

COURSE INFORMATION

BASIC DRAWING I / SPRING 2024 / ARTF 1302 / CRN: 20884

Class Location: Fox Fine Arts Center, Room A263

Class Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays, 11:30 AM-2:20 PM

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Marianna Olague

E-mail: mtolague@utep.edu

Office Hours: By appointment only

Office Location: Fox Fine Arts Center, Room 355

Virtual Office: Zoom via Blackboard

INSTRUCTOR INTRODUCTION

Marianna Olague holds a Master of Fine Arts in painting from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. She received her Bachelor of Arts from UTEP in 2016. Olague has exhibited in museums and galleries across the United States including in Los Angeles, New York, and Washington, DC. Olague was awarded a Chinati Foundation Residency in 2021 and was a finalist in the 2022 Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition at the Smithsonian Museum's National Portrait Gallery. Olague currently exhibits with David Klein Gallery in Detroit.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Basic Drawing I is the first course in a sequence of foundation level drawing classes structured for the needs of art majors who plan to pursue a career in art. This studio course emphasizes basic aesthetic and technical drawing skills that enable students to represent three-dimensional objects in an environment. Topics to be covered include perspective, eye-hand coordination, correct proportions and scale, positive and negative space, as well as compositional structure and effectiveness. Contour line and value are explored as compositional devices and tools to build volume, mass, and illusionistic space. In this course students will be introduced to methods of using traditional black and white drawing media such as pencil, charcoal, and ink. Drawings will be developed based on three-dimensional sources such as still-lives, architectural interiors and exteriors, landscapes, the human figure, etc. Students will be given specific drawing assignments for both in class and out of class work.

The majority of class time will be spent working on drawings, with demonstrations and lectures given to provide examples relative to coursework. Critiques involving the entire class, or one-on-one critiques with the instructor, will be held regularly for comparative evaluation and critical feedback. **This course requires additional time be spent outside of class for completion of all assignments.**

COURSE PREREQUISITE INFORMATION

No prerequisites are required as this is the first drawing course offered within the structure of the foundations for a BFA or BA degree in Art. It is recommended that art majors take ARTF 1301 Basic Design I concurrently with ARTF 1302 Basic Drawing I.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- development of technical and aesthetic drawing skills needed to render three-dimensional forms and space in a convincing illusionistic manner
- develop expertise in working with a variety of black and white drawing media
- gain an understanding of the importance of aesthetic issues such as composition and the formal characteristics of line, shape, value and space in creating visual interest in a drawing.
- develop the ability to think and speak critically about artworks through participation in critiques and introduction to art terminology
- develop an outstanding work ethic and the commitment necessary to succeed in achieving the above stated goals and objectives

COURSE OUTCOMES

- gain experience and competency in working with basic black and white drawing materials
- be able to effectively use line, value, shape, proportion, perspective and foreshortening to create convincing illusionistic drawings of three-dimensional forms and space
- develop an awareness of the aesthetic aspect of drawing through the creative use of the visual art elements and application of compositional principles in artwork
- acquire a basic knowledge of art terminology needed to communicate ideas related to drawing

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Basic Drawing I (CRN: 20884) is a studio course that meets in-person Mondays & Wednesdays from 11:30 am to 2:20 pm. You must be present in class, face-to-face, for a total of 6 hours each week. This is not an online course, but you will use Blackboard to submit your assignments as well as to check for important announcements, deadlines, and updates. You will submit your drawings on Blackboard in the form of .jpg image files, but also present the work in person for Critique. Assignments are always due both in-person and online on Critique day. Lectures, demos, and crits will be interwoven during class time. Halfway through each class, we will have a 15-minute break. At the beginning of each class, you will be expected to arrive on time, be prepared with the proper materials, and work through the *entire* class period. For materials list see page 7. For the course calendar, see page 8.

On Critique days, be prepared to share your thoughts with the class. You will bring the required drawing(s) to class and hang them up on the walls. Then we will gather around for the critique. Critiques are not a roasting session, but rather an open discussion on what makes the artwork strong as well as what could be improved. It's a chance to show off your skills, but also an opportunity to learn from others how you can do better. Be tactful with your criticism and *speak up*. Participation during critiques will count toward your final grade! **Participation means arriving prepared and on time for critiques, staying attentive (like staying off your phone), and contributing insightful comments to the conversation.**

COURSE EVALUATION AND GRADING

Midterm Portfolio 45%

- *Assignments 35%, Participation 10%*

Final Portfolio 55%

- *Assignments 35%, Participation 10%, Final Project 10%*

Each graded assignment will be submitted both in-person for Critique and virtually via Blackboard every week. Each time we have Critique, please remember that you must also submit an image of the drawing on Blackboard. When photographing your artwork be sure to include the visible edges of the paper.

- **Each day your work is late reduces it by ten points.** For example, you receive a “95” on an assignment. 1 day late becomes an “85”, 2 days late becomes a “75”, and so on.
- If you do not turn in your work at all, you will receive a 0, which significantly lowers your grade. Better to be late than receive a 0 on an assignment.
- If you cannot meet the assignment deadline because of a documented serious illness, death in the immediate family, or a University sanctioned event with prior approval, please contact me ASAP mtolague@utep.edu
- Work that is done without input from the instructor and is unassigned, will not be accepted.

I strongly suggest that you submit your work on Blackboard with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with Blackboard, Wi-Fi, or with your computer. You may also try emailing me your homework if you encounter problems submitting on Blackboard. If worse comes to worst, contact the [Help Desk](#) and be sure to bring your drawings to class in-person the next time I see you.

Other factors considered in grading are:

- following instructions
- completion of assignments on time while demonstrating a comprehension & application of techniques presented in the course
- participation during critiques & discussions
- work ethic, avoid cell phone use & professional commitment
- progress & growth during the course of the semester
- condition of work i.e., clean, smudge free and unwrinkled
- attendance record

A = Excellent, B = Good, C = Average, D = Below Average, F = Failure

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS CONDUCT

- **Students are allowed 3 unexcused absences during the semester without penalty.** If you are absent, it is your responsibility to notify me. Contact me via email ASAP to find out any pertinent information you may have missed.
- **After 3 unexcused absences, your final course grade will be lowered one letter grade per additional absence.** For example, a final grade of “A” becomes a “B” with 4 absences, a “C” with 5 absences, a “D” with 6 absences. Students with more than 5 unexcused absences should consider dropping the course and retaking it when they can commit the proper attention.
- Excused absences are defined as documented serious illness, death in the immediate family, or University sanctioned events with prior approval
- **Scheduled appointments, transportation problems, and job demands are not excused absences.**
- It should be noted that accumulating 6 or more absences, regardless of whether your absences are excused or unexcused, is still considered excessive and may result in you receiving an “F” in the course. At that point, you have missed valuable class and lecture time, and I can’t justify giving you a passing grade. Dropping or retaking the course may be your best option.

- Coming to class without the necessary materials or attending class and not working is considered absent.
- Arriving to class late (after roll is taken) or leaving early counts as ½ an absence. That is, 2 tardies = 1 unexcused absence.
- Returning late from break will be recorded as ½ an absence.
- No texting or social media during class time. If student is found violating this policy a verbal warning will be given at first, if found violating policy a second time a ½ absence will be recorded for the day.

- In addition to requiring your attention during critiques, **you must also be on time for each Critique session. If you are late, it may result in you not being able to Critique that day and/or receiving a reduced grade on the assignment. This policy also applies if you are seen using your phone during the Critique.**
- Music is not allowed during any instruction, lecture, or critique, but students may listen to music while working/drawing. The music should be played at a low volume with headphones (one earbud only) and not disturb other students. If you wish to listen to music, please use a playlist or music app that does not require your constant attention. Do not stream video content such as YouTube, Twitch, Netflix, etc. while you work as this is distracting to you and those around you.

ILLNESS PRECAUTIONS

Please stay home if you have symptoms of a communicable illness. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations.

COURSE DROP POLICY

I will not drop you from the course. However, if you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know and then contact the [Registrar's Office](#) to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

Incompletes or "I" grades will be considered for students completing satisfactory or better work and having serious legitimate situations beyond their control requiring additional time to complete the course requirements. All "I" grades are at the discretion of the instructor and the approval of the Departmental Chair.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students who become pregnant may also request reasonable accommodations, in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations and University policy. Accommodations that constitute undue hardship are not reasonable. To make a request, please register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact CASS at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

GUIDANCE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly AI art generators, is ***only allowed with approval from the instructor BEFORE being used***. Without permission, you will be expected to think creatively and critically to complete assignments without assistance from these tools.

With permission, the AI art generator can be used for inspiration during the brainstorming stages of an art project, and occasional reference in various drawings, but may not be used on its own, or repeatedly, to generate your artwork. Keep in mind that AI-generated ideas are not

your own and may hinder your ability to think critically and creatively about a problem. Use sparingly, and if given permission to use any of these tools, **students must properly cite and give full credit to the program used upon submission** of the assignment.

LOCKERS

Art students are allowed the use of lockers in the DoART department only. If students wish to use a locker they must:

- place lock on available locker
- write locker number down and proceed to art office
- sign out locker in DoART office located on the 3rd floor of Fox Fine Arts Building
- Lockers are free and available on a first come first reserved basis.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Please refer to the QR code below for a listing of campus resources.



MATERIALS LIST

MATERIALS TO PURCHASE:

- Drawing sketch pad – 18 in x 24 in
- Art portfolio – 20 in x 26 in or larger
- 1 or more White conté crayons or White pastels
- Plastic white eraser (a good brand is Staedtler)
- 24 in. metal ruler
- Pencil sharpener (multiple sharpeners are always good to have)
- 1 sheet of colored drawing paper for pastels – 18 in x 24 in or larger (a good brand is Canson) – Brown or Gray
- 1 or more ultra-fine point Sharpie markers (or similar) – Black
- 1 or more chisel tip Sharpie markers (or similar) – Black

MATERIALS PROVIDED BY THE UTEP ART DEPARTMENT:

- Assortment of drawing pencils: 9B, 8B, 6B, 4B, 2B, and HB
- Pack of soft compressed charcoal sticks
- Charcoal pencils
- Kneaded eraser (this eraser is grey and can be shaped or molded)
- Canson Drawing Paper – Cream, 19 in x 25 in
- Single-hole sharpener

OTHER SUGGESTED MATERIALS:

- Spray fixative
- Box, art bin, or some sort of carrying case for supplies
- Blending stumps (also called tortillons)
- Blending brushes (they blend pencil & charcoal really well)
- Sandpaper lead pointer/sharpener

You can find these materials at Hobby Lobby, Michaels, Dick Blick- dickblick.com (my personal favorite), Art Center & Signs (show your ID for a 10% discount), Office Depot, the UTEP Bookstore, or Amazon!

COURSE CALENDAR

You can find an extended version of this course calendar on Blackboard. The schedule may be subject to change according to the needs of the instructor and pace of the course. Check Blackboard frequently for assignment instructions, announcements, due dates, and any changes to the calendar.

JANUARY

Week 1 (Jan 15- Jan 21): Classes Begin/Syllabus/Supplies

- Mon, Jan 15th is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. No classes

Week 2 (Jan 22- Jan 28): Positive and Negative Space

Week 3 (Jan 29- Feb 4): Shading Techniques

FEBRUARY

Week 4 (Feb 5- Feb 11): Value and Shading

Week 5 (Feb 12- Feb 18): Value and Shading Cont.

Week 6 (Feb 19- Feb 25): Texture using Collage

Week 7 (Feb 26- Mar 3): Subtractive Drawing + Midterm Portfolio Review

MARCH

Week 8 (Mar 4- Mar 10): Self-Portrait on Toned Paper

Week 9 (Mar 11- Mar 17): SPRING BREAK

- Spring break is from March 11th- 15th

Week 10 (Mar 18- Mar 24): Self-Portrait Cont.

Week 11 (Mar 25- Mar 31): One and Two-Point Perspective

- Spring drop/withdrawal deadline is Thurs, March 28th

APRIL

Week 12 (Apr 1- Apr 7): Perspective Cont.

Week 13 (Apr 8- Apr 14): Start Final Projects

Week 14 (Apr 15- Apr 21): Final Projects Cont.

Week 15 (Apr 22- Apr 28): Final Project Cont.

MAY

Week 16 (Apr 29- May 5): Final Project Due + Final Critique

- Last day of classes Thurs, May 2nd

Week 17 (May 6- May 12): Spring Final Exams