FIGURE DRAWING in Florence Italy
ASTU 5000: MFA Topics in Studio Art: Figure Drawing (Summer 2018)
Instructor: Christian Fagerlund
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COURSE DESCRIPTION: (Florence, Italy)
This course will focus on visual observation of the human figure and interpretation through various drawing techniques. Special emphasis will be placed on drawing from observation with proportional accuracy and sensitivity to anatomical understanding. Drawing assignments will be centered around drawing from male and female nude human figure models, drawing from figurative art on location, and drawing from people in public spaces in this historically and culturally rich environment. Undergraduate students will have assignments corresponding to their respective course (level of experience and skills).

PREREQUISITES:
Consent of instructor. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
*Develop your observational skills in order to represent accurate shapes, proportions, and gestures.
*Expand and focus your understanding of figurative drawing within this specific cultural and historical context.
*Explore drawing media and techniques with sensitivity and aesthetic discretion, while emphasizing good craft.
*Develop methods and standards for critical evaluation, including use of relevant vocabulary & concepts.
*Exercise disciplined work habits that apply to one’s broader studio practice.

COURSE STRUCTURE:
Pre-Trip Meeting 1: logistics of travel and living in Italy.
Pre-Trip Meeting 2: Discuss course and pre-trip assignments.
In Italy: we will alternate teaching days with your other class, working on location at museums or public places of interest in the morning and studio time in the afternoons/evenings.

Morning Sessions In Italy: We will meet at locations around Florence where students will make sketchbook drawings from figurative artworks at museums and from people and sculpture in public spaces.

Afternoon Sessions In Italy: We will meet at the at the Santa Reparata International School of Art (SRISA) drawing studio for drawing sessions with nude models. These sessions will yield a series of gesture drawings, studies, and fully developed larger drawings. Class time will also allow for guided instruction through lectures, demonstrations, and one-on-one critiques of model drawings.

Weekends: We will usually have three days of open time to explore Florence or travel with friends. The weekend research sketchbook assignments are designed for portability, but the SRISA studio will also be open if you want to work in a comfortable studio. You will also be working on your Final Project during these open weekend studio sessions.
Siena Day Trip: SRISA will arrange a bus to explore the medieval hill town of Siena with its magnificent cathedral, museums, public spaces, restaurants, and shopping.

Venice Weekend: We will take a class trip to get lost among the bridges and canals of Venice.

STUDENT GRADE EVALUATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage of Semester Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sketch Book</td>
<td>40% of semester grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon Session Portfolio</td>
<td>40% of semester grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>10% of semester grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress and Participation</td>
<td>10% of semester grade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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* Progress and Participation grade will be dramatically effected by poor attendanc/punctuality.
** All project work is graded on form, technique, craft, and conceptual development.

Grading Scale for Projects/Assignments: The plus/minus system of grading will be used for:

- A (4.00) Excellent work
- A- (3.75)
- B+ (3.25)
- B (3.00) Good work
- B- (2.75)
- C+ (2.25)
- C (2.00) Acceptable work
- C- (1.75)
- D+ (1.25)
- D (1.00) Inferior work
- D- (0.75)
- F (0.00) Failing work.

Grading Scale for End of the Semester Averages:
The University of North Texas only allows for whole letter grades to be recorded for the semester grade.

- A (4.00-3.50)
- B (3.49-2.50)
- C (2.49-1.50)
- D (1.49-0.50)
- F (0.49-0.00)

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION:
The nature of this course requires that you attend all classes (whether in the studio or on location). It is expected that students be on time and prepared each session.

Full Class Participation means:

- Coming to class on time and staying the duration.
- Coming to class prepared to work.
- Coming to class with appropriate art materials and preparatory work complete.
- Being respectful for the spaces and people where we work.
- Paying close attention during class demonstrations and discussions.
- Using class time productively to make clear progress on projects.
- Cleaning up after oneself, both in the studio and on location.
- Coming to critique sessions with completed artworks.
*In Critiques: Giving engaged, relevant, and critical attention, comments, and questions with respect to your peers’ work AND thoughtfully discussing & answering questions about your own work. Not meeting any of the above will significantly lower your participation grade.

FUNCTIONAL CAPABILITIES NECESSARY:
Some physical/emotional functional capabilities are essential and cannot be modified to participate. For example, we will encounter many buildings with stairs and no elevator, uneven sidewalks and cobblestone streets, and hot/humid environments. Students must carry their own luggage, have the ability to function in a close-knit group, and endure walking and standing for extended times and distances.

COMMUNICATIONS IN ITALY
Communications between instructors and students outside of classtime in Italy will primarily be made via text message. All students will be required to have a device that can send/receive international text messages. This device may be one from the USA that that you update with an international text plan or an Italian rental phone that you acquire in Italy. SRISA will identify a rental phone company during orientation in Florence. Text messages will typically deal with routine updates to the schedule or other class details. Your UNT instructor will be available via text for regular issues, or by phone call (24-7) for issues that may need more immediate action.

EXTRA CURRICULAR TRAVEL IN EUROPE
Long weekends in the course schedule are designed to encourage students to plan excursions to places in Italy that enrich the educational and overall study abroad experience. For the sake of safety, students must contact the professor via text before departure with the location (city, lodging), travel itinerary (train/bus info/times) and names of travel partners. Students making an excursion outside of Florence must travel with at least one (preferably two) other students from our program. If you contact the instructor early, he may be able to give you travel advice for your excursion.

SAFETY & COURSE RISK FACTOR
According to university policy, this course is classified as a category 3 course. Category 3 courses are described as: courses in which students are exposed to significant hazards that have the potential to cause serious bodily injury or death. In this class, those risks are related to exposure to various chemicals, heavy tools, and sharp tools. Students enrolled in this class will be informed of potential health hazards or potential bodily injury connected with the use of materials and/or processes and will be instructed about how to proceed safely. Students who are pregnant or will become pregnant during the course of the semester are advised to check with their doctor immediately to determine if any additional risks are reason to postpone this course until a later semester. Upon request, your professor will provide a list of chemicals and safety issues for your doctor to review. Material Safety Data Sheets are available on all chemicals. It will be up to you and your doctor to determine what course of action to take.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
The College of Visual Arts and Design is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the College will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so.
does not fundamentally alter the course. If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) and to inform the instructor of your need for accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to the instructor no later than the first week of classes for students registered with the ODA as of the beginning of the current semester. If you register with the ODA after the first week of classes, your accommodation requests will be considered after this deadline.

Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union. You also may call the ODA at 940.565.4323.

CENTER FOR STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

“Each University of North Texas student is entitled to certain rights associated with higher education institutions. See www.unt.edu/csrr for further information.”

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Standards of academic honesty will be upheld. All work must be the product of the student’s own ideas and efforts. Any form of cheating will result in an “F” and referral to the Student Center for Rights and Responsibilities.

NOTE: I retain the right to change the syllabus and announce changes if the needs of the course or students change.

SYLLABUS AGREEMENT & LIABILITY RELEASE FORM:

Every student must fill out and sign the Syllabus Agreement, Liability Release and Artwork Image Reproduction of Artwork Waiver Form on the first day of classes. If a student is under 18 years of age a parent or legal guardian must sign.

SKETCHBOOK

8 x 11” Hard-bound or spiral-bound (80-100 white pages)

This sketchbook is to be separate from any that you are using for another class. Label each page with date, time, place, and simple description of the assignment or prompt.

Morning Session Sketchbook Assignments: your sketchbook will be a primary means of learning and evaluation in this class. It affords us a compact way to draw on-site in various museums, and public spaces such as piazzas, train stations, and markets to have a more fully integrated sense of art and life in Florence while documenting the time spent in this historically and culturally rich environment.

Weekend Sketchbook Assignments: these are designed to allow you to continue your creative development while traveling to another city in the region or exploring local interests. Travel and exploration should always be done with at least one (preferably two) other students from our program.

Pre-trip Assignments will include the following:

- Research about Florence (specific places, artworks, etc).
- Pre-trip impressions and musings about Italian language and culture.
• An introduction (to me) to your personal creative direction, figure drawing experience, interests, and current artworks.
• Review of anatomical terms and landmarks.
• A series of drawing assignments that demonstrate your technical abilities.

Evaluation will be based on the development of the sketchbook with attention to responsiveness to daily objectives. Your sketchbooks will be reviewed regularly to mark progress. All sketchbooks will be re-submitted after returning to the US for grading. Turn in your sketchbook to my office (the Arts building, rm. 323A).

PROJECTS
Afternoon sessions will include demonstrations, lectures, critiques, and live figure drawing sessions. We will draw from nude models in the studio at SRISA. Each modeling session will begin with a series of gesture drawings, and then progress to longer poses that focus more on value/form development. These drawings will make up your Afternoon Session Portfolio.

Your Final Project (either one large figure drawing or series of small drawings) will relate to your personal interests and experiences while in Florence. This will be an opportunity for more open creative freedom and expression. You will work on this project on weekends and during open-studio hours at SRISA.

Evaluation will be made based on form, technique, craft, and conceptual development. All drawings (Afternoon Session Portfolio and Final Project) will be submitted after returning to the US for grading. After you return to the US, carefully unroll your drawings, then place them under weights in a safe place for several days. Turn in your work in a clean portfolio (labeled with your name on the outside) to my office in the Arts building, rm. 323A.

***The primary distinction between the Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced level figure drawing class will be in the quantity and quality of the Sketchbook assignments, Afternoon Session Portfolio, and Final Project. Assignments for the higher-level classes may engage some more complex concepts or techniques.

SUPPLIES:
The cost of materials for the projects required to complete this course will vary according to the choices made by the individual student.

Provided: Some limited art materials will be provided for the student.

To be purchased Prior to the Trip: Some materials will be purchased prior to the trip and brought to Italy. Some of these materials may be ones that you have left from Core Drawing, Core Design, or other studio art classes. Other materials you will need to buy specifically for this course. An updated list of supplies will be issued with the official syllabus in Spring Pre-Trip Meetings. Do not bring any sharp, dangerous, aerosol, or flammable products in your carry-on baggage. Do not bring any aerosol or flammable products in your checked baggage.

To be purchased After arrival in Florence: Some materials are impractical to bring with us to Italy. These will be purchased in Italy. Some excellent art suppliers in Florence include Zecchi’s, Salvini, and others.
Bring your Syllabus and Pre-Trip Hand-outs with you to Italy and to class. Mark all your materials with your name.

STUDENT COPY

Figure Drawing, University of North Texas, SRISA Instructor: Christian Fagerlund

Your Name: __________________________________
Name you want to be called: ____________________
Course Title/number: __________________________

Phone #: ________________________________ (I will use this to contact you.)
Email: ______________________________________(I will use this to contact you.)

"I have read and fully understand the course content, structure, attendance, and grading requirements as outlined and described in the course syllabus. I hereby agree to the syllabus and its provisions. I understand that there are certain risk factors assumed with this course, and I assume full responsibility for any injury that I may incur as a result of the course’s activities.”

“I grant CVAD and its representatives permission to use my artwork and my likeness for public display, exhibition, publication, or other research and educational purposes. I understand no commercial use will be made of the images, but that the images could be used on the College and University’s public website and possibly in other educational or public relation campaigns.”

Course Risk Factor: 3

Student Signature; ________________________________

Date: ____________________________________________