

Brandeis University Studio Art

Intro to Drawing, Summer 2021

Professor Alfredo Gisholt, gisholt@brandeis.edu
Office Hours Tuesday, Thursday by appointment

Schedule Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 6:30 – 9:00 pm

Course Description

This course will investigate various methods and subjects of drawing. Students will develop a solid understanding of its form and principles. We will explore different techniques and approaches while responding to both perceptual and conceptual sources. Students will be expected to address the role of drawing as part of their creative process.

An extensive amount of work is required. You will be responsible for in-class drawings and drawings done outside of class.

Success in this 4 credit hour course is based on the expectation that students will spend a minimum of 8 hours of study time per week in preparation for class (readings, papers, discussion sections, preparation for exams, etc.).

Objectives

- An understanding that art and design requires rigorous intellectual inquiry
- A development of a skill set that addresses the visual language
- An understanding of the importance of critical analysis within parameters related to art and design
- An awareness and understanding of the historical, theoretical, and social contexts of various disciplines of art and design
- An understanding of formal design terms and concepts, and the complexity of debate inherent in their application
- A development in work methodology of sustained focus and energy

Course Organization/Method of Instruction

This course will be centered around ambitious intensive studio practice. Classes will explore specific topics and/or approaches and will include lectures, presentations and reviews.

We will meet during class time via Zoom. I will send the link for our meetings at the beginning of the semester.

Each day I will introduce the topic for the class. All the materials for the class will be uploaded to the Class Materials folder on Google Drive for reference.

Zoom Meetings

I will start our meetings at 6:25 pm EST. Mute yourself as you enter the meeting and turn on your camera. I will start the class discussion and introduction after checking in with everyone at 6:30 pm EST.

Course Requirements

Drawing requires your full commitment – mental and physical. Students are expected to participate in all activities of the course: in class drawings, presentations, homework and critiques. You must complete all the work for the class.

You should have a stable internet connection and access to Google Drive and Zoom.

I highly recommend finding a designated space (a table or a desk) that will serve as your studio space. It should have privacy, good light and not surrounded by distractions.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. On time arrival to class is expected. In addition to this, I expect everyone to be fully present and prepared. Tardiness will significantly affect your grade.

Unexcused absences will only be considered for serious illness, religious observance or family emergency. In each case a demonstrated reason must be presented – confirmation by Health Services, notification of religious observance at the beginning of the semester, and communication with the Advising Office in case of family emergency. You are responsible to make up all work due to absence.

Two or more unexcused absences will affect your grade.

Grading

All projects must be completed and uploaded in a timely manner to your Google Drive folder. Grades will be based on individual progress and improvement, openness to embrace the unfamiliar, effort, participation and commitment. I expect you to have a high level of ambition for every project and to challenge yourselves to reach beyond expectations. Out of class assignments will be given out weekly and must be completed on time. All late work will be considered unsatisfactory.

I will assign mid semester unsatisfactory grades to those whose standing is of concern.

A High Distinction, **B** Distinction, **C** Satisfactory, **D** Passing, but Unsatisfactory
E Failure

Policies

We will expect and maintain behavior in class that establishes and preserves an atmosphere appropriate to teaching and learning.

Materials

You should purchase your materials and have them ready for the first day of class. There is a BlickU kit for the class. This is the link:

<https://www.dickblick.com/lists/blicku/081F87GUP140B/items/>

If you do not have access to Dick Blick, you can purchase your materials from other sources. Make sure they are comparable to what I requested.

Brandeis seeks to welcome and include all students. If you are a student who needs accommodations as outlined in an accommodations letter, please talk with me and present your letter of accommodation as soon as you can. I want to support you.

In order to provide test accommodations, I need the letter more than 48 hours in advance. I want to provide your accommodations, but cannot do so retroactively. If you have questions about documenting a disability or requesting accommodations, please contact Student Accessibility Support (SAS) at 781.736.3470 or access@brandeis.edu.