

RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

ARTS 242 FIGURE DRAWING I

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: ARTS 242 – Figure Drawing I

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2023

D. Effective Term: FALL 2024

E. Sponsoring Department: Arts & Design

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 4 Lecture: 2
Laboratory: 2
Out of class student work per week: 5

H. Prerequisites: ARTS-110 Basic Drawing I

I. Additional Fees: none

J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair:

Virginia Smith Virginia.Smith@raritanval.edu

Darren McManus Darren.McManus@raritanval.edu

Divisional Dean at time of approval:

Patrice Marks Patrice.marks@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: ARTS 110 - Basic Drawing I

This course will cover pictorial concepts motivated by the study of anatomy and the human figure. A live model will be drawn weekly. Students will primarily use black and white media, such as charcoal, graphite and ink. Students will purchase their own art supplies.

III. Statement of Course Need

- A. Figure Drawing I is a required course for students majoring in the Associate of fine Arts: Visual Arts Degree. Students who are interested in being able to develop their figure drawing skills benefit from taking this course. This course is required or offered as a studio option in most, if not all two and four year art programs.
- B. This course has a lab component because it is a studio course and requires students to draw from a live model using artistic materials within the classroom setting, under the guidance of the instructor.
- C. This course generally transfers as a visual art program elective dependent on the institution.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free elective.
- B. This course does not serve as a General Education course.
- C. This course meets a core program requirement for the A.F.A. Visual Arts
- D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

- A. Class sessions drawing (primarily in black and white) the observed nude model, with projects assigned and supervised by the instructor. Related homework assignments are also given.
- B. Skeletal structure and nomenclature underlying the human figure.
- C. Muscular structure and nomenclature underlying the human figure.
- D. Surface appearance of the human figure at rest and in motion (surface's relationship to the skeletal and muscular systems).
- E. Realistic and abstract compositions using the human figure.
- F. Drawing the human body as a means towards expressing the human condition or to express a specific social context.
- G. Expressing the emotional aspect of the human figure.
- H. Placing the human figure within a narrative.
- I. Proportion of the human figure.
- J. Foreshortened viewpoints of the human figure.
- K. Specific emphasis on development of the hands and feet.
- L. Development of self-expression through the subject of the figure.

- M. Black and white media to be used: Charcoal, ink, and pencil plus misc. media such as china-marker, Conte Crayon, collage, tempera or gouache.
- N. Some color media will be introduced such as pastel, colored pencil and gouache.
- O. Better quality white and middle value paper will be used for most projects.
- P. Formal Development such as:
 - 1. Gesture drawing
 - 2. “Blind” contour and contour drawing
 - 3. Tonal drawing to create a sense of volume
 - 4. Multiple viewpoint drawings
- Q. Lectures/discussions/slide and film presentations on the human figure and the development of the nude in Western art up to the contemporary. Emphasis placed on the changing attitudes towards the nude in art. Also: the study of the formal structure of the drawings.
- R. Museum/gallery visit: written assignment (critical analysis) based on the visit.
- S. Development of a sketchbook.

VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Analyze and critique one’s own work and classmates’ work in classroom discussion and weekly critiques using critical analysis, ethical reasoning and constructive comments (GE 1, ER *)
- 2. Employ creative problem-solving to develop an idea into a finished artwork (GE-*)
- 3. Analyze, identify and critique the formal elements and their bearing on the meaning of various types of artwork orally and in writing (GE 1, 6 *)
- 4. Produce drawings that are in accurate proportion, and reflect knowledge of the skeletal and muscular systems.

(*embedded critical thinking)

B. Assessment Instruments

- A. Portfolio of artwork
- B. Museum/gallery written paper
- C. Participation in group critiques and general class participation
- D. Sketchbook

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. Drawings completed during class-time
- B. Homework drawings

- C. Sketchbook
- D. Written paper
- E. General class participation including group critiques
- F. Attendance

Primary formats, modes and methods for teaching and learning:

- 1. Lecture/ discussion/critiques
- 2. Instructor demonstrations
- 3. Studio work time (in-class and homework)
- 4. Research

VIII. Texts and Materials

- A. Suggested Textbook; such as Drawing From Life (latest edition) by Brown and McLean, Publisher: Thomson/Wadsworth
- B. Handouts
- C. Slide examples
- D. Web sites
- E. Suggested readings from periodicals such as: N.Y. Times, Art In America, Art Forum

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

- A. Employment of a nude model for approximately 3 ½ hours per class.
- B. Drawing studio equipped with:
 - 1. sink
 - 2. still life props
 - 3. appropriate studio furniture
 - 4. chalkboard
 - 5. model stand
 - 6. track lights
 - 7. walls that allow drawings to be displayed
 - 8. window blinds must be able to be closed
 - 9. portable heater for model
- C. RVCC college library

- D. Instructional drawing supplies
- E. High resolution digital projector with speakers for video playback

X. ☐ Honors Course ☐ Honors Options ☒ N/A