

<b>Course:</b>	VAS 3300 Advanced Drawing
<b>Term:</b>	Fall 2015/Winter 2016
<b>Time:</b>	Tuesday: 8:30am -12:30 pm
<b>Location:</b>	VAC rm. 206
<b>Professor:</b>	Patrick Howlett
<b>E-mail:</b>	phowlett@uwo.ca
<b>Phone:</b>	661-2111 ext. 80078
<b>Office:</b>	VAC 241B
<b>Office Hours</b>	Tuesday & Wednesday 1-2pm or by appointment

**Prerequisite for Entry:** VAS 2210 or VAS 2204 or permission of the department.

### **Course Description**

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 particular emphasis on exploratory and research-based approaches to traditional and non-traditional drawing media. Studio projects will be supported by ongoing readings, lectures, critiques and discussions and provide context and exposure to a range of practices, approaches and issues in contemporary drawing.

### **Learning Outcomes**

- Application of Knowledge:
  - o Demonstrate visual, perceptual, and conceptual skills through the process of drawing.
  - o Demonstrate theoretical knowledge and technical skills associated with contemporary approaches to drawing and apply these resources towards self-directed problem solving.
- Communication of Knowledge:
  - o Visually and orally demonstrate a familiarity with recent and historical issues relevant to the making and evaluation of contemporary drawing
- Autonomy and Professional Capacity:
  - o Acquire sufficient critical and creative competence to begin to exploit the resources of drawing to advance an self-directed studio practice.

### **Course Requirements**

VAS 3300 will be structured around an integrated combination of studio exercises, assignments and projects, culminating in the completion of two independent projects in the second term. In the first semester students will develop a folio of research materials and working drawings produced both independently and in response to specific problems assigned by the instructor. Students will also be required to prepare research material for presentation to the class and complete a series of short response papers to assigned readings and presentations.

### **Student Responsibilities**

Failure to submit complete assignments or present completed work in scheduled critiques or other presentation contexts will result in a failing grade for that project. Unexcused students arriving late to scheduled critiques will not be permitted to present their work for discussion. Work submitted for assessment that is not clearly identified, organized and effectively bound will not be graded. Requests for deadline extensions cannot be considered unless approved by the instructor at least 24 hours before the assignment is due. Repeated requests for extensions without appropriate documentation will not be considered. With fair notice, course assignments, procedures or due dates may be changed by the instructor in response to class needs. It is the student's responsibility to keep informed of any such changes. Failure to attend an important demonstration or lecture without due cause will result in the student researching the information for themselves.

Students are expected to come to the beginning of each class prepared with all the materials required for that day's activities.

Students must thoroughly **clean up** their work areas after each work session, all garbage must be disposed of, any spills, dust, etc. must be wiped up with a damp cloth, and all classroom furniture must be returned to its original place. Failure to properly clean up will result in loss of participation marks.

Students are expected to document and post clear, descriptive pictures of their work on WebCT after every critique. Failure to do so will deem projects incomplete and will not be evaluated.

Only non-toxic materials are permitted in the drawing classroom. Should a student wish to use solvents or aerosols for any purpose, they must do so in the spray booths in the painting classroom or workshop.

At the end of the course all work must be removed from lockers and studios. The department will not be responsible for work left in studios past the announced clean out date in the third week April.

### **Attendance Policy**

As a studio course, attendance is crucial. Under University regulation, a student who is absent from 15% of class hours may be debarred from final evaluations without prior consultation unless a documented excuse (illness, bereavement, etc.) is provided from the student's academic advisor. If a student consistently misses one hour of a four hour class, they may exceed the 15% absence rate, and be debarred from final evaluation.

With instructor's consent students may hand in work late with a 5% per day deduction from the assignment. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor(s) by email regarding the missed deadline, as an appointment may be necessary to hand in late work. Late assignments submitted beyond one week after the due date will not be accepted, and will be graded zero. Extensions will be given for documented health or bereavement reasons following official notification from the student's faculty advisor.

Attendance and participation in all class activities is mandatory. Attendance will be noted and Participation grades will be assessed at the end of each term. Grades for Attendance account for 5% of your participation mark: Perfect attendance =5%; 1 absence=4%; 2 =3%;3=2%;4=1%. Please note that more than 4 absences in a semester could lead to being debarred from participation in final critiques. Arriving late twice will count as 1 absence; or if you are late more than an hour. Participation will be weighed 5% per semester on the basis of demonstrated engagement in class activities, oral participation in critiques and class discussions and preparation for class (for example: having all required materials).

### **Reading Requirements**

Required course readings will be accessible to students through the course website on WebCT or on reserve in the resource library. On WebCT they will be posted with the date the reading discussion is scheduled. Students will be required to submit a brief, printed response (usually an informed question) regarding the reading on the day scheduled readings will be discussed in class. No late reports will be accepted, as this is part of your participation mark. Students will also be expected to undertake independent readings as part of their independent research work and submit an annotated bibliography in the second semester.

### **Evaluation**

#### **Fall Semester Grading Breakdown**

- |                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| • Weekly Assignments (10) | 50% |
| • Observation Sketchbook  | 20% |
| • Presentation            | 20% |
| • Participation           | 10% |

#### **Winter semester grading breakdown**

- |                                             |     |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|
| • Independent Work                          | 70% |
| • Independent Research Archive & Sketchbook | 20% |
| • Participation                             | 10% |

**First term will be weighted 50/50 with second term to arrive at final course grade.**

All grades will reflect the student's ability to clearly demonstrate:

- Successful completion and understanding of general course objectives (as above), and specific assignment objectives.
- Technical and conceptual development and resolution in all assignments.
- An understanding of project concepts and the ability to clearly communicate that understanding in their material and oral responses.
- Inventiveness, thought and ambition in completed assignments.
- Participation in, and commitment to, *all* class activities.

As well as the success in meeting the above criteria, grades will be assessed as follows:

**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)**

The studio work demonstrates adequate engagement with the project. It shows an attempt to respond to assignment parameters but does so at a very basic level that lacks creativity. Engagement with studio production demonstrates basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is competent.

**50-59 (Marginal, D)**

The studio work shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The studio work waivers in its attempt to respond to assignment parameters and tends to be simplistic. Engagement with studio production demonstrates less than a basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is less than satisfactory.

**Below 50 (Unacceptable, F)**

The studio work demonstrates a failure to comprehend/engage the topic. The studio work is incomplete and lacks redeeming creative merit. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is unacceptable.

**Required Course Materials**

In addition to any student-selected materials brought into the course in response to particular projects or assignments, the following required (\*recommended) drawing media will provide a basic *starting* kit for the course and the Weekly Assignments in Term One:

- graphite pencils (2H, HB, 2B, 4B, 6B)
- graphite stick (6B)
- colour pastels (oil and/or chalk)\*
- black oil stick (or oilbar)
- black fine and blunt markers (non-toxic)
- soft charcoal blocks (compressed)
- sienna and white conté (medium soft)
- black and at least one other colour of drawing inks
- watercolours/gouache
- 1 tube white gouache
- reed brush, flat brush, round brush (Qmedia are a good value)
- kneadable and white vinyl erasers
- pencil sharpener with shavings collector\*

- ruler (ideally 15" or longer and metal)
- sketchbook; minimum 14 x 11"; gold paper
- 30 (min 8.5 x 11) paper sheets (assorted sizes, colour & texture)
- newsprint (large and bound as pad)
- rigid drawing board to fit newsprint with clips
- 10 sheets cartridge paper 18"x24"
- 8 sheets Stonehenge or other professional drawing paper (white – 20x30")
- 1 sheet each coloured (grey) and black drawing paper (20 x 30")
- min. 48" X 60" stonehenge paper (purchased from roll)
- workable fixative (use ONLY in department spray booth!)
- cardboard or portfolio for storage of completed drawings (tape or string binding fine – garbage bags will not be accepted)
- masking and/or painters (removable) tapes ( green or blue usually)
- retractable blade utility knife
- archival adhesive or glue stick,
- scotch tape
- any other materials following individual project initiatives
- chemical vapour respirator with charcoal filter

Other materials will be required for specific assignments and projects. Students are responsible for knowing what tools and materials they need for each class.

**The University of Western Ontario  
Visual Arts Department**

**Safety and Maintenance Sheet  
Drawing and Foundations**

**Faculty Responsibilities:**

- Inform students about safe use of toxic materials and ensure that students are following safe procedures. In case of an emergency, call 911.
- Instruct students in the proper use of the spray booth in room 230 if they wish to use aerosol fixatives. (The door of the booth must be **closed** when in use.)
- At the end of each class, return props and drapes to the model closet.
- At the end of each class, return space heaters and skeleton to room 206A, and opaque projectors, slide projectors, etc. to room 244. In the case of evening classes, equipment may be stored in your office and returned the next day.
- Notify Marlene Jones of any burnt-out bulbs, broken or missing furniture, broken window blinds, etc.
- Inform students about general cleanup (including removal of paint, etc., from table surfaces), about storage of work in progress, and removal of completed marked work.
- Supervise students' adherence to the maintenance requirements listed below, under the heading "Student Responsibilities".

**Student Responsibilities:**

- When using paint, remember that some pigments are more hazardous than others. Take special care with cadmium colours, cobalt colours, manganese colours, zinc white, flake white, cerulean blue, vermilion red, burnt and raw umber.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while painting since these activities may lead to accidental ingestion of paint.
- Use aerosol fixative only in the spray booth in Room 230 or outdoors. Fine mists from these sprays can penetrate deep into the lungs.
- At the end of each class, remove work-in-progress from easels, A-frames and walls, and store these works in your locker or storage racks.
- At the end of each class, clean all table surfaces. Throw used jars and other containers, and dirty rags and paper towels, into the garbage containers.
- Take home all completed graded work.
- Replace drawing boards in the model closet.
- Wash your hands thoroughly when you are finished working with dry or wet pigments or inks. Use a good hand cream after washing with soap, in order to prevent damage to your skin's natural defensive barrier.

**Please note: According to University regulations guiding "Laboratory Use," students who fail to respect the responsibilities listed above will not have their final course grades sent to the Registrar.**

**OWL:**

All students can access to the OWL Sakai course site: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

**University and Department Student Resources**

**Students in Distress:**

"Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western [http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental\\_health](http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help."

**Medical Illness:**

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness go to : <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf>; for Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca>

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. A student who cannot complete assignments totalling less than 10% for the whole course, due to medical reasons, may speak with the instructor and arrange an extension of no more than two weeks to complete the assignments without presenting medical documentation.

**The University of Western Ontario  
Visual Arts Department**

**POLICIES**

**Student Conduct:**

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

**Attendance:**

A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams, or participation in final studio evaluations. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.

**Prerequisites:**

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal. If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism, which may be defined as "The act or an instance of copying or stealing another's words or ideas and attributing them as one's own," will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from *Black's Law Dictionary*, 1999, 7<sup>th</sup> ed., p. 1170). (Refer to <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg113.html> or the 2015/2016 Western Academic Calendar, with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.)

**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.

**Building Access:**

The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:30 pm each night. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00 noon-5:00 pm. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:30 pm and 5:00 pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

**Please remember:**

One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Prof. David Merritt (tel. 519-661-3440; [vaugc@uwo.ca](mailto:vaugc@uwo.ca)). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty, IGA Building, Room 1N20 (Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the counselors for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities).

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; [www.sdc.uwo.ca](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca)) offers a wide range of useful services to students including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.

The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: [www.lib.uwo.ca](http://www.lib.uwo.ca).

Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program which offer part-time positions on campus for Western students.

Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail, [finaid@uwo.ca](mailto:finaid@uwo.ca); or check out their website at [http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student\\_finances/financial\\_counselling.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html)

**VAS 3300 First Semester Syllabus**

\*Meant to give you an indication of what you will need for each class. Basic tools and ample paper supply should be brought to (or at least be available to use) every class. Other materials will be added and so this list will be discussed/updated the week before they are required.

Date	Activities	Discussion Topics	Materials & Deadlines
Sep. 15	Course Introduction WA1: Poem Piece	Material Requirements; Assignments; Evaluation; Questions;	
Sep. 22	Critique WA1 WA2: Too Much to Draw	Observation, shorthand, depth, tone, space....	Grey (or other mid- tone) Drawing Paper (20 x 30");willow charcoal; conté;
Sep. 29	Critique WA2; WA3: Just Looking	Observation, visual consciousness, thinking and seeing	Paper, White gouache; Tape, silver wire
Oct.6	Critique WA3; WA4: Collage World History	Collage; media & message; history; juxtaposition & contrast...	Found magazines, picture books, etc; glue, many sheets of white & colour drawing paper, utility knife, scissors, tape, etc.
Oct. 13	Critique WA4; WA5: Bad Taste	Taste; aesthetics; style & subjectivity; what we communicate to a community	Conté, chalk/oil pastel, coloured, black and/or white drawing paper...
Oct.. 20	Critique WA5; WA6: Telling Stories	Narrative construction and suggestion, collaboration,	Found still life objects; paper (20 x 30")
Oct. 27	Critique WA6; WA7: In Process	Process and Procedure in contemporary art; material and process,	Wear work clothes! Pad of Newsprint ; Heavy drawing paper ( 20 x 30", 300lb;) Compressed Charcoal
Nov. 3	Critique WA7 WA8: In Process Continued	Material and process	Ink; watercolour; brushes; containers, sponges, watercolour paper; various other paper
Nov.10	Critique for WA8 WA9: The Musical Production	Planning and set-up; Scale, texture, rhythm; hand & body	Textiles, sheets, things to hang, place, stack etc, Large sheet of paper (4 x 3') from a roll; charcoal, oil stick, chalk pastel; pastel
Nov. 17	Critique for WA9; WA10: The sculpture in Drawing	Space, line, movement, light,	Twine, string etc; pins, found materials, paper, spraybottles etc...
Nov. 24	Critique for WA10; Student Presentations	Contemporary Drawing Practices	

Dec. 1	Student Presentations	Contemporary Drawing Practices	Due: Sketchbooks
Dec. 8	Student Presentations	Contemporary Drawing Practices	