

## **EXPERIMENTAL DRAWING CONCEPTS (7 WEEKS)**

Course instructor: Logan MacDonald

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Course schedule: Mondays from 6pm - 9pm

July 9 – Aug 27, with no class on Aug 6 due to civic holiday

Note: I am hearing impaired. If I don't respond to you, it's probably because I didn't hear you.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This intermediate-level course is designed to expose students to the experimental approaches of contemporary drawing as an art practice. Emphasis is placed on the studio development of drawing through material discovery and experimentation, in conjunction with exploring their own individual skill-set strength with image creation. Students will develop individual artworks that will be produced through exploration of concepts, materials, processes, technologies and presentation formats – in an aim to develop a diverse body of work that is engaged with a broadened understanding of contemporary drawing as a flexible discipline. Individual projects will seek to explore how drawing is understood as a Contemporary art practice and how it engages with other disciplines as an interdisciplinary media.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- **LEARN** from project based assignments
- **SKILL BUILD** with a variety of materials, tools and processes
- **PRODUCE** creative works that demonstrate innovation of concepts and materials
- **DEVELOP VOCABULARY** from mentorship, class critiques/discussion, and presentations
- **EXPAND KNOWLEDGE** of contemporary and historical drawing practices
- **OBTAIN FEEDBACK** to enhance and strengthen material and conceptual processes

## **COURSE SCHEDULE OUTLINE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

**W1 (July 9) SPEED:** observational/experimental blind-contour drawing.

**Exercise:** Students will draw each other in a meet and greet round robin style.

**++ Course overview, Phase 1 presentation, & next class demonstration.**

**Required materials:** Pen/pencil and paper (light-weight sketchbook/paper will suffice)

### **PHASE ONE**

**W2 (July 16) SUBSTANCES:** Exploring a range of substances/liquid solutions/organic materials, in how they can prepare/treat paper. Experimenting with non-traditional solutions as tools for drawing.

Working both with representation and abstraction. Using blind contour drawings from previous class as

impetus/source material for creation. This activity is prep for future drawings.

**++ Next class demonstration will be provided in class.**

**Required materials:** Paper (5 pieces of heavy paper, from Mix-media pad)

**Possible materials:** spray bottles, sponges, glue, gel medium, paint, acrylic ink, watercolors, brushes, small containers of oils (cooking or essential), coffee, tea, wax, glue, ash, fire, water, dirt, leaves, sap, grime/soot, soap, food coloring, tissue paper...

**W3 (July 23) IMPRESSIONS:** Working with objects, stencils & silhouettes, rubbings, and repetition to explore how impressions, repetitive mark-making, and observational drawing can infuse conceptual prompts. Thinking about how specific inclusions can create meaning. Using impressions as starting points to expand out from to create lyrical drawings.

**++ Class discussion, Phase 2 presentation, & next class demonstration.**

**Required materials:** Paper (Mix-media pad of heavy paper)

**Possible materials:** color pencils, graphite, charcoal, paint (water/acrylic), needles and thread, string, ash, acrylic/Indian ink, sea sponges, lace, textile, your own personal selection objects for imprinting, personal objects to draw, thematic objects to draw...

## **PHASE TWO**

**W4 (July 30) PROCESS:** Experimenting with a range of transferring and tracing methods that can be explored as drawing: carbon copy paper, photocopy transfers, light boxes, screens, print media, and digital print. Building on our past drawing works.

**++ Next class demonstration will be provided in class.**

**Required materials:** Paper (Mix-media pad of heavy paper), tissue, and/or lightweight paper sketch book, 3 - 6 photocopies of personal photographs, graphite, charcoal, felt tip ink pens, color pencils.

**NOTE: Carbon paper will be provided. Please come with 4-6 B&W photocopies.**

**Possible materials:** Old picture books, ephemera, magazines, source images to work from.

## **NO CLASS ON AUGUST 6**

**W5 (Aug 13) TRANSPARENCIES:** Experimentation with drawing on, tearing, overlapping, blocking, and framing with tissues, iron-on, velum, Mylar on paper. We will be exploring how to utilize layers, incorporating construction board and collaging drawings upon drawings.

**++ Class discussion, Phase 3 presentation, & next class demonstration.**

**Required materials:** Paper (Mix-media pad of heavy paper), tissue paper, Indian/acrylic ink (black or color), glue, water colors, pencils. **NOTE: Iron & iron-on paper will be provided.**

**Possible materials:** color pencils, graphite, charcoal, paint (water/acrylic), needles and thread, string, ash, acrylic/Indian ink, sea sponges.

## **PHASE THREE**

**W6 (Aug 20) ACTION & GRAVITY:** We will be focusing on creating drawing that purposefully attempt to capture *action* and *gravity* as prompts to inform style, process, and/or purpose. We will look attempt to explore these prompts to inform our compositions as well as our methodologies to render our drawings in this class.

**++ Next class demonstration will be provided in class.**

**Required materials:** Paper (Mix-media pad of heavy paper), Markers, pens, pencils, string and straws

**Possible materials:** color pencils, graphite, charcoal, paint (water/acrylic), needles and thread, string, ash, acrylic/Indian ink, sea sponges.

**W7(Aug 27): CRITIQUES:** The first half of class will be a work period to fine tune drawings and set up for final critiques. In second half of class each student will have 2 works critiqued!

**Required materials: 2 Final works (drawings or drawing installations) ready to be critiqued!**

### **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

- Mix-media paper pad (between 9 x 14" to 22 x 33")
- Indian ink (black)
- Acrylic ink well (black/color optional)
- Graphite pencils (4H to 4B)/color pencils
- Charcoal
- Black felt tip Pens (micron pens – any of these sizes: .5, 1, 2, 3)
- Small to Med size paint brushes
- Glue (paste, stick, crazy or rubber cement)
- Suggested mix-media experimental substances: Oil (cooking or essential), wax, ash, soda, coffee, tea, gold leaf, nail polish, nail polish remover, citrus, vinegar/wine, beer, varnish, etc...
- Personal photograph (subject for drawing) – **Photocopied in B&W**
- 3 pieces of high-quality paper, 20in x 30in (Such as: Sommerset, BFK Reves, Stonehedge)
- Sketchbook
- Tissue paper/frosted mylar
- Cardboard

### **OPTIONAL / SUGGESTED MATERIALS**

- Eraser
- Ruler
- Scissors / xacto knife
- Small Jars
- Oil (cooking or essential), wax, ash, soda, coffee, tea, gold leaf, nail polish, nail polish remover, citrus, vinegar/wine, beer, varnish, etc)
- Rags/paper towel
- Japanese paper, velum, tissue
- Sea sponge
- Stencils
- Tape
- Disposable vinyl gloves
- College paper/ephemera materials (old cards, gift paper, stamps, receipts, clippings...)
- Magazines and/or printed paper (vintage or new) for college
- Hammer/mallet
- Sticks
- String
- Misc. (Fur, leather, beads, cotton, hair, foods, plants)
- Pigment powders
- Straws