

NCAL 402A: FUNDAMENTALS IN DRAWING FOR OLDER ADULTS

Foothill College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Effective Term:	Winter 2026
Units:	0
Hours:	3 lecture, 3 laboratory per week (72 total per quarter)
Degree & Credit Status:	Non-Degree-Applicable Non-Credit Course
Foothill GE:	Non-GE
Transferable:	None
Grade Type:	Non-Credit Course (Receives no Grade)
Repeatability:	Unlimited Repeatability

Student Learning Outcomes

- Apply proficient observational skills to create representational chiaroscuro drawings.
- Critique basic drawings using appropriate terminology, techniques, and assignment criteria.
- Demonstrate proficient skills in linear perspective drawing.

Description

This noncredit course is targeted towards older adults. In this beginning-level drawing course, students will analyze form and incorporate value, the concepts of light and shadow patterns, perspective, proportion, and composition in the practice of drawing.

Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Recognize and describe works of drawings which distinguish different types of lines
2. Analyze how artists use light and shadow to create depth of space by examining great works of drawing throughout history, including the progression of form and space
3. Examine the development of linear perspective through the study of historical and contemporary important works of drawing
4. Identify the various uses of texture and explain how texture is related to the overall meaning and purpose of the drawing
5. Compare great works in terms of composition and how the composition contributes to our perception and meaning of the drawing
6. Examine use of the content and context in great works of drawing in written format
7. Describe the use of drawing media throughout history, including how the use of different media results in establishing the overall expressive and conceptual meaning of the work
8. Evaluate and critique class drawing perceptual projects using relevant terminology in oral or written formats

9. Examine and describe contemporary developments, trends, materials, and approaches in drawing
10. Measure and draw proportions from observation

Course Content

1. History of line - contour, cross contour, and gesture
 - a. Analyze great works by artists, such as Dominique Ingres, Giovanni Battista Tiepolo, Richard Diebenkorn, Ellsworth Kelly, August Rodin, Frida Kahlo, Egon Schiele, Rapheal, Kathe Kollwitz, Leonardo Da Vinci, Rembrandt, Willem de Kooning, Franz Kline, Henri Matisse, Honore Daumier, Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo, Alberto Giacometti, David Hockney, and Shantell Martin
 - b. Application of the concepts of line in a drawing exercise
2. History of value
 - a. Analyze and application of shadow pattern concepts: form shadow, core shadow, cast shadow, halftone, highlight, and reflected shadow
 - b. Analyze chiaroscuro and great works by William Bailey, Henry Moore, Lucien Freud, Giorgio Morandi, Sidney Goodman, Walter Murch, Jasper Johns, George Seurat, Claudio Bravo, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Peter Paul Rubens, John Singer Sargent, Vincent Van Gogh, and Charles White
 - c. Application of the concepts of shadow and light to create the illusion of form in drawing exercise
3. History of linear perspective
 - a. Analyze great works by artists, such as Jacopo Bellini, Raphael, Albrecht Durer, Giorgio de Chirico, Edward Hopper, Leonardo da Vinci, and Stephen Wiltshire
 - b. Application of the concepts of linear perspective
 - i. One-point perspective
 - ii. Two-point perspective
 - iii. Foreshortening
4. Visual texture
 - a. Analyze great works by artists, such as Chuck Close, Jan van Eyck, Pablo Picasso, Max Ernst, Claudio Bravo, and Catherine O'Donnell
 - b. Application of the concepts of visual or invented drawn texture
5. Composition concepts
 - a. Analyze great works by such artists as Edward Hopper, Philip Pearlstein, Mary Cassatt, Wayne Thiebaud, Pablo Picasso, Paul Cezanne, Edgar Degas, Toulouse-Lautrec, and Rene Magritte
 - b. Application of asymmetrical balance, positive and negative space, directional lines, sighting, measuring, alignment, and movement in concept sketches or thumbnail sketches
6. Content and context
 - a. Analyze contemporary great works by contemporary artists, such as William Kentridge, Antonio Lopez Garcia, Joo Lee Kang, and Shantell Martin
 - b. Application and practice using metaphor, personal meaning, and symbolism in a drawing
7. Drawing media
 - a. Analyze great works of drawings by artists, such as Edgar Degas, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Jim Dine, and Peter Paul Rubens
 - b. Application and practice using traditional drawing media by various artists throughout history in drawing exercises
8. Critique

- a. Analyze and critique great works of drawings from history in written formats
- b. Examine and describe contemporary developments, trends, materials, and approaches in drawing artists, such as Cy Twombly

Lab Content

1. Assignments and exercises that explore a range of line applications, such as contour, cross contour, and gesture sketching
2. Assignments and exercises related to form, chiaroscuro, shading techniques-hatching, cross-hatching, and the additive and subtractive method of drawing
3. Assignments that use the application of linear perspective
4. Application of texture in a drawing exercise or assignment
5. Exercises that use compositional rules, such as asymmetrical balance, directional eye movement, visual weight, overlapping space, and problem-solving conceptual thumbnail sketches
6. Observation exercises that use measuring proportions, sighting, checking symmetry, and alignment techniques
7. Exercises use the application of drawing media and tools, such as traditional drawing media by various artists throughout history
8. Exercises that have students make drawing revisions or corrections
9. Critiques and evaluation of drawing assignments and exercises

Special Facilities and/or Equipment

1. Easel, drawing horse, or 24" x 36" table space for each student.
2. When taught via Foothill Global Access: ongoing access to computer with email software and capabilities; email address; JavaScript-enabled internet browsing software.

Method(s) of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

Portfolio review: each drawing will be evaluated for technical ability, craftsmanship, and personal creative and conceptual approaches
 Written or oral critiques
 Written essays, field-trip papers, or quizzes
 Written participation in lectures of historical and contemporary drawings
 Drawing revisions

Method(s) of Instruction

Methods of Instruction may include but are not limited to the following:

Lecture
 Discussion
 Electronic discussions/chat
 Laboratory
 Demonstration
 Critique

Representative Text(s) and Other Materials

Curtis, Brian. Drawing from Observation. 2009.

Dowalls, Jim. Drawing School: Fundamentals for the Beginner: A Comprehensive Drawing Course. 2018.

Aristides, Juliette. Beginning Drawing Atelier: An Instructional Sketchbook. 2019.

Sale, Teel. Drawing a Contemporary Approach. 2007.

Goldstein, Nathan. The Art of Responsive Drawing, 6th ed.. 2005.

Although these texts are older than the suggested "5 years or newer" standard, they remain seminal texts in this area of study.

Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments

Copy of a great works of charcoal drawing or contemporary drawing: research the artwork, the artist, the style, subject matter, content, and context; write an essay or paper describing the artwork; write a self critique describing the process of making an artist copy or study.

Discipline(s)

Art