

COURSE SYLLABUS

Art 164 Section 01

Life Drawing I

3 Credit Hours

FALL 2007

Class Location: ART F, Rm 107

Instructor: Petrina Sowa

Office hours: 30 minutes before class or by appointment

Class Time: MW 12:00 – 2:50

art_pls@shsu.edu

Course Description:

Catalogue Description: Drawing from the model in various media. Gesture drawing and figure structure are studied. Prerequisite: Art 163. Credit 3.

Overview: This course introduces students to various media and techniques used in drawing the human figure directly from the observation of the live model. There will be an emphasis on learning to see and record through **representational figure drawings**. The class format includes, studio drawings, assigned sketchbook drawings/homework, individual and group critiques.

Objectives:

- **Draw the human figure accurately and with proper proportions**
- Depict gesture and action of the human figure
- Draw the human figure in a manner that creates the illusion of a three dimensional form
- Learn to recognize and solve problems associated with basic drawing skills
- Create successful and dynamic composition
- Evaluate and critique drawings

Semester Responsibilities:

- **Must bring all required supplies to each class period as assigned**
- Semester portfolio: all life drawing assignments
- Participation in group critiques and class discussions
- Effort: including attendance, proper use of class time, and commitment to learning
- Maintain a clean and organized studio
- **There will be a one-on-one MID TERM portfolio critique mid October**

Attendance: Your attendance is expected and required. In accordance with University rules you are allowed one absence without penalty. *I reserve the right to drop your final grade by one letter after **one** absence (3 studio hours).* Students are responsible for being prepared for each class

period, therefore, I encourage all students to contact me before returning to class. I will inform them of any assignments and/or announcements that were given in class. If you should happen to be tardy, it is your responsibility to speak to me after class to let me know that you were here, otherwise *you will* be considered absent. I also acknowledge and consider frequent tardiness and/or leaving early when averaging borderline grades. ***If you decide to leave class early, without informing me, you will be counted absent. (Strictly enforced).*** Final announcements are given at the end of each class period. ***Please note it is the student's responsibility to make up any missed work due to an absence.**

Evaluation: Your final grade will be the average of all given grades throughout the semester. Each drawing assignment is worth 100 pts. These drawings will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Overall aesthetics and completion of drawings
- Your ability to resolve visual unity (i.e. successful compositions)
- All objectives of the assignment are met: specific criteria regarding each assignment will be discussed prior to each drawing
- Effort and your willingness to stretch your personal abilities in your work

***Please note that just coming to class and fulfilling the minimum requirements will only merit at the highest a C. Also, excessive absences will result as an automatic F. (Strictly Enforced)**

Sketchbook Evaluation: You will also be given weekly sketchbook assignments outside of class. I will collect them *twice* this semester. **Once at midterm; Wednesday October 10th, and again on the last day of class; Wednesday, December 5th 2007.** Each grade will be worth one drawing grade to be averaged into your final course grade. **Your sketchbook grade will be based on *earnest execution* as well as the number of drawings submitted:**

A = 21 or more filled, drawing PAGES.

B = 20 –17

C = 13 –16

D = 8 –12

F = Below 8 drawings

I do not expect each drawing to be perfect, however, please show earnest effort and execution. The main objective of maintaining a sketchbook is to enhance your drawing skills and observations.

***Please note that all of your sketchbook drawings must be dated and *titled if assigned. Otherwise, they will not be accepted.**

You are responsible for keeping up with all of your work throughout the entire semester. This includes your sketchbook, classroom exercises, and all of your drawing assignments. There will be an individual "semester portfolio" critique for your final. **Not responsible for any work not picked up by December 10th 2007. Any work not picked up will be thrown out.**

Grading Scale: (Strictly enforced)

A = 90 – 100

Excellent performance: superior work, additional assignments, effort exceeds expectations, above the average, active class participation

B = 80 – 89

Good performance: good work, above the average, attempts to work beyond what is acceptable, some errors, however, effort is obvious by several attempts

C = 70 – 79

Acceptable performance: some latitude given for effort, average work, some assignments lacking in final execution

D = 65 – 69

Passing: poor quality, barely meets minimal requirements, lack of class participation

F = 64 – 0

Failing: unacceptable performance, lack of any effort in class work and participation, excessive absences, missing assignments

Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. Academic Policy Statement 810213.

Classroom Rules of Conduct: *Section 5 of the Student Handbook.* Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus impedes the mission of the university. **Cellular phones and pagers must be turned off before class begins.** Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university police.

Visitors in Classroom: Unannounced visitors to the class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

Americans with Disabilities Act: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request assistance with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting the Director of the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex or by calling 936.294.1720.

Religious Holy Days: Students are excused from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations for the observance of a religious holy day. Students shall also be excused for time necessary to travel. The request to attend a religious holy day "shall be in writing and shall be delivered by the student personally to the Instructor of each class, with receipt of the notification acknowledged and dated by the instructor or by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the Instructor of each class. It prohibits an institution from penalizing the student for the absence and allows for the student to take an exam or complete an assignment from which the student was excused within seven calendar days.

General Information: Any student who feels that he or she may need accommodations for any type of disability as well as any other class related concerns, should not hesitate to make an appointment or speak with me as soon as possible.

I will be available before and after class if you need to speak with me, or you may schedule an appointment. I will be happy assist you in any way that I can, however, you must let me know in a timely manner so that I can actually offer assistance.

Attention: NEW ART PROGRAM POLICY!!!!

BFA REVIEW:

Upon completion of the six foundation art classes (**ART 161: Basic Design I, ART 163: Drawing I, ART 164: Life Drawing I, ART 265: Basic Design II, Art 271: 3D Design, Art 260: Pre-Renaissance ART HISTORY**), students are required to meet with Mr. Jim Barker, the art advisor, to declare a degree program (BA/BFA) or they will be blocked from registering for upper division art classes. Students choosing the BA program will be unblocked and continue on with their course work. However, students who would like to be in the BFA program will need to apply for it. This application involves filling out paperwork, having a **3.0 GPA**, and signing up for a portfolio review upon completion of the first course in their intended concentration. Reviews will be conducted each semester by Art Department faculty. Students passing the review will be invited into the BFA program. Those who do not pass the review will continue on in the BA program. Students interested in reapplying for the BFA program should meet with faculty to discuss what improvements are necessary before applying for a second review.

Sincerest wishes for a great semester!