



Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Fall

Course Prefix: ART 1210

Course Title: Observational Drawing

Year: 2025

Course and Section #: 003

Credits: 3

Course Description

Provides students with essential drawing skills necessary for the correct representation of space. Introduces multiple linear perspective drawing methods, visualization, tonal drawing, and rendering skills. Studies perspective and spatial representation in a historical context.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- ☐ General Education Requirements
- ☐ Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- ☐ Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- ☒ Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- ☐ Elective Core Requirements in Program
- ☐ Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Alison Spencer

Student Learning Outcomes

- 1 Use the language and tools of observational drawing
 - 2 Define visual concepts in personal work
 - 3 Apply advanced understanding of drawing processes
Evaluate effectiveness of processes and techniques through regular
 - 4 critiques
 - 5 Relate key illustration readings to image making
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Course Materials and Texts

ART 1210 Materials List

Strathmore 300 Series Drawing Pad, Medium Surface, 14"x17", Wire or Glue Bound, **50 Sheets**

Sketchbook with white paper - no smaller than 8 1/2" X 5 1/2"

Drawing Board with clips - should fit your drawing pad

6 Drawing Pencils - 2H, H, HB, 2B, 4B, 6B

3 Charcoal or Carbon Pencils - Soft, Medium, Hard or 2B, 4B, 6B (General's)

Quality Metal Pencil Sharpener (Kum, Faber Castell, etc.)

Craft Knife with blade (X-Acto, etc.)

Kneaded Eraser

White Vinyl Eraser

18" Stainless Steel Ruler

3/4" Artist tape roll or low tack painters tape

Can 11 oz Workable Fixatif

Pencil Case

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

This course is designed to increase competence in drawing methods for visual communicators. Students develop observational and conceptual abilities through intensive practice, lecture, demonstration, and critique, applying representational drawing principles and techniques to portray form and space effectively in 2 dimensions. Students also work towards achieving a level of competency with drawing materials.

Grading Policy

1. Late work will not be accepted for grading

a. Deadlines for each assignment are given when projects are discussed. If work is not finished and turned in on the deadline you will not receive full credit for that assignment.

b. Completed homework projects are due at the beginning of the class period on the date defined in the course calendar. The beginning of the class period is defined as when the role is taken—after that time, work has missed the deadline and cannot be accepted for grading. All project due dates can be found on Canvas.

c. Knowing that sometimes there are problems beyond your control or your instructor may require changes that will delay the completion of your project; an extension of the deadline requires instructor approval in advance.

2. Projects must be finished on the due date when we hold a brief class critique. Projects are then left to receive a grade.

Students will have the opportunity to improve their work after the critique. Students are, in fact, required to make changes defined by the instructor during the critique (take notes). This is one of the most important aspects of student learning. It also parallels professional practices.

3. Grading for this class is based on the student's ability to demonstrate these four criteria:

Appropriateness of solution to the assignment, Design/Composition, Draughtsmanship, Craftsmanship (Skill with tools, neatness, and care) and Timeliness.

A total of 100 points are possible for each project.

Any project may be reworked for a higher score. All reworked projects must be completed and turned in the last week of class.

A 94-100

A- 90 – 93

B+ 87 – 89

B 83 – 86

B- 80 – 82

C+ 77 – 79

C 73 – 76

C- 70 – 72

D+ 67 – 69

D 63 – 66

D- 60 – 62

E below 59

Final Grade will be based on the following scale:

30% of final grade - Drawing Exercises

60% of final grade - Drawing Projects

10% of final grade - Discussions, Class Participation

Attendance Policy

Due to the nature of an online classroom, there is no attendance requirement. However, you are responsible to work through all course content and submit projects by the due dates listed.

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Unit 1 – Line

Blind/Modified Contour Line, Negative Shape, Gesture Drawing

Unit 2 – Measuring and Sighting

Bargue Plate Copy, Measuring and Sighting from Life (simple and complex)

Unit 3 – Tonal Value

Value Scale, Notan, Classic order of light, Sphere rendering, Tonal Copy drawing, In-class tonal drawing (1,2), Hatching, High Key vs. Low Key Drawing, Toned Paper

Unit 4 – Final Project

Thematic Drawing using multiple drawing processes.

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

AI programs are not a replacement for your human creativity, originality, and critical thinking. Drawing, painting, thinking, ideating, and researching are crafts that you must develop over time to develop your voice. At the same time, you should learn how to use AI and in what instances AI can be helpful to you.

The use of generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Google Bard, Dall-e, etc.) is permitted in this course for the following activities:

- Brainstorming and refining your ideas;
- Finding information on your topic;
- Organizing your thoughts

The use of generative AI tools is not permitted in this course for the following activities:

- Impersonating you in classroom contexts, such as by using the tool to compose discussion board prompts/responses assigned to you or content that you put into a Teams/Canvas chat.
- Completing work that has been assigned to you.
- Composing, drawing, or digitally painting entire parts of your project including thumbnail sketches, comp sketches, or completed work.

You are responsible for the information and creative output you submit based on any AI query (for instance, that it does not violate intellectual property laws, or contain misinformation or unethical content). Your use of AI tools must be properly documented and cited to stay within university policies on academic honesty.

Any student work submitted using AI tools should indicate what work is the student's work and what part is generated by the AI. In such cases, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, please reach out to me for a conversation before submitting.

Using Remote Testing Software

☒ This course does not use remote testing software.

☐ This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.