

LIFE DRAWING

FALL 2021

ART 3045 – 3 units

Instructor: Karah Lain, MFA / klain@pointloma.edu

Meeting times: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:20-3:40PM

Office hours: Starkey B 108A, Wednesdays 9AM-1PM, Fridays by appointment

Final exam time: Wednesday, December 15 1:30-4pm

Location: Keller 109

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores traditional and contemporary strategies for developing both an expressive and realistic rendering of the human body. To this end, techniques for capturing correct proportions are demonstrated and practiced, and the study of anatomy is surveyed to aid in depicting skeletal and muscular details.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will be able to...

1. Deepen their command of a range of traditional and contemporary drawing materials.
2. Strengthen their perceptual acuity through the use of various figure drawing techniques, in order to draw the figure accurately from life.
3. Effectively utilize inventive line quality and expressive value to add creative voice to their work.
4. Apply figure drawing techniques to express personal and inventive visual ideas.
5. Contextualize the conventions, ideas, and traditions of figure drawing in art history and in a contemporary practice.

6. Utilize drawing vocabulary and critical thinking skills to critique the work of their classmates, themselves, and those in the broader art world(s).

METHODS

Instruction will be given through: class lectures, demonstrations, small group discussions, one-on-one discussion with the instructor, videos on professional artists, hands on projects, class critiques, peer reviews, and a special presentation from a professional working artist.

ASSIGNMENTS

A detailed assignment breakdown, including late work policies and grading criteria, is included on page 5 of this syllabus.

GRADE SCALE

A=93-100	C=73-76
A-=92-90	C-=70-72
B+=87-89	D+=67-69
B=83-86	D=63-66
B-=80-82	D-=60-62
C+=77-79	F=0-59

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

There are no required texts for this course. For further research, consider:

Dodson, Bert. *Keys to Drawing*. North Light Books, 1990.

Malbert, Roger. *Drawing People: The Human Figure in Contemporary Art*. D.A.P., 2015.

Price, Matt. *Vitamin D2: New Perspectives in Drawing*. Phaidon Press, 2013.

Simblet, Sarah. *Anatomy for the Artist*. DK Publishing, 2011.

Zeller, Robert. *The Figurative Artist's Handbook: A Contemporary Guide to Figure Drawing, Painting, and Composition*. Monicelli Studio, 2017.

The Drawing Center.
<http://www.drawingcenter.org>.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at all class sessions is required.

- Missing more than three class sessions will result in your final grade being reduced by one letter grade.
- Missing four class sessions will result in your grade being reduced by two letter grades.
- Missing five classes will result in failure of the class.
- Coming to class late three times is equivalent to one absence.

If you need to miss class because you are sick or have an emergency, please communicate this with me via email.

STUDIO POLICIES

Studio safety during the COVID19 pandemic: You are responsible for keeping up to date on current COVID policies put in place on the PLNU campus. Failure to comply to these policies in class will result in a loss of privileges to the studio space.

Eating and drinking: Eating and drinking will be allowed during lecture or discussion time, but will not be allowed during studio work time in class.

Clean up: Keeping the studio space clean and organized is vital to ensuring a safe and productive work environment for everyone. At the end of each class session, and at the end of any work session in the studio, all materials must be stored and work areas completely cleaned of excess charcoal, graphite, or other media.

LATE WORK POLICY

A detailed breakdown of the late work policies for all class assignments is listed on page 5 of this syllabus.

If you feel that you need a deadline extension on an assignment, **please email me to request an assignment extension contract**. You must request this extension contract at least 24 hours before the assignment is due.

Two contracts may be requested per semester, unless you have a special accommodation from the DRC.

Contracts cannot be requested for critique deadlines.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. 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 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

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 and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

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.

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 drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation.

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 online (distance education) outside of California.

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.

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 [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

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.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](#).

Assignment:	Description:	Estimated time commitment per week:	Grading criteria (all full rubrics are on canvas):	Late work policy:	Percentage of overall grade:
In-Class Drawings	A large portion of class time will be used to complete various drawing prompts. These drawings may be completed during class, but since everyone works at a slightly different pace, some students may find they need extra time outside of class to fully complete their work. The expectation is that all class drawing prompts be completed in full, according to the instructions, by the critique date. On this critique date, all drawings from the class section will be turned in on canvas.	4 hours in class, 0-2 hours outside of class time	Completion according to the instructions	Cannot make up missed class work, unless otherwise approved by the instructor before the start of the missed class time	25%
Sketchbooks	Sketchbooks are meant to develop and strengthen your <i>creative capacities</i> , by offering an opportunity for personal experimentation and exploration, building off of the content covered in class. Sketchbook assignments also include an opportunity to research drawing artists that interest you, and learn from your classmates by peer reviewing their sketchbooks. Sketchbooks will always be due on Sunday at midnight each week.	45 minutes — 1.5 hours outside of class time	Experimentation, commitment, and accurately following the instructions (Full rubric on canvas)	10% deduction for each day late	25%
Portfolio critiques	Students will choose 2-3 of their strongest drawings to be reviewed by the entire class during live critiques which are held every 4-5 weeks. These function as the “tests” of our class. These drawings should be chosen from the drawing assignments completed during class (but should not include sketchbook drawings). All portfolio critique dates are listed in the schedule starting on page 7 of this syllabus.	N/A	Technique, composition, craftsmanship, expression, and commitment (Full rubric on canvas)	25% initial deduction if the drawings are not turned in during class time on critique day, then 10% deduction for each day late after that	50%

SUPPLY LIST

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Please have the following supplies on hand for each class:

Note: There is no official drawing kit for this class.

- Compressed black charcoal
- Vine/willow charcoal
- Steel 12-inch ruler
- Blending stumps/tortillons, small and medium sizes
- Kneaded eraser
- 8 x 12 inch sketchbook
- Charcoal pencils in white, HB, 4B, and 6B
- Watercolor brushes, flat and round
- Dip pen
- Waterproof India ink
- Prismacolor colored pencils set of 12
- 11 x 14 inch drawing pad, 70lb
- 18 x 24 inch drawing pad, 70lb
- Graphite drawing pencils in 2B, 4H, and 6B
- Portfolio bag for transporting drawings and materials

Optional:

- Pigma micron pens in a variety of sizes
- Blick studio brush drawing markers in red, yellow, blue, green, violet, and black
- Watercolor paper, 18 x 24 in., 140 lb

SCHEDULE

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(Subject to change)

WEEK	AGENDA
1 Aug. 31- Sep. 3	<p>Tues: Intro to class policies and procedures Lecture: the power of drawing the human figure</p> <p>Wed: Lecture: Review of the drawing process Begin hands, feet, and eyes project</p> <p>Sketchbook: Blind contour drawings</p>
2 Sep. 6-10	<p>Mon: Labor Day – no class</p> <p>Wed: Finish hands, feet, and eyes project</p> <p>Sketchbook: Drawing in public</p>
3 Sep. 13-17	<p>Mon: Lecture: Sighting strategies review and human body proportion introduction Gesture drawings in small groups Review policies for drawing the live model</p> <p>Wed: Gesture and 30 min. drawings from life - graphite</p> <p>Sketchbook: Drawing with the heads-high rule</p>
4 Sep. 20-24	<p>Mon: Review sketchbook results Gesture and 30 min. drawings from life - charcoal</p> <p>Wed: Gesture and 1 hour drawing from life – Your choice Review drawings for critique</p> <p>Sketchbook: None – finish all drawings for critique</p>
5 Sep. 27- Oct. 1	<p>Mon: CRITIQUE</p>

	<p>Wed: Lecture: Blocking in anatomy Practice blocking in anatomy in photos of dancers Block in anatomy in small groups</p> <p>Sketchbook: Anatomy practice</p>
6 Oct. 4-8	<p>Mon: Lecture: Skeletal anatomy Drawing the skeleton from life Review surprises and issues in small groups</p> <p>Wed: Lecture: Muscle anatomy Drawing the muscle structure from photo examples Review surprises and issues in small groups</p> <p>Sketchbook: Anatomy practice</p>
7 Oct. 11-15	<p>Mon: Drawing the figure with the skeleton</p> <p>Wed: Drawing the figure with the skeleton – close up drawing</p> <p>Sketchbook: None – finish all drawings for critique</p>
8 Oct 18-22	<p>Mon: Drawing the figure with the muscle or skeletal structure underlying the form Review drawings for critique</p> <p>Wed: CRITIQUE</p> <p>Sketchbook: Value studies</p>
9 Oct. 25-29	<p>Mon: Lecture: Capturing value Value photo study in class</p> <p>Wed: Drawing the figure with focus on value</p> <p>Sketchbook: Value studies</p>
10	<p>Mon: Drawing the figure with focus on value – charcoal reduction drawing</p>

Nov. 1-5	<p>Wed: Review sketchbook drawings in small groups Drawing the figure with focus on value – drawing on toned paper with charcoal</p> <p>Sketchbook: None - Finish all drawings for critique</p>
11 Nov. 8-12	<p>Mon: Drawing the figure with focus on value – pen and ink Discuss drawings for critique</p> <p>Wed: CRITIQUE</p> <p>Sketchbook: Sequential drawing thumbnails</p>
12 Nov. 15-19	<p>Mon: Lecture: Drawing the figure in space, abstracting the figure, and using the figure to tell a story Practice drawing the figure in space from a previous drawing - thumbnails</p> <p>Wed: Drawing the figure while abstracting the figure</p> <p>Sketchbook: Sequential drawings</p>
13 Nov. 22-26	<p>Mon: Field trip - TBD</p> <p>Wednesday – Friday: no classes</p>
14 Nov. 29-Dec. 3	<p>Mon: Review final project instructions Make a plan for model poses</p> <p>Wed: Work on final project in class – model thumbnails</p> <p>Sketchbook: Artist research reflection</p>
15 Dec. 6-10	<p>Mon: Work on final project in class</p> <p>Wed: Work on final project in class</p> <p>Sketchbook: None</p>

16 Dec. 13-17	FINAL EXAMS
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