

San José State University
Department of Art and Art History
Art 158 Sec 1, Class#24620– Contemporary Issues in Drawing
Spring 2017

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Office Hours: T –TH – 6:00 – 7:00

Class Days/Time: T - TH 3:00 – 5:50

Classroom: ART #337

Prerequisites: Art, 24, 26, 55

Emergency Phone Numbers: Emergency; 911, Escort Service: 42222

1. - *“Individuals with Disabilities may contact the Disability Resource Center on Campus. 924 – 6000, Administration Building 101, for a variety of formats such as Braille, large print, sign interpreters, assistive listening devices, audio tapes, and accommodations for physical accessibility”*

Course Description

Contemporary issues in drawing will concentrate on cultivating an individual investigation of drawing, by employing traditional and experimental techniques, along with a philosophical and unique approach to the historical and aesthetic interpretation of drawing, in a modern and contemporary context.

A contemporary approach can be anything from simulating contemporary culture, challenging traditional boundaries, or formally interpreting ideas concerning narrative, figuration, or abstraction. Through a curiosity and openness to experimentation, each student will create a body of work over the course of the semester that will articulate their unique voice and individual development. Formal drawing approaches that can range from subtlety, directness and immediacy, while employing a diversity of methodology and mediums, will enhance the student’s growth in communication and invention through drawing.

Each student, in the process of employing these concerns to their practice, will create a body of work that expands their own philosophical and meaningful approach to the beauty of interpretive drawing, while stimulating curiosity, communication, and discussion amongst their peers.

The challenge of the course will be in self-direction and discipline, by developing a unique and personal body of work that is cohesive, personally expressive, and challenging.

The first month of the semester will require an investigation of small and large format considerations, which will be discussed in class the first day. All students are required to complete this first assignment before they begin their personal projects.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives:

- ✦ Students will be introduced to a wide range of media and materials, along with a variety of papers, size considerations regarding scale and continuity, edge, and that will be employed in further enhancing their ability in creating a unique and cohesive body of work.
- ✦ Each student will be responsible for their own personal investigation regarding the articulation and approach in developing a body of work over the semester, which could emphasize a narrative, figurative, abstract, or cultural interpretation of contemporary ideas.
- ✦ Students will develop an awareness and sensitivity to the process of drawing, and its core fundamental attributes, through a rigorous personal investigation that utilizes expression and risk-taking.

✦

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

SLO 1: Create a body of work that investigates a personal and communicative expression of ideas, theory, and formal application encompassing a wide range of issues articulated through contemporary drawing

SLO 2: Investigate and reflect on the practice of creating a body of work, in researching the historical and interpretive analysis of contemporary drawing, and its contextual place in communicating theoretical concepts and formal concerns through an individual practice.

SLO 3: Discovery of new approaches to drawing: through experimentation, risk-taking, and personal expression. Develop a personal voice and philosophical methodology in practice and transformation, through materials, scale considerations, and overall continuity demonstrated through a diverse openness to new challenges.

SLO 4: Communicate ideas through a written statement considering the body of work in a contemporary context, and reflect on the historical and cultural significance of the work analytically and theoretically. Articulate a personal vocabulary, both philosophically, and independently.

SLO 5: Upon completion of a body of work, stimulate discussion and debate, and engage in a critical analysis of the work within the context of drawing, in terms of a contemporary practice.

Required reading and homework assignments

Every week students will be asked to read a brief essay that will be found on the Art158 blog, which will be discussed, very briefly, along with a slide lecture, the following class at the beginning of class. Throughout the semester, students will be asked to write a few responses to these essays.

In addition, each student will be required to write an artist statement that reflects and articulates their individual approach to the body of work they produce over the course of the semester

The instructor will work closely with each student, on an individual basis, helping them form a relevant and cohesive analysis of their practice and voice.

Critiques

Every three weeks the class will engage in an informal group critique, which will hopefully ignite discussion, and form the basis for an ongoing critical and aesthetic interpretation of each student's ongoing work and process. These are meant to stimulate each artist in their development throughout the semester, and create a group dynamic that is essential for articulating response, philosophical inquiry, and interpreting each individual's approach to their practice.

Calendar (Schedule is subject to change)

Jan 26th – Introduction to class: Presentation and overview of Contemporary Drawing and Theory. Expectations set, and general outline of entire semester. Overview of materials and mediums explained.

Jan 31st, Feb 2nd – Informal group discussion of individual student pieces brought to class. Individual student meetings with instructor. Brief list of ideas and basic philosophy regarding potential investigation throughout the semester due at meetings.

Feb 7th, Feb 9th – Begin formal assignment concerning small and large format investigation.

Feb 14th, Feb 16th: Continue formal assignment concerning large and small format investigation.

Feb 21st, Feb 23rd: Brief discussion and slide overview of prior week's assigned essay. Finish formal assignment of small and large format work. Class critique Feb 23rd.

Feb 28th, Mar 2nd: Brief discussion and slide overview of prior week's assigned essay. Begin personal project, listed objectives and brief statement due in class Mar 2nd.

Mar 7th, 9th: Brief discussion and slide overview of prior week's assigned essay. Continued in class work.

Mar 14th, Mar 16th: Brief discussion and slide review of prior week's assigned essay. Continue in-class work. Group critique of progress concerning individual project and objectives.

Mar 21, Mar 23rd – Individual mid-term meetings with instructor.

March 28th, Mar 30th: Spring Break

Apr 4th - Brief discussion and slide review of prior week's assigned essay. Continued in class work.

Apr 6th: Brief discussion and slide review of prior week's assigned essay. Continue in-class work. Group critique.

Apr 11th, Apr 13th, Apr 18th: Brief discussion and slide review of prior week's assigned essay. Continue in-class work.

Apr 20th – Continue in-class work.

Apr 25th, Apr 27th – Continued in class work. Group Critique: Thursday April 27thnd, at beginning of class. Fourth essay due.

May 2nd – Continue in-class work.

May 4th – Continue in-class work.

May 9th, May 11th – Finish in-class work. Artist statement due. Final essay due.

May 16th, May 24th – Final class critiques. May 16th – 12:00 P.M. May 24th – 9:45 A.M

Classroom Protocol

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory and extremely important . Maintaining a level of seriousness and completing the course work is instrumental to success in the course.

Cell Phones: Students will turn their cell phones off or put them on vibrate mode while in class. They **will not** answer their phones or text in class.

IPODS and MP3 Players: Are allowed in class while drawing, but not during any lectures or critiques.

Requirements

Regular attendance and work during class time, along with participation in class critiques and discussions, is mandatory. All assignments must be handed in on time. Any assignments handed in late will be graded down a whole grade.

(Note: According to University policy F69-24, “Students attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per shall not be used as a crriterion for grading.”)

Grading

Grades will be determined by the following percentages:

Individual ongoing class practice, and cohesive body of work completed at the end of the semester – 80%

Required reading, essays, individual statement, and participation in class critiques – 20%

Grading breakdown:

4.0 – A	2.2 – 2.7 - C
3.7 – 4.0 – A-	2.0 – 2.2 – C-
3.5 – 3.7 – B+	1.7 – 2.0 – D
3.2 – 3.5 – B	0.0 – 1.7 - F
3.0 – 3.2 – B-	
2.7 – 3.0 – C+	

Materials to consider for Contemporary Issues in Drawing

A variety of different materials, papers, and approaches will be discussed on the first day of class, along with various stores for purchasing, and overall potential cost factor.

Students will decide what is appropriate for them in terms of their personal investigation throughout the semester.

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](#) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](#) web page located at

http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The [Late Drop Policy](#) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy](#), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](#) is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](#) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The [LARC website](#) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/>.

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. The [Peer Mentor Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/>