

DRAWING I
ART 1015-01 / 3 Units
Point Loma Nazarene University / Fall 2025

Professor: Sage Serrano, MFA
Class Days: Tuesday & Thursday
Class Time: 12:00-2:20PM
Classroom: Keller 109
Email: via Canvas / sserrano@pointloma.edu
(Allow for 24hr response except for weekends)
Office Hours: 11AM-12PM Thursdays by appointment
(please email to schedule for in-person or via Zoom)
Final Exam: December 18, Thursday 1:30-4:00PM

PLNU MISSION

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended to introduce students to a variety of materials and methods for drawing, as well as develop the student's understanding of historical precedent and contemporary best practices in drawing. Emphasis is placed on developing perceptual skills in order to draw accurately from life, while experimentation and creative development are also encouraged towards building a well-rounded and multifaceted drawing practice.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course students will be able to...

- Obtain familiarity and ease with a range of traditional and contemporary drawing materials.
- Develop perceptual acuity through the use of still-life drawing techniques in order to draw accurately from life.
- Effectively utilize inventive line quality and expressive value, to add creative voice to their work.
- Apply drawing techniques to express personal and inventive visual ideas.
- Employ the tools of perspective to render the illusion of an invented and real-world three-dimensional space.
- Contextualize the conventions, ideas, and traditions of drawing in art history and in a contemporary practice.
- Utilize drawing vocabulary and critical thinking skills to critique the work of their classmates, themselves, and those in the broader art world(s).

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the

same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on State Authorization to view which states allow distance education outside California.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their

eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

STUDENT CONDUCT

- Cell phones should be on silent and refrained from using during class.
- Students are expected to arrive on time, fully prepared with all required materials, and be ready to actively participate in all class activities, discussions, projects, and critiques—being unprepared is considered an absence.
- The use of headphones or AirPods is not permitted during class lectures or demonstrations.
- Students are expected to dedicate additional time outside of scheduled studio sessions to complete their drawings.
- In order to receive a grade, all assignments must be clearly documented and submitted to Canvas by the specified due date.
- Attendance on designated studio work days is mandatory. As this is a studio-based course, students are expected to actively engage in project work during scheduled class sessions.
- It is the student's responsibility to stay current with all coursework, regularly monitor Canvas for updates and announcements.
- Student work may be photographed or otherwise documented for educational and instructional purposes.
- A student may be dropped for non-attendance or lack of required course prerequisites.
- Students are responsible for keeping their studio space and desk clean. It is expected that each student tidies up after class by disposing of any trash and wiping away charcoal or graphite residue.
- Students are issued an official PLNU email account, which should be checked daily, as it is the primary means of communication and required for accessing Canvas.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

STUDIO PARTICIPATION + ATTENDANCE POLICY

This is a studio course, meaning that students are provided with in-class time to work on assignments during designated studio work days. This course is not a hybrid or online format; therefore, physical attendance and active participation during class sessions are required. Coursework will not be credited if students are not present in class and visibly engaged in their work.

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is essential for achieving academic success. Being present in class entails arriving on time, bringing all required materials, and actively participating in discussions or working on assigned drawings throughout the entire class period until dismissed by the professor.

Students are expected to communicate any anticipated absences in advance via email.

Exceptions to the attendance policy will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Excused absences are granted depending on the nature of the extenuating circumstances. Acceptable supporting documentation may include hospital records, a letter from a doctor or counselor, or a copy of an obituary or memorial notice.

Attendance is required for work to be accepted. Assignments will not be graded if the student is not regularly attending class.

GRADING + LATE POLICY

Major Drawing Projects

All major projects are due **at the start of class on the assigned due date**. For grading purposes, students are required to **photograph their completed work after the in-class critique** and **upload the image to Canvas** under the appropriate assignment. Each project will be evaluated based on the following criteria: **studio participation, critique involvement, craftsmanship and presentation, technique and expression, and composition**.

Late or incomplete projects will not be included in critique, and students will lose participation points for failing to have their work completed by the start of the critique. **If a student is present for critique but their project is incomplete, the assignment will be considered late** and subject to a grade deduction.

If a student is absent during a scheduled critique, participation points for that session cannot be made up, and no alternative opportunity will be provided. **If the project is completed and submitted on time, the student may still receive credit for the project**, but a **20% deduction** will be applied to the project grade due to missed participation.

Late projects will be accepted up to one week past the original due date and will incur an automatic 20% deduction **applied in addition to the student's overall project grade**. After a week the project will no longer be accepted for credit.

Active participation in critique discussions is expected of all students. Your participation grade is partially based on your engagement during these sessions. **Attending all critiques and using studio time productively are essential to maintaining a strong grade in the course.**

Sketchbook

Sketchbooks are reviewed weekly and graded for completeness, effort, and creative exploration. They support development of ideas and drawing skills outside of major projects. It is your responsibility to stay up to date with sketchbook assignments. A total of **15 sketchbook assignments** will be issued throughout the semester. Each assignment will be posted on **Tuesday** and will be **due the following Tuesday by 11:59 PM**, submitted via Canvas. Students are required to **photograph their sketchbook work** and upload it to the corresponding weekly assignment in one of the following file formats: **.jpg, .pdf, or .png**. Sketchbook assignments are evaluated based on **effort, thoughtfulness, and execution** in response to the prompt. Students are expected to dedicate approximately **45 minutes to 1 hour** to each assignment to meet expectations for quality and completeness.

Late sketchbook assignments will be accepted up to **one week past the due date** with a **50% deduction** from the total points possible for that assignment. Assignments submitted after one week past the due date will **not be accepted**. For sketchbook assignments worth **5 points each**, a 50% deduction equals **2.5 points** off the total score.

Exceptions to this policy will only be made if you have communicated with me **via email prior to the due date** (not the day before) regarding a special circumstance or emergency.

Class Exercises + Studio Engagement

Includes in-class assignments, warm-ups, critique participation, and consistent engagement during studio work time. Assignments will be added throughout the semester. The total points earned will be averaged and weighted accordingly. If a student is absent on the day an in-class exercise or warm-up is conducted, they will not be permitted to make up the missed activity.

All coursework will be graded on a traditional percentage scale:

A 100-94%	B- 82-80%	D+ 69-68%
A- 93-90%	C+ 79-78%	D 67-63%
B+ 89-88%	C 77-73%	D- 62-60%
B 87-83%	C- 72-70%	F below 59%

CLASS BREAKDOWN

The instructor reserves the right to add/remove/change points during the semester. Students will be notified if changes are made.

Major Drawing Projects - 4 projects, 100 points each (400 points total)

Weight: 55% of final grade

Sketchbook Assignments - 15 assignments, 5 points each (75 points total)

Weight: 25% of final grade

Class Exercises & Studio Engagement - Number of assignments and points may vary.

Includes warm-ups, in-class work, critique participation, and overall studio contribution.

Weight: 20% of final grade

Total: 100%

Final grades are based on the weighted average of each category, not on total points alone.

ART KIT & REQUIRED MATERIALS

An **ART1003 ART KIT is required for purchase** to take this course (**\$79.99**). Art Kits can be purchased at **Blick** (Blick Art Materials, 3633 Midway Dr, San Diego, CA 92110). You will need to have purchased your art kit and have all materials with you for the start of class on Tuesday **9/9**.

Included in the ART KIT:

- **Newsprint Pad** - 18" x 24", 50 Sheets
- **Strathmore 400 Series Drawing Paper Pad** - 18" x 24", 24 Sheets
- **Sketchbook 8.5"x11"**
- **Alphacolor (compressed) Charcoal** - Black , Pack of 3
- **General's Charcoal Pencil Kit:** (2B, 4B, 6B, white charcoal)
- **Blending Stumps** - Pkg of 3
- **Vine Charcoal** - Soft, Box of 12
- **Staedtler Lumograph Drawing and Sketching Pencils** - 6 (HB, 2B, 4B, 6B, 7B, 8B)
- **Staedtler Mars Plastic Eraser**
- **Faber-Castell Perfection Eraser Pencil**
- **Carrying Portfolio**

COURSE SCHEDULE

Schedule subject to change during the course of the semester.

- Wk 1** 9/2 First Day: Syllabus, Materials, Class Overview, **Purchase Art Kit by 9/9**
9/4 **Lecture:** Why Draw? / Sketching / Gestural Drawing **HW:** Reading/Reflection
- Wk 2** 9/9 **Lecture:** Graphite Vs. Charcoal / Line and Music **Due/Discuss** Reading/Reflection
9/11 **Lecture:** Blind Contour "Speed Drawing" / Drawing with Both Hands
- Wk 3** 9/16 **Lecture:** Breaking Down Objects Into Simple Shapes / Sighting & Measuring
9/18 **Lecture:** Positive & Negative Space / Drawing outside
- Wk 4** 9/23 **Lecture:** Value/Shading
9/25 **Lecture:** Value Cont. Erasure / **Introduce Project 1:** Value
- Wk 5** 9/30 Studio Work Day
10/2 Studio Work Day
- Wk 6** 10/7 **Lecture:** Thumbnail Sketches/Composition, Viewfinder
10/9 **Introduce Project 2:** P&N Space Still Life
- Wk 7** 10/14 Studio Work Day
10/16 Studio Work Day
- Wk 8** 10/21 Studio Work Day
~~10/23~~ **FALL BREAK (NO CLASS)**
- Wk 9** 10/28 **Project 2: Due/Critique**
10/30 **Lecture:** One-point Perspective / **Introduce Project 3:** Perspective
- Wk 10** 11/4 **Lecture:** Two-point Perspective / Seek Photos for Reference
11/6 Studio Work Day
- Wk 11** 11/11 Studio Work Day
11/13 Studio Work Day
- Wk 12** 11/18 **Project 3: Due/Critique**
11/20 **Introduce Project 4:** Weaving Drawing / Paper weaving demo
- Wk 13** 11/25 Studio Work Day
~~11/27~~ **HAPPY THANKSGIVING! (NO CLASS)**
- Wk 14** 12/2 Studio Work Day
12/4 Studio Work Day
- Wk 15** 12/9 Studio Work Day
12/11 Last Day of Class / **Project 4: Due/Critique**