

# ARTS 4A / Beginning Drawing (Hybrid Version)

Units: 4 / Prerequisite: None

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"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." – Maya Angelou

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## In-Person Meetings:

**Mondays, 10:30am to 1:20pm / Room LCW-16**

Instructor: Julie Hughes

Contact: [hughesjulie@fhda.edu](mailto:hughesjulie@fhda.edu)

## Office Hours

Thursdays, 12:30 to 3:30pm

Office: Room A-66

*Email is the best way to reach me, as I check several times a day, Monday through Friday. Please allow at least 24 hours for a response. If my schedule allows, I will check on the weekends, but my response time may be considerably longer. If you wish to schedule a Zoom appointment with me, you can email me with a request.*

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## Course Description

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

This foundation course focuses on building fundamental drawing skills. Our main objective is to master drawing from observation of the visual world. We will work from direct observation as well as from found resources, imagination, and memory. Through various exercises, you'll develop hand-eye coordination, and improve your ability to translate three-dimensional space into a two-dimensional format. You will develop an awareness of the descriptive and abstract elements of drawing and will develop knowledge of the elements of composition.

This is a dynamic and challenging course, and we move very quickly. In order to do well, you must commit to doing your best, to having an open mind, to making mistakes, to taking criticism, to offering criticism, to working hard and to having fun.

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## Student Learning Outcomes

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

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## Course Objectives

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

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Demonstrations on techniques; lecture and visual aids; collaborative learning and small group exercises; discussion and problem solving performed in class; homework and extended projects.

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## Expectations and Responsibilities

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What You Can Expect from Me	What I Will Expect from You
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. I will provide you with a clear, organized course that is designed to ensure you meet our course outcomes in a meaningful manner.</li><li>2. I will provide a variety of assignments to ensure your learning needs are met.</li><li>3. I will be actively present in your learning.</li><li>4. I will provide a supportive and safe environment for you to share and discuss ideas with your peers.</li><li>5. I will reach out to you when I sense that you need support.</li><li>6. I will treat you with dignity and respect and be flexible to support your individual needs.</li><li>7. I won't be perfect. I am human and will make mistakes at times. I will view mistakes as an opportunity to learn and grow.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. You strive to be an active participant in this course and strive to meet due dates.</li><li>2. You will maintain an open line of communication with me so I understand how to support you.</li><li>3. You will contact me if you have a concern about meeting a due date.</li><li>4. You strive to regularly contribute to collaborative activities to ensure other members of the community have ample opportunity to read/listen, reflect, and respond to your ideas.</li><li>5. You will treat your peers with dignity and respect.</li><li>6. You will do your best to have patience with technology. There will be hiccups; expect them. We will get through them together.</li><li>7. You will give yourself grace. Expect to make mistakes. You are human, and you are stressed.</li></ol>

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## Grading

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I will grade assignments within one week of the due date. The following areas will be considered for each project:

**Design Process:** The design process includes the visual and conceptual development of your ideas through brainstorming, research and a series of sketches, as well as the refinement of those ideas. In order to develop your ideas, you will need to take time outside of class to gather materials and compile visual resources. The time you spend preparing will result in a more successful work of art in the end. Lack of preparation is evident and will result in the lowering of your grade.

**Form:** Form relates to how the artwork looks visually, including the strength of the composition and how successful you were in your use of the elements and principles of design.

**Content:** Content is what the artwork is about. When assessing projects, clarity of message and the connection between form and content will be considered.

**Execution:** The execution of your ideas is equally as important as the ideas themselves therefore; focusing on craft is essential. Craft is the neatness, precision, and attention to detail that you put into the making of your artwork. Rough edges, stray marks, dents and smudges all add up, and take away from the overall quality of your work. In addition to craft, you are taking this course to learn techniques and materials specific to painting. A portion of your grade will be based on your ability to demonstrate these techniques. De Anza College standards demand that work receiving an A grade be of superior quality and artistic merit. Presentation is the final step to consider with any artwork. This includes how you will display the work and what you have titled the piece.

**Result:** In grading a finished work of art, I will also consider levels of originality, creativity, risk and innovation I see. In critiques, I will look for your ability to demonstrate the critical analysis of your own artwork as well as those of your peers.

Over the course of the quarter, I will also consider:

- How your work and skills have improved
- Your level of dedication to and participation in the class

## Grading Percentages and Weights

Assignment Type/ Work You Will be Graded On	% of Grade
Drawing 'Quick-Fire' Exercises	30
Drawing Projects	30
Final Project	20
Discussions / Critiques	20

**Final Grades are based on a percentage scale:**

A= 100 – 93      A-= 92-90      B+= 89-87      B= 86-82      B-= 81-80      C+=79-76      C= 75-72

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## Late Work

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We are all people with full and busy lives outside of our class, therefore I will accept late work. However, you will lose 10% of the possible points for the painting/assignment each week that it is late past the deadline. It is very important for you to stay current with the work in the class, as projects and assignments build on each other. Your skills will continue to improve with practice, and the class is designed to provide greater technical and conceptual challenges as we progress throughout the semester. To earn points for your peer comments, feedback must be given in the moment when the work is due and we are all participating in the Discussion forum. You will not earn peer comment points if you make these comments when you turn in your late work. If your work is late, you should still come into the Discussion for the critique and give feedback to your peers. You can even post your in-process artwork if you would like feedback. We learn so much about ourselves and each other, as well as techniques and ideas through the critiquing process.

In an attempt to give you an accurate look at where you stand in the class on any given day, **anything not completed by the time of grading will be given a zero.** Once you turn in the late work, I will assess and adjust your grade. The last project of the quarter must be turned in on the day of the final class critique in order to be included in your final grade.

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## Policies

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### Class Participation

You are required to access our class in Canvas regularly and review all content. In this online course, your regular participation in Canvas is critical to your learning and success. Participation online involves logging in to our course, navigating through the content pages in a module, completing readings and videos, participating in discussions and other activities, and submitting assignments and quizzes. Your participation is not only an important part of *your* learning, it will also contribute to the learning of your peers. As members of our learning community, each of us has a responsibility to create an environment in which we can all learn from each other. This is especially true for critiques. Writing about your work and your classmates' work will help develop your vocabulary and increase your comfort with the critiquing process. The class schedule may adjust according to class needs, so stay informed.

**Drop Policy:** You are responsible for dropping this course. I will drop a student if there is no course activity in the first two weeks of the quarter. I may also remove you from the course just before the Withdrawl deadline if I notice you are no longer participating in the course.

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### Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty

You are responsible for doing your own work in this course. You are not learning if you are simply lifting ideas and/or language from other people or an AI program. We will discuss ways to ensure that you are able to use other people's ideas and cite them appropriately. There is a clear difference between making an error versus intentionally committing plagiarism. It is the belief at De Anza College that students share a responsibility with their instructors for assuring that their education is honestly attained. In keeping with this belief, every instructor has the responsibility and authority to deal with any instances of plagiarism, cheating and/or fabrication that occur in classes. More information on De Anza College's Academic Integrity Policy can be found here: [https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic\\_integrity.html](https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic_integrity.html)

If you are unclear on what constitutes plagiarism, cheating, and/or fabrication, please contact me and I will help you navigate.

## Policy on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The limited use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) is permitted to help you with your research, but it IS NOT permitted as an end result. All use of AI must be cited. I may also ask you to write a reflection on why and how you used AI and what you learned from doing so. If you turn in work that uses AI beyond these parameters, it will be considered a violation of De Anza College's Academic Integrity Policy as outlined in the College Catalog here: [https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic\\_integrity.html](https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic_integrity.html)

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## Accommodations

Students with disabilities, who may need accommodations in this class, are encouraged to contact the DSS Office as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely manner. Authorization, based on verification of disability, is required before any accommodation can be provided. The DSS Office can be contacted at (408) 864-8838 or by email at [dss@deanza.edu](mailto:dss@deanza.edu) or visit the <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/> to find out what services are provided.

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## Title IX Policy

De Anza College is committed to creating a safe learning environment for all members of our community, providing an academic environment that respects the dignity of all individuals. Our campus shall be free from gender-based discrimination and violence. Our college does not tolerate sexual misconduct, which includes, but is not limited to sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and gender-based hate crimes.

If you (or someone you know) experience or witness sexual misconduct, you can report it to any employee. If you would like to discuss the matter with someone confidentially, you may visit the Student Health Center webpage to discuss the matter with one of our mental health providers. All other employees of the college are required to report allegations to our Title IX Coordinator, Laureen Balducci [balduccilaureen@deanza.edu](mailto:balduccilaureen@deanza.edu) who will then reach out to provide resources, support, and information after receiving a report. Reported information will remain private. For more information regarding our Title IX procedures, reporting, or support measures, please visit the Sexual Misconduct/Title IX Information website

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## Important Dates

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### IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES (please refer to online calendar for detailed information)

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

April 7	Spring classes begin
April 20	Last day to <a href="#">add 12-week classes</a>
April 20	Last day to <a href="#">drop classes</a> without a W
May 24-26	Memorial Day Weekend - no classes, offices closed
May 30	Last day to <a href="#">drop classes</a> with a W
June 19	Juneteenth Holiday - no classes, offices closed
June 23-27	<a href="#">Final exams</a>

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## Course Calendar

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For detailed calendar, please refer to the Canvas Course

Week 1	Course Introduction, Materials, Elements and Principles of Design
Week 2	Drawing Fundamentals: Line, Sighting, Positive + Negative Shape
Week 3	Spatial Thinking + Visualization: Linear Perspective
Week 4	Spatial Thinking + Visualization: Linear Perspective Graphite Technique
Week 5	Graphite Technique
Week 6	Charcoal Technique
Week 7	Charcoal Technique
Week 8	Inkwash + Marker Technique
Week 9	Inkwash + Marker Technique
Week 10	Portraiture
Week 11	Portraiture Final Project Studio
Week 12	Finals Week. Final Project Due

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## Supplies + Materials List

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Materials can be purchased online from sources such as [dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com), [jerrysartarama.com](http://jerrysartarama.com), and [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), or at local brick-and-mortar businesses such as University Art and Michael's.

### Papers

- 18" x 24" drawing paper pad
- 10" x 7" sketchbook (optional)

### Pencils / Charcoal / Pens / Ink

- Graphite pencils: 2H, HB, 2B, 4B, 6B
- Charcoal pencils: Hard, Medium, Soft (or 2B, 4B, 6B)
- One box soft vine charcoal  
<https://www.dickblick.com/items/blick-studio-vine-charcoal-extra-soft-box-of-12/>
- One box compressed black charcoal  
<https://www.dickblick.com/items/alphacolor-charcoal-black--pack-of-3/>
- Three, black permanent markers (chisel tip, fine tip, ultrafine tip)
- One bottle black, waterproof ink  
<https://www.dickblick.com/products/higgins-waterproof-black-ink/>

### Brushes

- Synthetic brush kit (assorted – you will need 1" and smaller brushes)

### Tools

- 23.5" x 26" drawing board with clips
- 18" metal ruler
- X-acto knife and blades
- Pencil sharpener
- Synthetic chamois  
<https://www.dickblick.com/products/natural-artist-chamois/?fromSearch=%2Fsearch%2F%3Fsearchword%3Dartist%20chamois>
- Small can of workable spray fixative
- White plastic eraser
- Kneaded eraser  
<https://www.dickblick.com/products/blick-kneaded-erasers/?fromSearch=%2Fsearch%2F%3Fsearchword%3Dkneaded%20eraser>
- Scissors
- Glue stick