

University of Texas at El Paso
BASIC DRAWING I
SYLLABUS
Spring 2024

COURSE INFORMATION	INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Course Rubric Number: ARTF 1302 Basic Drawing I, CRN 27418	Instructor: ALIX GAYTAN
Meeting Time: TR 4:30 pm-7:20 pm	Office Hours: By appointment or Zoom
Meeting Location: Prospect Hall 28	Office Location: FAA A348
	Email: argaytan2@utep.edu

INSTRUCTOR INTRODUCTION

Alix Gaytan is a native of El Paso/Juarez area. She received her BFA in Painting with a minor in Printmaking from the University of Texas at El Paso and her MFA in Painting from the Pennsylvania State University. In 2023, she became a Launch Fellow at La Mecha Contemporary Gallery.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

ARTF 1302 DRAWING 1- This introductory class will expose the student to several traditional skills and ideas that have occupied artists throughout history. The class draws from direct observation emphasizing space, volume, linear and free-hand perspective, and other fundamental techniques and concepts. In Basic Drawing 1, there is an emphasis on Line as the principal conveyor of form. The student must develop disciplined work habits and understand the visual artist's formal language. There will be regular class critiques and a required sketchbook. Seeing/drawing skills are developed, and sensitivity toward the aesthetics of form and space, including linear perspective, mark making, value, line, and line quality, is explored. Students will work in black and white media on various surfaces to depict different types of subject matter.

COURSE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Upon successfully completing the course, students will have:

- Become familiar with the uses and qualities of various drawing media.
- Learned foundational drawing skills and techniques such as realistic rendering, shading, line quality, perspective, drawing from life, and more.
- Demonstrated their understanding of course content through various exercises and assignments, culminating in a final portfolio review.
- Gained the skills to confidently and capably discuss drawing in personal reflections and a group critique setting.

COURSE OUTCOMES

Students who successfully complete this course:

- Will be competent in using line and value to render forms based on observation of the visual world
- Will have experience and competency in handling various drawing media, including color media
- Will be familiar with color terminology and have the skills to use value to build form will be able to develop pictorial space
- Will have a greater understanding of the contemporary art world
- Will have greater confidence in their ability to plan and commit to an idea
- Will have the ability to critically assess their own and other's work

GRADING CRITERIA

Your grade in this course will be determined by your performance on the following:

Participation/Attendance	15%
1st Portfolio Review/Critique	30%
2nd Portfolio Review/Critique	30%
Final Project/Critique	20%
Digital Portfolio	5%
TOTAL	100%

Incompletes, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail

Incompletes, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail: 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 instructor's discretion and the Department chair's approval. Students are responsible for withdrawing from this course if that procedure is elected. Withdrawals must be completed on or before the final date to drop a course with a W. Students missing this deadline will be issued a grade for their performance in the course.

Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty

Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating is unethical and unacceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without crediting the source of that information or wording: it is also unacceptable. Do not submit work, images, writing or prints that are not your creative output. If an image appears on Google or in another image source and you copy that image, it is plagiarism. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> for further information.

Accommodation Policy

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services, and activities with documented disabilities to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008.

Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship for the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915- 747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal (<https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>).

Student Pregnancy and Parenting Nondiscrimination Policy

Under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, you are entitled to reasonable accommodations for as long as your doctor deems medically necessary. It will be important to review each student's situation individually, as reasonable accommodations will be highly dependent on the requirements of individual courses. Examples of possible reasonable accommodations (when deemed medically necessary) are:

- Excused absences due to pregnancy or related condition
- Reviewing lectures online if available
- Opportunity to make up field/lab work
- Rescheduling of tests or exams
- A larger desk or other adaptive furniture
- Breaks during class, as needed
- Submitting work after a deadline missed due to pregnancy or childbirth
- Providing alternatives to make up missed work
- Assignment of an Incomplete grade (if eligible)
- Allowing "Withdrawal" with a refund (if eligible)

If you have questions related to student pregnancy or pregnancy-related accommodations, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at cass@utep.edu or at 915-747-5148.

You may also contact the Title IX Program at titleix@utep.edu or at 915-747-8358 if you believe you have been discriminated against due to being pregnant or a pregnancy-related condition. For more information visit <https://www.utep.edu/titleix/pregnancy-and-parenting.html>

COVID Guidelines

The COVIDaction@utep.edu is still active and is an available resource for those who don't know what to do in COVID-19-related incidents. In addition, even though self-reporting is not required, we recommend that individuals report and receive guidance based on the CDC guidelines. I have attached a link with the most up-to-date UTEP policy regarding COVID. If you have any other questions, please let us know. Thank you.

<https://www.utep.edu/ehs/covid/>

INSTRUCTOR'S POLICIES

Attendance/Participation

Students must log into Blackboard daily and attend face-to-face meetings according to the schedule provided at the beginning of the course. If an emergency occurs and you must be absent, you must show proof/or documentation of the event for your absence to be excused. Absences may be excused with proper notification for documented serious illness, documented COVID issues, documented child-care emergencies, documented death in the immediate family, or documented university-sanctioned events. Scheduled appointments, transportation problems, and job demands are not excused absences. Unexcused absences and late arrivals to class will be counted against your overall grade.

Constant focus on your projects during class is expected. This is part of your participation grade. Any student creating distractions for other students or constantly moving in or outside the studio for no reason will be marked as late.

Breaks: For in-person classes, we will have a 10 min-break about halfway through class for lunch, checking emails, chatting, etc

Course Communication

Please check at the top of the syllabus for days and times. I will not be available on weekends. If you send me a message on the weekend, do not expect a response until Monday morning. I suggest maintaining all communication through Blackboard, so please try to make this your first option for communicating with me.

Announcements

Please check the Blackboard announcements for reminders or possible events occurring during the week.

Community Atmosphere

Studio courses involve constructive dialogue between classmates and the instructor. We can learn much from one another through open communication and collaboration during class. Communication is so important in this class. If you ever need anything in class, do not hesitate to communicate. Listening to your peers, asking questions, joining discussions, and actively engaging in class activities benefit everyone's learning experience and will positively affect your grade. Lastly, each student will clean their working area at the end of each class.

Electronics Policy

Electronics will be used at the instructor's discretion. However, there will be ZERO tolerance for constant texting or any electronic distractions not related to the course content. If you need to take a call, you can simply step outside of the classroom.

Projects, Critiques, Portfolio, Final Project, and Final Critique

Projects are the main core of this course. Constant practice is key to continue improving your drawing skills. There are expectations to work outside class time to finish the projects, so keep this in mind.

Critiques and portfolio reviews are essential to this course so that they will have no make-up option. This is equivalent to exams. Guidelines will be explained later in the semester.

There will be a final project and a final critique. Guidelines will be explained later in the semester.

A digital portfolio will be submitted via Blackboard.

Make-up Work/Late Assignments

- **Make-work or late assignments will be accepted at the instructor's discretion.**
- **ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE CRITIQUE DAY TO RECEIVE FULL CREDIT.**
- **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE GIVEN FOR ANY CRITIQUE OR FINAL PROJECT.**

REQUIRED MATERIALS

There is no textbook required for this course. Reading materials will be supplied in Blackboard. However, there are drawing materials each student will have to purchase for this course. The size and quantity of these materials are required. Please use the recommended brands in the materials list. If you already have drawing materials that are similar to these, cannot find something, or if you have any questions at all, please let me know. Also, I recommend buying locally since shipping could take some time. **Note: You will likely need to restock some materials as the semester progresses.**

- 18"x24" 80+lb White Drawing Paper Pad for dry media (24+ sheets) 80lb is the paperweight. The heavier the weight, the better.
- ***Graphite drawing pencils. The school will provide it for you.
- ***3+ sticks Black compressed charcoal sticks (medium hardness). The school will provide it for you.
- 6+ pieces of vine charcoal. Very fragile - choose pieces as thick as a pencil.
- Blending Stumps Tools. Any brand will do.
- Micron Pens with pen tips: 01, 05, 08, brush tip, or any variety pack. Black ink only.
 - Brands: Staedtler, Faber-Castell, Sakura, Coptic
- White vinyl artist's eraser.
- ***Kneaded rubber eraser. The school will provide it for you.
- Fine Point Eraser or pencil eraser (or similar)
- White artist's tape (1 in. wide). This is not masking tape. White artist's tape only.
- Workable Fixative
 - Recommended: Grumbacher or Krylon Workable Fixatif (toxic, flammable, can't be used indoors)
- ***Pencil sharpener. The school will provide it for you.
- Ruler 18"
- Container for smaller materials or toolbox
- Portfolio, 24" X 36"
- Sketch Book(OPTIONAL)

THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS ARE REQUIRED. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO HAVE THEM READY BY JAN 23. PLEASE, BE RESPONSIBLE, OR POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR PARTICIPATION GRADE.

The school will provide some materials. They are highlighted in yellow and marked with an * in the materials list.

Retailers:

- Art Center (local)
- Michaels (local)
- Hobby Lobby (local)
- Dick Blick(Best option for inventory and prices) (I've made a Wishlist under BlickU. It includes all the materials and brands I recommend because of their quality and price. However, you can make changes depending on your budget. Also, shipping is usually pretty fast, but keep in mind that it is the beginning of the school year so delays could happen.)
<https://www.dickblick.com/myaccount/blicku/h1jpaplpvxsem/>
- Jerry's Artarama (Sometimes they have limited inventory on specific brands, but their prices tend to be as good as Dick Blick. Also, their shipping is fast, but again keep in mind any delay.)

CALENDAR

*Syllabus and dates are subject to change. You will be informed if any changes occur.

WEEK	PROJECTS, CRITIQUES, ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1 Jan 15-Jan 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus, Review Elements of Art and Principles of Design, Introduction to Line, Contour Line Exercise
Week 2 Jan 22-Jan 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: P# 1: Contour Line • Thur: P# 2: Single Line Portraits, P# 3: Gestural line
Week 3 Jan 29- Feb 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: P# 4: Building Value: Pencil (shading) • Thur: workday
Week 4 Feb 5- Feb 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: workday • Thur: P# 5: Building Value: Pen (hatching, cross-hatching)
Week 5 Feb 12-Feb 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: workday • Thur: workday
Week 6 Feb 19- Feb 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: P# 6: Building Value: Charcoal • Thur: workday
Week 7 Feb 26- March 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: workday • Thur: 1ST Review/Critique
Week 8 March 4-March 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: P#8: Perspective • Thur: workday
Week 9 March 11-March 15	SPRING BREAK
Week 10 March 18-March 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: P#9:Outside Sketches • Thur-workday
Week 11 March 25-March 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: P# 10: Texture • Thur: workday
Week 12 April 1-April 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues: workday • Thur: workday
Week 13 April 8-April 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thur: 2nd Review/Critique • Tues: P# 10: Final Drawing
Week 14 April 15- April 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workweek
Week 15 April 22-April 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workweek.
FINALS WEEK April 29-May 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FINAL PROJECT AND DIGITAL PORTFOLIO DUE

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 15th- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – University Closed

Jan 16th- Spring classes begin

Jan 16th-19th-Late Registration (Fees are incurred)

Jan 31st -Spring Census Day

Note: This is the last day to register for classes. Payments are due by 5:00 pm.

Feb 12th- 20th Class Day

Note: Students who were given a payment deadline extension will be dropped at 5:00 pm if payment arrangements have not been made.

Feb 16th- Graduation application deadline for degree conferral

Mar 11th-15th- Spring Break

Mar 20th- Freshman midterm grades are due

Mar 28th- Spring Drop/Withdrawal Deadline

Note: Student-initiated drops are permitted after this date, but the student is not guaranteed a grade of W. The faculty member of record will issue a grade of either W or F.

Mar 29th- Cesar Chavez Holiday - No classes; Spring Study Day

Apr 12th- Deadline to submit candidates' names for commencement program

May 2nd- Spring – Last day of classes

May 3rd-Dead day

May 6-10th- Spring Final Exams

May 11-12th- Spring Commencement

May 15th- Grades are Due

May 16th- Grades are posted to student records; students are notified of grades and academic standing