

Perception & Drawing, Art / Psych 204, Spring 2005
Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:20, Art & Architecture North 309

Instructors:

Jayne Jacobson

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Studio office: Art & Architecture Bldg.

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Course Description: The purpose of this course is to provide an interdisciplinary format for investigating the human visual perception system. The course will be structured around key perceptual concepts that will be presented each week via lecture. These concepts will be drawn from perceptual psychology, psychophysics, neuropsychology, neurobiology, computer vision sciences, and any field that might prove fruitful in reassessing how we think about vision. You are encouraged to contribute any outside information that you discover to be relevant.

After covering specific perceptual concepts in lecture, these concepts will be put into practice in the studio. *Drawing assignments will be designed to emphasize the exploration of perceptual concepts and a willingness to push communication boundaries rather than on previously acquired artistic skill.*

Course Organization: Lecture will (generally) be on Mondays and will be about 1 hour (not 2 hours as listed). Studio will be on Wednesdays for the full 2 hours and will include time for discussion. The assignment for Wednesday's studio will be given at the end of Monday's lecture to allow time for you to consider what approaches to take for the upcoming drawing.

The course will be grouped into 3 sets of 3-4 concepts each (*see timeline*). At the end of each set of concepts (after about 3-4 weeks) there will be an integration project with studio work on both Mondays and Wednesdays. These integration projects will include a drawing that incorporates as many of the previously covered concepts as possible, along with a reflection paper (about a page) to be explained more fully as the time comes.

Evaluation: The goal of this course is to expand your understanding of how the visual system cognitively constructs the world it interacts with. Drawing assignments will be graded on how much you try to push and explore the boundaries of the system. Evidence of your visual problem solving and critical engagement with the material will be used to assess your work in drawing, writing, and class discussion. Any unfinished drawings that you wish to revise can be worked on outside of class, as you will only be formally evaluated twice during the semester by portfolio review. (*See timeline for portfolio due dates.*)

Grading:

11 weekly drawing assignments (<i>One of which will be discounted—your choice</i>)	10 points each	100 points
3 integration projects	30 points each (<i>Drawing = 20, Reflection paper = 10</i>)	90 points
Contributions to class discussions	60 points	60 points
Total		250 points

Timeline:**Set I**

Wednesday, Jan. 12	Lecture	Intro to class and Line
<i>Monday, Jan. 17</i>	<i>MLK holiday</i>	<i>No class</i>
Wednesday, Jan 19	Studio	Line
Monday, Jan 24	Lecture	Shading
Wednesday, Jan 25	Studio	Shading
Monday, Jan. 31	Lecture	Depth
Wednesday, Feb. 2	Studio	Depth
Monday, Feb. 7	Lecture	Organization
Wednesday, Feb 9	Studio	Organization
Monday, Feb. 14	Studio	Integration Project
Wednesday, Feb. 16	Studio	Integration Project
<i>Monday, Feb. 21</i>	<i>President's Day</i>	<i>No class</i>
Wednesday, Feb. 23	Discussion	Integration Project & catch up

Set II

Monday, Feb. 28	Lecture	Adaptation
Wednesday, Mar 2	Studio	Adaptation

Portfolios due for midterm grading by Friday, March 4th

Monday, Mar. 7	Lecture	Motion I (The Viewer)
Wednesday, Mar. 9	Studio	Motion I (The Viewer)

Monday, Mar 14	Spring Break	No class
Wednesday, Mar 16	Spring Break	No class
Monday, Mar 21	Lecture	Motion II (Information from Motion)
Wednesday, Mar 23	Studio	Motion II (Information from Motion)
Monday, Mar. 28	Lecture	Organization II
Wednesday, Mar. 30	Studio	Organization II
Monday, April 4	Studio	Integration Project II
Wednesday, April 6	Studio	Integration Project II
Set III		
Monday, April 11	Lecture	Color I
Wednesday, April 13	Studio	Color I
Monday, April 18	Lecture	Color II
Wednesday, April 20	Studio	Color II
Monday, April 25	Lecture	Faces
Wednesday, April 27	Studio	Faces
Monday, May 2	Studio	Final Integration Project
Wednesday, May 4	Studio	Final Integration Project
Wednesday, May 11	Final Portfolios Due	

Text: There is no formal text for this class, but occasionally, short articles will be assigned on a specific concept. For reference, Jayme will try to post all of Monday's lecture slides on Sunday evening so that you can download them for note taking.

Materials: There are no strictly required materials for this course but please see the attached materials list for suggestions about how you should equip yourself for the semester's assignments.

Attendance: Since there is no textbook for this course and since Wednesday's studio assignments will utilize what was covered in Monday's lecture, attendance is crucial. Please see Jayme if there are exceptional circumstances. Otherwise, the department policy of 3 unexcused absences will result in a drop of one letter grade. The responsibility for keeping track of your attendance falls on you—in other words, we won't issue warnings.