have learned outside of class instruction: 20% of the final grade
- figure drawing analyses: 10% of the final grade
- final and mid-term drawings and quizzes: 50% of the final grade.

Representative Text and/or Supplies:

- *Drawing From Life*, current edition, Clint Brown/Cheryl Mclean.
- Required materials include:
 - 18 X 24 drawing pad
 - compressed charcoal
 - pencils (6B,4B,2B,H,HB,2H)
 - charcoal pencils
 - fixative
 - Conte crayons
 - kneaded eraser
 - click eraser
 - X-acto knife
 - matte board
 - masking tape
 - box
 - foam core
 - drawing board

Optimum Class Size: 12

Maximum Class Size: 20

Signatures:

I hereby submit this course syllabus:

Adam Larsen, MFA, Associate Professor

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Visual Art Department:

Brad Taggart, MFA, Assistant Professor, Chair

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Fine Arts Division:

Vance Larsen, MM, Associate Professor, Dean

I have discussed the need for library resources related to this class with the person submitting the syllabus:

Lynn Anderson, MLIS, Technical Services Librarian (Main Campus)

Michelle Olsen, MLS, Campus Librarian (Richfield Campus)