Term/ Session: Fall/ Winter 2017/ 18
Time Tuesday 2:30pm - 6:30pm

Location VACrms. 206/249

Professor David Merritt: dmerritt@uwo.ca

Office Hours Rm. 233 Wed. 1:30-2:3/ Fri. 9:00-10:00

VAS 3300 is an advanced studio class engaging drawing as a tool of material and conceptual inquiry and as the basis of a studio practice in its own right. Class exercises and assignments will place emphasis on exploratory and research-based approaches to traditional and non-traditional drawing media. Studio assignments will be supported by ongoing readings, lectures, critiques and discussions that increasingly yield to student-directed problem solving.

Knowledge of Methodologies

Students will gain an understanding of expanded approaches to drawing as a contemporary . They will be able to identify distinct ways that drawing can operate practically and critically, and will be able to apply this under

standing in directed and self-directed ways towards the realization of their ideas.

Application of Knowledge

Students will use their capacities with the medium as a critical, discursive and expressive tool to

Xacto Knife
basic transparent watercolour set (tube or cake)
India or China ink (black), assortment of fine and coarse brushes
Cloth rags
Charcoal blending stumps
workable spray fixative
General purpose nitrile gloves
Toolbox for storage (recommended)
Vapour Mask (for use in fume hood rooms)

Attendance/ Participation 10%

Journal Sketchbook Development 15%(mid term) 15%(end of term)

Research Drawing Project 15%
Landscape/ Still Life Project 15%
Drawing Material Project 10%
Field Project 15%
Reading reports/ proposals 5%

90-100 (Outstanding, A+) - The studio work shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated analysis and synthesis involving complex theoretical and conceptual thinking are demonstrated. Mastery of complex ideas is immediately evident. The studio work has originality, clarity and ambition. The project is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is exemplary.

80-89 (Excellent, A) - The studio work shows originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. The work is clearly focused and intelligently presented. Mastery of complex ideas is demonstrated. The studio work has clarity and ambition. The quality of the studio production immediately engages the viewer. The studio work has been sufficiently developed and demonstrates mastery of techniques so that results are compelling. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is impressive.

75-79 (Very Good, B+) - The studio work shows above average analysis, critical thinking and independent thought. It demonstrates a clear awareness of the parameters of the assignment and a very good attempt to respond creatively to them. The work demonstrates reasonable depth and/or breadth and engages in a production that is appropriate to the level of the course. The quality of studio work engages the viewer and demonstrates above-average mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is very good.

70-74 (Good, B) - The studio work shows a satisfactory attempt at analysis and critical thinking. It shows a good attempt to respond to assignment parameters. The work demonstrates some depth and/or breadth, making references to appropriate course material/art context. The studio production engages the viewer and demonstrates a sufficient mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is satisfactory.

60-69 (Competent, C) -

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments.

Mental Wellbeing:

"Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Wellbeing http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help."

Building Access:

The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:00pm each night Monday to Friday. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00pm-5:00pm unless otherwise posted; access by side entrances only. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:00pm and 5:00pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

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