

ARTS 4A: Beginning Drawing Winter 2025

De Anza College	Winter 2025
ARTS 4A	CRN: 33681 Section 53Z
Class Day/Time: No required meetings	Asynchronous Online Instruction Canvas/Zoom
Instructor: Meiru Huang	huangmeiru@fhda.edu
Office Hours (No appointment needed): Virtual Office Hour (via Zoom): Wed 4:30pm-5:30pm (Zoom link/meeting ID posted in Canvas course)	

Prerequisites

None

Course Description

An introductory course exploring the basic elements and principles of observational drawing, using traditional and experimental media.

Course Objectives

- A. Demonstrate the use of freehand drawing skills using a variety of techniques.
- B. Demonstrate the use of basic elements and principles of composition.
- C. Apply drawing skills in the interpretation of subject matter using various media.
- D. Demonstrate ability to draw from an objective point of view as well as from the imagination.
- E. Demonstrate an understanding of the creative process.
- F. Compare and contrast works of art representing a diversity of art traditions and cultures.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. The student will demonstrate freehand drawing skills using a variety of traditional media such as charcoal, graphite and ink.
2. The student will create representational, objective drawings using references such as drawing from observation (still life) and photographs.
3. The student will demonstrate the ability to create drawing compositions based on linear perspective, the basic elements and principles of design.

Recommended Textbooks

1. Chaet, Bernard. "The Art of Drawing". San Francisco: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1978.
2. Cahan, Susan and Zoya Kocur, eds. "Contemporary Art and Multicultural Education". NY: Abrams, 1994.
3. Edwards, Betty. "Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain: A Course in Enhancing Creativity and Artistic Confidence". Los Angeles/New York: Tarcher/St. Martins Press, 1979.
4. Gair, Angela. "Artist's Manual: A Complete Guide to Painting and Drawing Materials and Techniques", Chronicle Books, San Francisco, 1996.
5. Hoffman, Howard S. "Vision and The Art of Drawing". EnglewoodCliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1989.
6. James, Jane H. "Perspective Drawing: A Point of View". EnglewoodCliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1989.
7. Nicolaidis, Kimon. "The Natural Way to Draw: A Working Plan for Art Study". Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1961

8. William F Powell. "Perspective". Walter Foster Publishing, 1989

Asynchronous Online Course Structure

- **Canvas:** This course resides on the course management system called Canvas. It is accessible from *MyPortal*
- **Online Learning Equipment:** (1) A computer connected to stable internet to access Canvas. The interface of Canvas app is slightly different on an iPhone/iPad and more difficult to navigate. (2) A device to photograph your artwork for submission on Canvas for grading. Phone cameras will suffice (3) Art materials. Please purchase the art kit at the De Anza Bookstore. The list of materials is attached. (4) A flat table surface to work freely which is not your bed. Making art does get messy.
- **To Read/To Watch/To Do:** Readings, lectures and demos will be assigned in weekly modules. Students will follow instructions and complete homework. Do not skip to-read and to-watch items. Students are expected to spend about **5.5-6 hours weekly** on this course.
- **Assignments:** Homework for the course includes exercises, assignments, Canvas discussions, etc. This is a major component of the course. All homework will be evaluated and graded within one week of the due date. The grade for each homework assignment will be displayed in Canvas.
- **Instructional Feedback/Guidance:** Individual guidance is available online. Students are encouraged to ask questions through Need Feedback, Canvas Inbox and office hour.
- Instructor communicates with you through weekly Announcements. Thoroughly read (DO NOT skim) them. You are responsible for the information communicated. Additionally, your instructor might have the need to communicate with you individually. Check your Canvas regularly for grades, assignment feedback and discussion response. Expect 48 hours to have your questions answered.
- **Interaction With Peers: Discussions, Critiques & Peer Reviews**
 - Discussion:** Students post in Discussions as instructed and comment on peer's work. This is part of your class participation
 - Critique:** Midterm Critique & Final Critique will be conducted through Peer Review in Canvas where students provide feedback for artworks by assigned peers. Comments will be graded. Detailed instructions will be given
 - Peer Review:** Peer Reviews will be assigned to students for critiques. Students write comments for work by their peers to earn points. Detailed instructions will be provided
- **Weekly Student Hour (virtual through Zoom):** Instructor will host weekly virtual office hour through *Zoom*. Drop in any time during this period. No appointment needed
- **1-1 Meeting:** This meeting is optional. Students can sign up for an individual meeting after midterm critique to discuss their course performance and ask questions about art-related fields/classes
- **How to contact your instructor**
 - (1) **Message via Canvas (preferred):** This is the fastest way to get a response from instructor. Send instructor a message through Canvas Inbox. Expect 48 hours for a response

- (2) **Email:** Email instructor huangmeiru@fhda.edu
- (3) **Office Hour:** Instructor holds weekly virtual office hour. Students can drop in for questions and individual guidance. No appointment needed
- (4) **Upload to Assignments/Need Feedback under Canvas:** Upload an image of your artwork and ask instructor specific questions about your homework

Online Learning Participation & Engagement

- Students are expected to dedicate approximately 5.5-6 hours per week to this course
- Participation & contribution in class is important, which includes a mature and responsible approach to the subject, to the instructor, and to one's peers. Please remain supportive and respectful with your comments in Canvas
- To maintain physical and emotional health, students are recommended to set a daily/weekly routine to balance school, work, health, family responsibilities and leisure
- Support and guidance is available. Communicate and reach out for help when you need help
- Remind yourself to take breaks from screens

Assignments, Examinations and Extra Credit:

Assignments

- For most homework, students will submit by uploading pictures of artwork onto Canvas. Use JPG/JPEG format. Create an organized folder on your computer for this course and name your images properly. For example: Exercise 3_first & last name

Late Assignments

- Assignments need to be submitted in a timely fashion. Students have a 7-day window to submit after the due date for all assignments. Assignments turned in 7 days after the due date will be considered late. Late assignments are accepted but will be marked down.

Examinations

- Our final examination will be a critique on our Final Assignment through Peer Review (date/time TBD)

Extra Credit

- Making extra drawings related to class topics and earn up to 5 points. Specific topics and instructions will be announced. Points from Extra Credit work demonstrate student's willingness to devote more time to further practice discussed topics. These points cannot be used to substitute missing assignments

Grading

100 points	
Drawing Exercises (25pts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contour (1pt) • ink pen hatching (2pts) • proportion/scale with measuring/sighting (4pts) • value sphere (2pts) • ellipse & l-construction (2pts) • folds (4pts) • white on tone (4pts) • perspective drawing with VPs (2pts)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drawing furniture without VPs (2pts) • drawing faces/people (2pts)
Drawing Assignments (55pts)	#1: Ink Pen Drawing (10pts) #2: Negative Shapes (10pts) #3: Ellipse & Value Drawing (10pts) #4: Linear Perspective (10pts) #5: Final Assignment (15pts)
Class Orientation Quiz (5pts)	Online Quiz. Open book
Critiques (10pts)	Comments made in Midterm Critique & Final Critique
Participation (5pts)	Participation in Canvas discussions

Description of Grades

Grade	% Points	Description
A	92 – 100%	Excellent. Answers all course requirements on a level that is clearly outstanding.
A-	90 – 91%	
B+	88 – 89%	Good. Answers all course requirements on a level that is measurably above average.
B	82 – 87%	
B-	80 – 81%	
C+	70 – 79%	Passing. Answers all course requirements and performs at average level compared to course standards.
C	60 – 69%	
D	50 – 59%	Poor. Answers course requirements on a below average level, showing minimum knowledge required for passing the course.
F	< 50%	Failure. Does not answer course requirements or does so inadequately, demonstrating incomprehension of course material.

The final grade is a representation of overall class performance. Grading considerations include:

- Mastery of course content, creativity, and craftsmanship
- Effort and progress
- Points from Extra Credit work demonstrate student's willingness to devote more time to practice. These points cannot be used to substitute missing assignments

Class Policies

- Students are expected to have a flat table surface to work.
- Students are expected to have all required art materials for this course.
- Expect 48 hours to have your questions answered. Message through Canvas.
- NO DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR. A disruptive person is one who through his/her behavior, speech or actions, interferes with academic activity. Depending on the behavior, students who ignore the first given warning will be removed from class meetings.
- Student Rights and Responsibilities
<https://www.deanza.edu/judicial-affairs/rights-responsibilities.html>
- Let instructor and your peers know how you preferred to be called. Students can use their chosen name and pronoun. Please check this link for more information from Women, Gender and Sexuality Center
<https://www.deanza.edu/equityoffice/wgs-center/#program>

Academic Integrity

Cheating and plagiarism behavior will be reported

https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic_integrity.html

- **Cheating** is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of dishonest, deceptive or fraudulent means
- **Plagiarism** is representing the work of someone else as your own.

Important Dates

First day of class	Jan 6
Last day to add	Jan 20
Last day to drop without a "W"	Jan 19
Last day to drop with a "W"	Feb 28
Final Exams	March 24-28

NO CLASS: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Jan 20
NO CLASS: Presidents' Holiday Feb 14-17

Helpful Resources:

Covid-related Information

Check requirements for students to return to campus:

<https://www.deanza.edu/return-to-campus/students.html>

Student Resource Hub

<https://www.deanza.edu/online-ed/students/remoteteaching.html>

Student Success Center

<http://deanza.edu/studentssuccess/>

Need help? Student Success Center peer tutors can relate and are ready to help! Go to the [SSC homepage](#) and click on the yellow links for schedules and Zoom links.

- **Individual Weekly or Drop-in Tutoring:** Come with assignments or questions, or just drop by to see how tutoring works.
- **Workshops, group tutoring and group study:** Most people learn better with others...give it a try!
- **Support for online learning:** Speak with a friendly peer tutor or SSC staff member about motivation and organization strategies for online classes. We get it and are going through the same things, so let's support each other!
- **Need after-hours or weekend tutoring?** See the [Online Tutoring](#) page for information about **NetTutor** (via Canvas) or **Smarthinking** (via MyPortal).

Questions, comments, or suggestions? Contact Co-Directors Melissa Aguilar aguilarmelissa@fhda.edu or Diana Alves de Lima alvesdelimadiana@fhda.edu the appropriate [SSC contact](#).

Disabilities Support Programs and Services (DSPS)

<https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/>

Office of Equity, Social Justice and Multicultural Education

<https://www.deanza.edu/equityoffice/>

Pride Center LGBTQ+Resources

<https://www.deanza.edu/pride/>

Financial Aid

<http://www.deanza.fhda.edu/financialaid/index.html>

http://deanza.edu/cashier/installment_plan.html

Scholarships

<http://deanza.edu/financialaid/types/scholarships.html>

Food, Shelter/Housing, Transportation

<https://www.deanza.edu/resources/index.html>

http://deanza.edu/outreach/food_pantry.html

Hep to Quit Smoking

<http://www.deanza.fhda.edu/healthservices/quitsmoke.html>

Psychological Services is available

<https://www.deanza.edu/resources/index.html#psychological>

* This syllabus is subject to change as needed, even after the quarter has started. Please check Canvas

ARTS 4A COURSE OUTLINE

M. Huang

<u>WEEK 1</u>	<u>ORIENTATION, MATERIALS, SET-UP, CONTOUR, LINE</u>
1/6-1/10	Intro, syllabus, art supplies, set-up at home, Canvas, 3 tasks Contour, blind contour, line
<u>WEEK 2</u>	<u>LINE, INK & BRUSH</u>
1/13-1/17	ink & brush, ink wash, hatching/cross-hatching, #1-Ink Pen
<u>WEEK 3</u>	<u>POSITIVE/NEGATIVE SPACE, COMPOSITION</u>
NO CLASS	1/20 (Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday)
1/20-1/24	compositional rules, positive/negative space, #2-Negative Shapes with Ink
<u>WEEK 4</u>	<u>MEASURING/SIGHTING, PROPORTION/SCALE, VALUE</u>
1/27-1/31	proportion/scale, measuring/sighting, value, 5 characteristics of light and shadow
<u>WEEK 5</u>	<u>ELLIPSE, I-Construction</u>
2/3-2/7	Ellipse, I-construction
<u>WEEK 6</u>	<u>TONAL DRAWING</u>
2/10-2/14	1 st 4 marks, #3-Value & Ellipse
<u>WEEK 7</u>	<u>MIDTERM CRITIQUE, FOLDS, CONTE, WHITE ON TONE</u>
NO CLASS:	2/14-2/17 (Presidents' Holiday)
2/17-2/21	Midterm Critique, folds with conte, white on tone
<u>WEEK 8</u>	<u>LINEAR PERSPECTIVE</u>
2/24-2/28	1-1 meetings, 1-point Perspective, 2-point Perspective & 3-point Perspective,
<u>WEEK 9</u>	<u>LINEAR PERSPECTIVE</u>
3/3-3/7	#4-Perspective
<u>WEEK 10</u>	<u>SELF PORTRAIT, GRID METHOD</u>
3/10-3/14	drawing faces, drawing people, grid method, #5-Final Assignment
<u>WEEK 11</u>	<u>FINAL PROJECT</u>
3/17-3/21	Mixed media, drawing hair, #5-Final Assignment
<u>WEEK 12</u>	<u>FINAL EXAM</u>
3/24-3/28	Final Critique through Peer Review

*This is a preliminary outline of the course. Content is subject to change. Please check Canvas course.

ARTS 4A-HUANG MATERIALS

M. Huang

Paper: 1 **Strathmore 400 series Drawing Pad 18"×24"**(24 sheets, white, medium surface, NOT SMOOTH. NOT RECYCLED. NOT SKETCH PAPER) **OR *Blick Drawing pad from Blik stores, 18X24"*** (80lb, 30 sheets)

Charcoal: 2B, 4B charcoal pencil
1 box of vine/willow charcoal (soft, at least 6 sticks)
1 *General's* compressed charcoal stick (soft)
1 *General's white* charcoal pencil
1 chamois cloth 5"X7"

Pencils: A variety of grades, HB, 2B, 4B & a pencil sharpener
blending stumps (various size)

Conte: 1 Conte Crayon (Sanguine, Conte Crayon made in France preferred)

Brush: Calligraphy brush/bamboo brush ([Yasutomo Bamboo Calligraphy Brush - Size 3 or up](#), diameter of brush head slightly smaller than 0.5"; length of brush head about 1.5")

Ink: *Higgins* ink or Sumi/calligraphy Ink, (black, 1oz, non-waterproof referred)
Paint palette 6 well

Pen/Marker: *Sakura Pigma* Micron Pen (Black ink, size 05 or 08)

Erasers: 1 white plastic (magic rub)
1 pink pearl
1 kneaded

Ruler: 18" stainless steel ruler/yardstick

Tape: 1 masking tape/blue tape/artist tape (1" wide)

Spray: 1 Workable Fixative, non-odor (FOR OUTDOOR USE ONLY)

Knife: 1 *X-acto* knife (or utility knife, size #1 with cap)

Optional but handy (these items are included in the art kit):

- Drawing Board with Clips (19"×25" at least)
- 2 extra clips (about 2" wide)
- 1 Newsprint Pad 18"×24" (rough surface, 25-30 sheets. This is for drawing exercises. If you do not have this, you can use the Strathmore pad)

Other items to prepare:

- sand paper (cut up from 1 sheet OR 1 sandpaper block)
- several Q-tips
- cotton rags for cleaning

Art Kits are available for purchase through De Anza Bookstore.

Art Kit-ARTS D004A, Huang: <https://www.deanza.edu/bookstore/>

Art Supplies can also be purchased at:

Physical Stores:

- University Art (Redwood City)

- California Art Supply Company (San Mateo)
- Blick (Oakland/Berkeley/SF)
- FLAX (SF)
- Target, Walmart, Michael's (they might not have all items)

Online Stores (please be aware of shipping time):

- Blick
- Jerry's Artarama
- Amazon, Target, Walmart, Michael's