

# Art 7A - Drawing & Composition I (2275)

MW 1:30pm - 4:30pm PC130

***"A work of art is the trace of a magnificent struggle."*** - Robert Henri

(The Art Spirit: Notes, Articles, Fragments of Letters and Talks to Students, Bearing on the Concept and Technique of Picture Making, the Study of Art)

## Contact Information

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Office Hours: MTWTH 12pm-1pm

Office Location: PC 129

I will do my best to make this course an excellent and safe learning experience for you – well-organized, interesting, relevant, with meaningful assignments and the support you need to succeed. I will take suggestions for improving the learning environment seriously. I will do my best to grade your work fairly and in a timely fashion.

I am a proud supporter of the LGBTQ community, Dreamers, BLM, Veterans, and I am committed to supporting students with disabilities. I will always approach issues with a nonjudgemental attitude and an open-mind. I believe that our goal in earning a higher education is not only expanding our ability to become more culturally sensitive, but also learn to creatively problem solve. My mission statement as your teacher is to connect the importance of what we learn in class to real world applications. I want to work with you to help you succeed. ***Please talk to me***, since only you can properly communicate your situation. Syllabus provides a list of helpful on and off campus resources. Please always remember - ***I am on your side!***

## Course Introduction

I appreciate it when students pay attention to class happenings, when you're willing to try new things and to ask questions, and are not scared of getting things wrong.

This class is an opportunity to practice "professionalism," in addition to learning about design. In design, and in a lot of other areas, being professional includes thinking carefully, doing work that's well beyond the minimum of quality, being respectful and courteous to others, and meeting obligations without fuss. For this class specifically, professionalism means:

- Doing the work – The learning activities in this class are carefully selected and offered to help you learn. I strive to avoid busywork. If you don't understand why we're doing something, please ask! Since we're remote, you will need to exercise more personal initiative than if we were meeting face to face, and that's a great skill to have for your future.
- Professional courtesy – Come on time, prepared, and tune in the whole time. Pay attention, listen to others and be ready to talk and participate. If you can't attend a class meeting, make sure you contact another student to see what you missed and fully participate in the digital interactions.

*\*Syllabus is subject to change based on the need of the class\**

***This class will demand significant time, at least 7 hours per week, depending on the assignment. Calendar the time!***

### **Course Description**

A basic course in drawing and composition to develop a student's ability to perceive and define shape, mass, contour, volume, space, and light, using a variety of graphic media and subject matter.

### **Textbook**

There is no textbook required for this course. Materials will be provided electronically within Canvas.

Recommended Texts:

*The Art of Responsive Drawing*, Nathan Goldstein

*The Art of Drawing*, Bernard Chaet

*Drawing lessons from the Masters*, Robert Beverly Hale

*Drawing from Observation*, Brian Curtis

*The Artist's Handbook of Materials and Techniques*, Ralph Mayer

*Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain*, Betty Edwards

### **Course Objectives**

What are you are going to learn throughout this course? Creative problem solving is an underlining skill taught in all college level courses. Whether your educational interests lie within the sciences or mathematics or even political science, learning to observe is vital to your success. All the following goals (objectives) listed below are designed to help expand your creativity and no matter what your educational ambitions are, by the end of this course you will be a more proficient creative problem solver.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Create compositions, revise preliminary sketches, and experiment with a variety of tools and approaches to drawing.
2. Make critical choices about their own work and assemble a portfolio of drawings demonstrating ability.
3. Practice drawing dynamics to create value using a variety of drawing materials and synthesize art historical approaches with self-expression.

### **Objectives**

Students will be able to:

1. Develop an understanding of perspective and apply to drawing skills.
2. Synthesize pictorial elements such as shape, form, value, line and texture in drawing.
3. Recognize diverse points of view in respect to systems of perspective and composition.
4. Combine risk-taking and experimentation with disciplined work habits as an aspect of the creative process.
5. Experiment with and distinguish between black and white drawing media: ink, pencil, charcoal, conte crayon and various drawing surfaces.
6. Define basic drawing and design terminology.
7. Analyze and identify master techniques in drawing.
8. Develop drawings from general to specific.

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9. Appraise relationships of positive and negative space in a composition.
10. Evaluate their work and the work of others in verbal critiques.
11. Analyze the proportions of a single object and analyze proportional relationships between objects.

***This course is cumulative. In order to succeed, you must apply and relate previous techniques and ideas to future concepts. Inability to do so will result in a failing grade.***

### **Technical Requirements (Canvas)**

#### Hardware

- PC/Mac
- Monitor with minimum resolution of 1024x768
- Speakers or headphones

#### Software

- [Adobe Acrobat Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) (https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
- [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
- [Java](https://java.com/en/download/) (https://java.com/en/download/)
- Microsoft Office
- Adobe Creative Suite

### **Students' Obligations**

You are expected to have basic computer knowledge including, but not limited to:

- Using email and attachments
- Downloading, editing, saving, and submitting files
- Copying and pasting
- Downloading and installing software

### **Clean Up**

It is important to make sure the room is clean at the end of each class session. This includes making sure your chair is pushed in, your area is clean, and all trash goes in trashcan. Failure to do so will count against participation grade.

### **Lockers**

To avoid not being prepared with necessary materials on any give class, I advise utilizing a locker. You will be required to clean out your locker at the end of the semester.

### **Standards of Conduct**

The Sonoma County Junior College District supports a safe, productive learning environment to foster intellectual curiosity, integrity and accomplishment as defined in the District Mission and Goals.

The District holds that students shall conduct themselves in a manner which reflects their awareness of common standards of decency and the rights of others. Interference with the District's mission, objectives, or community life shall be cause for disciplinary action.

A student is defined as a person who is currently enrolled as a student in a credit or noncredit class or in community service offerings of the District; engaged in District activities in preparation for enrollment; or enrolled as a student or preparing for enrollment at the time of an alleged violation of the Standards of Conduct.

In some circumstances these standards of conduct may apply to conduct that occurs off campus when the Conduct Dean determines there is reasonable association with the District. In cases involving sexual misconduct, the jurisdiction will be determined by the Title IX Officer/ Vice President, Human Resources.

[Policy 8.2.8: The full policy may be found here.](#)

[Procedure 8.2.8P: The full procedure may be found here.](#)

***Do not have your cell phone out of your pocket, backpack, etc., during class time or you will be asked to leave the class for the remainder of the day.***

### **Final Exam Policy**

A student who does not take a final exam and who does not qualify for an incomplete will be assigned a failing grade for the exam/project. Note that this course has a lecture and lab final exam. Students are required to attend both final exam classes during finals week.

### **Late Work Policy**

***Late assignments will be graded down one entire letter grade for each day it is late, up to two class meetings. Any work over two class periods will not be accepted and student will receive a zero. Late final projects will not be accepted.*** If a student misses a due because due to illness, he or she must provide a doctor's note by EOD the assignment is due. Any documentation must be original.

### **Homework and Staying Focused**

Please be aware that the general homework policy is for every 1 hour of class time, allow 2 hours for homework. Some assignments may take more time, depending upon your commitment towards the grading policy. Studio courses and projects are time consuming and may take hours to formulate, thus the project deadlines have been designed to give the student optimum time to execute. Stay focused and balanced throughout the semester as to not become overwhelmed near the due date of any given assignment.

### **Critiques and Quizzes & Tests**

A critique is designed to constructively facilitate discussion to help evaluate any given assignment. Students are expected and required to participate. Lack of participation will impact project grading. The class will be forewarned before a quiz is given. For each project there will be a critique. Two quizzes will be given during the semester. Critiques will be conducted in both group, classroom and individual settings. A test on all terminology, principles and elements of design and Gestalt as well as value and color will also be given. Look to the course schedule for dates of tests and quizzes.

### **Participation and Attendance**

Students are required to work during scheduled class time and are expected to be in class on time. Timely attendance is your responsibility; I do not want to waste class time reminding you about it, but you are accountable. If you miss a class, take the initiative to talk to a classmate about what you have missed, then to me about make up work.

Since this is a studio course, attendance and participation are mandatory. In order to participate you must be present and on time for each class. Each student must come prepared to each class with necessary materials, ready and engaged with a positive attitude. Poor work ethic, lack of materials (get a locker to house supplies), inadequate willingness, leaving early and habitual tardiness will result in low marks towards participation. If a student is working on any other assignment not pertaining to course or not on task with assigned material, student will be asked to leave and marked as absent for the day. Each student is required to fill out and sign an attendance sheet. Your final grade for the course will drop by 5% each class meeting the attendance sheet is late. Attendance sheet is due first class of the second week. We will take one 15 min. break at the half-way mark of class unless stated otherwise by the professor. Returning late from break will count as a late. Please begin clean-up only when prompted by instructor.

### **Absence Policy**

Being prompt and prepared for each class meeting is necessary to successfully complete the course. If you are late you will be marked absent for the meeting. Absences will affect your grade as follows:

- 1-2 absences will not affect grade
- 3 absences drop grade by 5%
- 4 absences drop grade by 10% (one letter grade)
- 5 absences drop grade by 15%
- 6 absences drop grade by 20%
- 7 absences, student will receive a failing grade or dropped if accrued before the drop date

Absences due to emergencies, such as accidents, death in the family, etc. may be excused at the professor's discretion after the two absences have been used. Must have appropriate documentation/proof of extenuating circumstances in order to have absence considered for removal.

It is the student's responsibility to find out what you missed during your absence. I advise that you obtain two student contacts at the beginning of the class to help retrieve any missed information. I will not repeat course information or demonstrations to students who were absent and an email asking what you missed will be ignored.

If a student is late 3 times it will count as an absence. Every late after will continue to count as an absence. Leaving the meeting early, lack of preparation, disruption of class, etc. will be marked as a late towards attendance.

### **Academic Integrity**

All of the work completed in this course is expected to be your own. Plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated in this course. For more information, visit <https://rightsresponsibilities.santarosa.edu/academic-integrity>

### **Image Policies, Copyright, and Plagiarism:**

- Students may not use Found Images in their student projects.
- Students may use photographs from the Public Domain in student projects if such use is approved by their professor, appropriate to the project, and they do not claim them as their own.

- Students may not use Stock Images in their student projects with the following exception. Students may use stock photos when working on historical projects or historical documentation if approved by their professor.
- The art/design do not allow the use of clip art in student projects.
- The faculty do not support infringement in any project.
- The department does not support infringement (the unauthorized use of someone else's work) in any form.

### Communication and Feedback

The best way to communicate with me is through campus email address [csynicky@santarosa.edu](mailto:csynicky@santarosa.edu) I will respond to all questions within 48 hours at the latest, but often sooner. You are also welcomed to contact me via Instagram [@christopher\\_synicky](https://www.instagram.com/christopher_synicky) (I use this as an educational tool and highly recommend that you subscribe) or schedule (24 hours in advance) a Zoom meeting during my office hours.

If you need an answer to something right away that others in the class might be able to clarify, contact me during office hours. I highly recommend connecting with a few of your classmates, creating a text thread for class questions, and creating discussion forums (discord, groupMe, Instagram, FaceBook, etc.).

### College Student Support

The college offers students many support & services to help improve your overall college experience & provide help for those students who are struggling. Please visit the [student resource](#) page on the website or a list of helpful links and support systems. Use these! If you are having any trouble please allow me to assist you. I am here to help you in anyway I can.

### Important Semester Dates

Day Class Begins:	Tuesday, August 17, 2021
Day Class Ends:	Thursday, December 9, 2021
Day/Time of Final Exam:	Thursday, December 16, 2021 1:00 PM - 3:45 PM
Last Day to Add without instructor's approval:	Sunday, August 22, 2021
Last Day to Add with instructor's approval:	Sunday, September 5, 2021
Last Day to Drop and be eligible for enrollment/course fee refund:	Sunday, August 29, 2021
Last Day to Drop without a 'W' symbol:	Sunday, September 5, 2021
Last Day to Drop with a 'W' symbol:	Sunday, November 14, 2021
Last Day to Opt for Pass/No Pass:	Friday, December 17, 2021

*\*Syllabus is subject to change based on the need of the class\**

## Grades

Grades are derived from discussion participation, assignments, and quizzes. All assignments or activities will have a rubric or overview explaining exactly what is required and how your drawings will be graded. Canvas "Grades" section will allow you to view your earned grade and access your overall grade for the course. In your "Grades" section, students will also be able to "plug-in" future grades for assignments. Please contact your instructor any time you have questions about your grade.

***Please note that working a long time does not in itself warrant a high grade – work must meet aesthetic and craftsmanship standards to achieve an "A" or "B" grade.***

## Grading Scale

A 90 -100%  
B 80 -89%  
C 70 -79%  
D 60 -69%  
F 0 -59%

## Grading Policy

All assignments are evaluated on the following ideas:

- The aesthetic quality of the assignment, as evidenced in finished work (craftsmanship)
- Level of creativity used within a given set of parameters (creative problem solving)
- The depth of your involvement in the assignment, as seen in your completed work (time commitment)
- Conceptual and expressive development (visual intelligence, power of perception, and disciplined creative sensitivity)
- Skill and style development (technique)
- Effort devoted to work, as evidenced in finished work (time commitment)

## Homework and Staying Focused

Please be aware that the general homework policy is for every 1 hour of class time allow 2 hours for homework. Some assignments may take more time, depending upon your commitment towards the grading policy. Studio courses and projects are time consuming and may take hours to formulate, thus the project deadlines have been designed to give the student optimum time to execute. Stay focused and balanced throughout the semester as to not become overwhelmed near the due date of any given assignment.

## Writing Requirement

You will have a writing assignment critiquing an artwork from a museum. You must use proper punctuation and grammar, incorporate terminology learned in class, and cite your sources (if you do not know how to do this, visit the library or writing lab. There are also specific websites that will instruct you on how to properly cite your source). These papers will range from 2-3 pages, double-spaced and include terminology learned throughout the course. A grading rubric and overview module will be provided.

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### **Materials List (itemized with SKU, materials included in kit)**

\*indicates materials needed to complete Week 1

- \*Artist Clipboard 23"x26" (AA17701)
- \*Strathmore Drawing 400 Series Spiral Pad - 18" x 24" (STM400-8)
- \*50pg Sketchbook 9"x12" or 8.5"x11" (STM400-8)
- \*General's Kimberly Drawing Pencil Kit (GEN525BP)
- General's Charcoal Drawing Kit (GEN15)
- 3M Scotch Blue Painters' Tape #2090 - 1" x 60 yards (MMM2090-094)
- Genuine Artist Chamois 5" x 7" (AA17611)
- Canson Mi-teintes paper 19"x25" - 345 Dark Grey (2) (CAN100511235)
- Canson Mi-teintes paper 19"x25" - 335 White (2) (CAN100511231)
- Krylon Workable Fixatif 11oz (KRY1306)
- 24" metal ruler (PRCEE24)
- Plastic 30/60 triangle 10" (452088)
- \*FW Acrylic Artists Ink 1 oz. - Black India (DLR160029028)
- \*Sandpaper Pointer Block 12-Sheet Pad 1" x 4" (AA17600)
- \*Olfa Cutter / Knife - #180 (OLF5001)
- Regular Tracing Pad #56 11"x14" (STC56-1114)
- Pigma Micron 05 Fine Point Pen .45mm Black (SAKXSDK05-49)
- \*Select Series 3750 Synthetic Flat Wash 1/2" (PRB3750FW-050)

### **Art Stores**

[SRJC Bookstore](#)

[Riley Street Art Supply](#)

[Village Art Supply](#)



## Course Schedule

Week/Module # (dates)	Activities	Due Dates
1-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Course Information Module</li> <li>Read Syllabus</li> <li>Syllabus Quiz</li> <li>Discussion: "Let's Get to Know Each Other"</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Unit 1: What is Drawing?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elements and Principles of Design, Composition, and the Picture Plane</li> <li>How to Photo your Drawings</li> <li>Drawing Studio</li> <li>Do's and Don'ts of Constructive Criticism</li> <li>Line &amp; Movement</li> </ul> </li> <li>Discussion 1: "Why Drawing Needs to be a Curriculum Essential"</li> <li>Discussion 1.1: "Am I Ready to Start Drawing?"</li> <li>Unit 1 Quiz</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Unit 2: Line and Movement - Blind &amp; Cross-Contour Drawings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: Element of Line and Principle of Movement</li> <li>Unit 2 Quiz</li> <li>Discussion 2 Assignment: Blind Contour Line Drawings Overview</li> <li>Discussion 2.1 Assignment: Contour and Cross-Contour Line Drawing Overview</li> <li>Discussion 2.2: "What Did I Learn?"</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Unit 3: Positive and Negative Space – Shapes and Abstraction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: Element of Shape, Positive and Negative Space, and Abstraction</li> <li>Unit 3 Quiz</li> <li>Discussion 3 Assignment: Positive and Negative Space Drawing Overview</li> <li>Discussion 3.1: "What did you Learn?"</li> </ul>	Refer to Course Schedule

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4-7	<p><b>Unit 4: Measurement &amp; Proportion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sight-Size, Angling, and Measurements</li> <li>Proportions and Scale</li> <li>Still-Life Set-up</li> </ul> </li> <li>Unit 4 Quiz</li> <li>Discussion 4 Assignment: Proportions Drawing Overview</li> <li>Discussion 4.1: "What did you Learn?"</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Unit 5: One-Point Linear Perspective</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Linear Perspective: History and Applications</li> <li>One-Point Perspective</li> </ul> </li> <li>Unit 5 Quiz</li> <li>Discussion Assignment 5: 25 cubes in One-Point Perspective Overview</li> <li>Discussion Assignment 5.1: Interior room in one-point perspective Overview</li> <li>Discussion 5.2: "What did you Learn?"</li> </ul>	Refer to Course Schedule
8-12	<p><b>Unit 6: Two-Point Linear Perspective</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: Two-Point Perspective</li> <li>Unit 6 quiz</li> <li>Discussion Assignment 6: 25 cubes in two-point perspective Overview</li> <li>Discussion Assignment 6.1: Cityscape in two-point perspective Overview</li> <li>Discussion 6.1: "What did you Learn?"</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Unit 7: Properties of Light &amp; Value</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value</li> <li>Properties of Light</li> </ul> </li> <li>Unit 7 Quiz</li> <li>Discussion Assignment 7: Value Scale and Sphere Drawing Overview</li> <li>Discussion 7.1: "What did I Learn?"</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Unit 8: Analysis Essay</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading Assignment Overview &amp; Requirements</li> </ul>	Refer to Course Schedule

12-18	<b>Unit 9: Texture and Balance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Texture</li><li>○ Types of Balance</li></ul></li><li>• Unit 9 Quiz</li><li>• Discussion Assignment 9: Toned Paper Drawing Overview</li><li>• Discussion 9.1: "What did I Learn?"</li></ul>	Refer to Course Schedule
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