

**San Jose State University**  
**Department of Art and Art History**  
**ART 24, Section 05: Drawing I**

**Course and Contact Information**

**Instructor:** Léonie Guyer  
**Office Location:** Art 331  
**Email:** [leonie.guyer@sjsu.edu](mailto:leonie.guyer@sjsu.edu)  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays, 6-8 pm  
**Class Days/Time:** Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3-5:50 pm  
**Classroom:** Art 314

**Additional Information:**

- \* Email is generally the best method of contact outside office hours.
- \* Emergency: 911      Campus Escort: 42222
- \* Individuals with disabilities may contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC), Administrative Building 110, 408/ 924-6000, for a variety of formats such as Braille, large print, sign interpreters, assistive listening devices, audio tape and accommodations for physical accessibility.

For information about majors and minors in Art & Art History, for change of major/minor forms and a list of advisors: <http://www.sjsu.edu/art/> or the Art & Art History department office in ART 116, 408-924-4320, [art@sjsu.edu](mailto:art@sjsu.edu)

**Course Description**

Elements and principles of drawing. Studio practice emphasizing line, shape and light-dark used in visual art and design.

This class is an introduction for beginners to the basic methodologies and materials of drawing. The most fundamental art practice, drawing is a process of learning how to see. The course is structured with a focus on working from observation to develop visual awareness and an understanding of the basic elements of drawing: line, shape, form, space, value, volume, texture, pattern, composition, and scale.

Through studio assignments, lecture / demonstrations, critique, and individual research, students will develop their perceptive, drawing and critical thinking skills. The course will offer insight into art historical practices and introduce concepts related to contemporary drawing practice. Through the study and practice of drawing, students will develop a foundation for further creative investigation.

## Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

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

1. Create works in a wide range of media and materials, including but not limited to: charcoal, pencil and graphite, ink, various drawing tools, and a variety of papers that are instrumental in making drawing successful.
2. See and visually comprehend, specifically in relation to the process of drawing.
3. Understand and apply pictorial principles, including: the picture plane, compositional frameworks, and the overall design of pictorial space.
4. Demonstrate an awareness and sensitivity to the nature and importance of line, weight, form, volume, texture and pattern.
5. Discern the challenging applications of tone and value and demonstrate sensitivity to issues of light and space.
6. Employ drawing as an investigative process, in a variety of applications, and communicate their experiences through the act of drawing and practice.

## Course Requirements, Assignments and Final Examination

The structure of this course is one that encourages students to participate fully and take responsibility for their own learning experience. Think of the studio and class time as a laboratory, where you are encouraged to explore the concepts and challenges presented.

Students are required to maintain a portfolio of all work throughout the semester. Portfolios will be collected periodically for both evaluation and discussion. Participation in all critiques and discussions is required to pass this course. Students will complete a final drawing project in lieu of final examination.

All assignments must be handed in on time. Any assignments handed in late will be graded down. Deadlines are listed in the Course Schedule and will be posted on Canvas throughout the semester.

**Note:** The instructor reserves the right to alter assignments and change project due dates with sufficient notice to the students.

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

## Classroom Protocol

Attendance is required – due to the experiential nature of the course students are expected to attend all classes.

Students are expected to be punctual for class and actively engaged during all class meetings. Cell phones, Cell phones or other devices that detract from full attention should be turned off or silenced. Cell phones, laptops and other devices must be put away during class.

Students are responsible for knowing the assignments, due dates and necessary materials.

No food in class. Eat before class, or during our 15-minute break in the middle of class.

Students are responsible for cleaning up their work areas before leaving the classroom.

Excessive tardiness will affect grade.

**Note: Special circumstances** will be taken into consideration (e.g. illness, court appearance, death of relative).

## **Communication**

Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns regarding an assignment, your progress in class, or any other relevant topic. You may email me: [leonie.guyer@sjsu.edu](mailto:leonie.guyer@sjsu.edu) or make an appointment to meet during my office hours: Tuesdays 6-8 pm, Art 331.

**Note:** In the event that you must miss a class, it is advisable that you communicate with me in advance, directly or by email. It is your responsibility to find out what you have missed and how to catch up with the work (speak with me in class &/or during my office hours, etc.).

## **Determination of Grades / Grading Policy**

Your grade will be based on my assessment of your effort, attention to learning, development of skills throughout the semester, and participation in class. Other factors considered in grading: attitude (quality and quantity of your participation in work sessions and discussions) and your understanding of constructive criticism, as demonstrated by practical response to that criticism. Individual class drawings will be evaluated, but not letter-graded.

Grading determined as follows:

**Class Participation 10%**

**Studio Work 50%**

**Home Work 40%**

I will assign letter grades; letters correspond to numerical values as follows:

A+ = 97-100, A = 93-96, A- = 90-92, B+ = 87-89, B = 83-86, B- = 80-82, C+ = 77-79, C = 73-76, C- = 70-72, D+ = 67-69, D = 63-66, D- = 60-62, F = below 60

**NOTE:** University policy F69-24 states that “Students should 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 se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

## **Required Reading / Viewing**

Required readings and videos will be drawn from a variety of sources, including (but not limited to) critical writing, artists' writings/interviews, art periodicals, and reliable internet sources. These documents will be made available through handouts and on Canvas. In addition to assigned readings, a suggested reading list will be provided. Optional reading and viewing materials will be available through the Canvas course website.

## **Recommended Books:**

[The Natural Way to Draw](#) by Kimon Nicolaides

[Drawing. A Contemporary Approach](#) by Claudia Betti & Teel Sale

[The Art of Responsive Drawing](#) by Nathan Goldstein

## **Library Liaison**

Aliza Elkin is the Library Liaison for the Art & Art History Department. She welcomes students to contact her with research questions. Contact info: [aliza.elkin@sjsu.edu](mailto:aliza.elkin@sjsu.edu) (408) 808-2043 Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Also, SJSU Research Guides in Art and Visual Culture are available here: [libguides.sjsu.edu/art](http://libguides.sjsu.edu/art).

## **Art & Art History Department Image Database**

For your art research, you may also use the SJSU Art History and Visual Culture VRL Image Database. This is an excellent resource which you can access here: [http://arth.sjsu.edu/image\\_db/index.php](http://arth.sjsu.edu/image_db/index.php).

username: arth

password: to be given in class

## **Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

**University Policy S12-7**, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

“Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her.

You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class.

Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”

In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.

“Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

## **University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>”

## Materials List

Required materials:

Tool or tackle box (or Art Bin) for all your supplies

Paper Portfolio (you can purchase one or make one from cardboard)

Masonite Drawing Board with Bulldog Clips at least 20" x 26"

Graphite Pencils: 2H, HB, 2B, 4B, and 6B (recommended: Staedtler brand)

Charcoal: Soft Vine, Soft Compressed (Alphacolor), and 3B soft charcoal pencils

Black China Marker

Conte Crayons: Black and White 2B

Black Ink (recommended: Yasutomo Liquid Sumi Ink; note: Indian Ink, also known as Chinese Ink, also fine)

Bamboo Pens and Sumi Ink Brushes

Chamois Cloth

Blending Stomps

Masking Tape or Drafting Tape (one inch width, low tack)

Push Pins

Straight Edge (18" or 24")

Erasers: Staedtler Mars plastic (white), Kneaded, Magic Rub, Art Gum, and Pink pencil erasers (optional: Click eraser)

Metal Pencil Sharpener

Paper: 1 Tablet of White Charcoal Paper 18" x 24" (Strathmore 500)

1 smooth newsprint pad 18" x 24"

Multi purpose white drawing paper (single sheets) about 12

Single sheets of 22" x 30" Stonehenge paper – or comparable paper (for final project)

Overall estimated cost for entire semester: \$100

### Supplies Available at:

University Art, 456 Meridian Ave, San Jose

SJSU Bookstore, San Jose

Roberts Bookstore, 10th Street, San Jose

Flax Art & Design, Oakland, CA

Artist & Craftsman Supply, Berkeley and San Francisco and online: [www.artistcraftsman.com](http://www.artistcraftsman.com)

BLICK, various locations throughout the Bay Area and online: [www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com)

## ART 024, Section 05: Drawing I, Spring 2018, Course Schedule

The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments at her discretion; schedule is subject to change with fair notice.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/25/18	<b>Class Introduction:</b> syllabus review, materials demo <b>Assignment:</b> acquire all materials required for this course (see Materials List); review course materials (handouts)
2	1/30/18 2/01/18	<b>The Qualities of Line:</b> work from still-life set-up, explore the diverse qualities of line – thick, thin, light, dark, interrupted, fast, slow, sharp, soft, aggressive, delicate, implied, et. al. in an articulation of form, physical character, energy and presence
3	2/06/18 2/08/18	<b>Gesture drawing:</b> the gesture of things – mass gesture, line gesture, mass + line, scribbled line, sustained gesture
4	2/13/18 2/15/18	<b>Blind Contour drawing</b> <b>Cross Contour drawing</b>
5	2/20/18 2/22/18	<b>Continuous Line drawing and Organizational Line drawing</b> <b>Composition:</b> work from still life set-up, consider the organization of lines, forms and spaces within the picture plane; how does the surface of a drawing and pictorial space become activated through composition?
6	2/27/18 3/01/18	<b>Positive Shape / Negative Space:</b> work from set-up, explore the realm of shapes – shapes as subject and as elements of composition; how they interact and create space; symmetry and asymmetry; overlapping shapes; pattern; intro to wet media (ink w/ pen and brush)
7	3/06/18 3/08/18	<b>Value: Dynamics of Light and Dark</b> – work from still life set-up, explore value in relationship to light, structure and planes, volume, and space; chiaroscuro, high value contrast, limited value contrast, value scale
8	3/13/18 3/15/18	<b>Mid-term meetings – individual critiques</b> <b>Subtractive drawing</b>
9	3/20/18 3/22/18	<b>Perspective:</b> perceptual space, eye level and baseline, aerial / atmospheric, worm's eye-view, bird's eye-view; work from set-up of basic geometric forms (cubes, ellipses, etc.)
	3/27/18 3/29/18	<b>SPRING RECESS – NO CLASSES</b>
10	4/03/18 4/05/18	<b>Perspective:</b> linear - one-point, two-point, foreshortening; work from studio environment and adjacent spaces (corners, stairwells, windows, etc.)

11	4/10/18 4/12/18	<b>Memory drawings</b> – students draw each other <b>Guest Artist lecture (tba)</b>
12	4/17/18 4/19/18	<b>Texture:</b> how does the haptic (relating to or based on the sense of touch) relate to the visual? explore the role of texture in conveying physical character and presence by discovering and responding to various textures in the immediate environment
13	4/24/18 4/26/18	<b>Final Project: Tiny Object / Big Drawing</b> – explore how size and scale (for example, intimate, expansive) function in relationship to the experience, content and meaning of drawing
14	5/01/18 5/03/18	Continue work on final projects
15	5/08/18 5/10/18	<b>Critique</b>
16	5/18/18	<b>Final Class:</b> Friday May 18, 2:45-5 pm