



East Texas A&M University
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026

Drawing I

Art 1316 01E

MW 8:00 am - 10:50 am
Art Building, Room 201
1/12/2026 – 5/8/2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Mary Beth King

Email: Mary.King@etamuc.edu

Office: Main Art Building, 115

Office Hours: Before & after classes, by Appointment

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

ART 1316

Hours: 3

The development of perceptual and descriptive skills through an introduction to a variety of drawing media, techniques, and subject matter.

Course Objectives

1. Obtain an understanding of the basic elements of drawing and how they interact within the picture plane.
2. Draw objects from life in an objective manner.
3. Understand Art historical references – especially pertaining to drawing.
4. Be able to verbalize drawing techniques of his/her drawings, and understand what they did well, and what needs work.
5. Demonstrate verbal ability by actively participating in individual and group critiques of class

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

assignments.

6. Develop a digital portfolio of class work.

7. Execute a variety of drawings in class, as assigned by instructor.

8. Execute a sketchbook and other drawing assignments outside of class with the expectation to spend a minimum of 6 hours per week on outside class work.

9. Have demonstrated professionalism in preparation, work ethic, and craftsmanship.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT & RESPONSIBILITIES

Please contact me via email. I respond to messages and emails usually within 24 hours Monday through Friday. Please do not expect a response over the weekend, holidays or after 5pm. All grades will be fully updated and shared for Midterms and Finals.

The instructor values your time, growth and effort and does their best to complete grading promptly. If there is more time needed than normal, I will let you know as soon as possible about the delay. Students are encouraged to ask questions during class time on their projects and to reach out when needed. Please contact me via email to meet during office hours or at an additional time to ensure that I am in the office and not elsewhere on campus, meeting with other students, etc.

Please email me as soon as possible if you need assistance, additional support or resources during the semester. I am here to support you in the class and my goal is for every student to succeed in the course.

COURSE myleo/D2L & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please make sure to check regularly and turn-on notifications for the course in myLEO/D2L. It is the students responsibility to review and stay up to date with the course online. It is highly encouraged that you access D2L at least 1X/week from a laptop or desktop computer, use of the app is discouraged as you are not able to accurately view the course.

PROCESS & STUDIO TIME:

- Every step in the life of each assignment is important and valuable: discussion with the instructor, your classmates, and other sources are expected in the course of production.
- Some of the projects assigned will not be able to be completed during class hours; you will be expected to make full use of the class time in active work. It will also be imperative to work outside of class on your assignments, both drawing and research.
- On average, **a minimum of six hours per week** (one hour of outside work per every one hour of class time) will be necessary.
- Participation, engagement, and discussion with instructor, peers, and other sources is important and expected when reviewing work, technique, process progress, assigned material, etc.

SUPPLIES, MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

Students are responsible for bringing all of the necessary materials to be prepared for work in class on scheduled days. **Please note that attending class without the necessary supplies or prepared surfaces will be an unexcused absence.*

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REQUIRED SUPPLIES & MATERIALS

Please see attached list of required supplies for the course. Additional supplies required as needed to complete assignments.

Please note that you are expected to have/have ordered all of the course materials by the start of the 2nd week of class. If a student does not have required supplies by the start of the 3rd week, they may be administratively dropped from the course.

There are no textbooks required for this course. All required readings/viewings will be shared via D2L/myleo.

Drawing Studio Room 201:

Your Lion Card will allow you to access the Drawing studio, Room 201, outside of class time. Except when there is another drawing class, the room is open for you to use 24/7 - except on Holidays. You are expected to clean up after yourself and keep the room and all materials in the room in good condition.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Assignments: Assignment schedule to be handed out and discussed during first class meeting.

Sketchbooks: Includes all notes, drawings, preliminary work, research & studies.

Exhibition Research: Attend at least 2 exhibitions during the semester and document your experience. Included in Sketchbook & Research Assignments.

Digital Portfolio: A midterm & final digital slide presentation of your work from the course.

Come prepared to work in class on time each day. This includes bringing all required supplies, materials, and surfaces prepared.

ASSIGNMENTS & ASSESSMENTS

Assignments	%
Assignments	60
Portfolios	10
Research & Sketchbooks	30
Total	100 / 100%

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RESEARCH, NOTES, EXHIBITIONS & STUDIES

I will occasionally require research, studies, and/or gallery and museum visits during the semester. These will be completed in your sketchbooks and/or submitted on the LMS/myleo.

You should attend at least 2 museum/gallery exhibitions a semester and document each one. You are especially encouraged to go to all ETAMU gallery openings.

You will be asked to complete research and preliminary work as needed for assignments.

GRADING

You will receive a final letter grade for this course. Letter grades are based on participation, attendance, assignments, assessments, portfolios, and critiques. Other factors determining grade are effort, neatness in the presentation of studio work, and improvement in course. Keeping a sketchbook and practicing your skills while outside this course will be extremely beneficial.

Work missing for critiques will receive an automatic 50% grade deduction. Projects will not be graded as products in a vacuum: a work will not receive credit that has not been seen during the process of painting. The grade given for each project will reflect several qualities involved in the course of its production. Grades will be determined by the consistency of student's efforts, quality, and quantity of work, as well as critique participation and class attendance. The student's willingness to take artistic risks will be looked on favorably.

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A= 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

LETTER GRADE DISTRIBUTION

A= Excellent Work (100-90%)

B = Very Good Work (89-80%)

C = Average Work (79-70%)

D = Poor Work (69-60%)

F = Failing Work (59% or below)

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GRADING SCALE:

A-Excellent Work: All requirements for the course have been met and many have been exceeded, and the work has been developed beyond previous levels on both an aesthetic and a conceptual basis. Artwork shows excellent intellectual skills and ideas, technical skills and craft, and control of the medium. Critical and conceptual understanding is evidenced through visual and verbal class participation that evidences both scholarship and leadership.

B-Very Good Work: The artwork, its presentation, and the student's class participation shows competence in skill development, craft, and control of the medium. Completed work shows an understanding of conceptual concerns in the context of contemporary art.

C-Average Work: Satisfactory work quality. Requirements for the course have been fulfilled adequately. The student has been present on critique days and for midterms and finals.

D-Poor Work: Requirements for the course are not adequately fulfilled

F-Failure: Lack of attempt in class and participation. No attempt has been made to fulfill the requirements of the course.

CRITERIA AND RUBRIC FOR PROJECTS:

Technique and Use of Materials 30%

Assignment Objectives 40%

Participation & Effort 10%

Creativity & Risk-Taking 10%

Craftsmanship 10%

LATE WORK / MAKE-UP POLICY

Critiques are so important that even if a work is unfinished, it must be shown during critique. If the work or student is not present for a scheduled critique day, the maximum grade a student may receive is 50%. All major assignments and any late work must be submitted no later than 1 week after the original due date. Late work for non-major assignments (ie: studio work, plans, research, exhibition attendance, sketches, etc.) is not accepted.

Late work for major assignments may be submitted with a penalty of 10% deducted from the assignment's value per day the work is late, unless the student provides proof of an acceptable mitigating circumstance: serious illness, death of a family member, or other circumstance if approved by the instructor. *Please see ETAMU & Department of Art attendance policy for what constitutes an excused absence.*

You can redo any of the projects assigned to raise your grade. You may redo and resubmit any of the assigned projects within two weeks, and the two grades will be averaged.

OPTIONAL EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

During the semester, assignments and opportunities for extra credit will be shared with everyone in the class via myLeo/D2L. These are not required and will not effect a students grade if they choose not to complete them or participate. The instructor will provide all students with the same variety of opportunities. Extra credit is provided at the discretion of the instructor and is not eligible to be applied toward specific assignments or offered to students individually.

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CRITIQUE DECORUM

Critiques are an essential component of this studio course. We will overview critique procedures in class, as well as collaboratively develop guidelines for expectations and goals. Parties may be asked to leave critique if their participation does not meet the expectations or standards of decorum. Art is personal, and the need to discuss personal themes may arise, so as fellow artists we must be considerate and conscientious during critiques (also see note on Course Content). In addition, the artist receiving the critique will be expected to use the advice and criticism. It is expected to keep a sketchbook/notebook during critiques to write and keep notes.

STUDIO EXPECTATIONS, SAFETY & POLICIES

Artist materials can be messy, wear clothes that you are okay with getting graphite or ink on them or **you may want to bring an apron.**

There is no smoking, vaping, or eating allowed in the studios.

You are expected to assist in maintaining a studio environment that is safe and conducive to learning. In order to assure that everyone has an opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, you are prohibited from using cellular phones or laptops, taking photographs, video or audio recordings, checking your email or the internet, updating your social media, eating or drinking in class, making offensive remarks, reading, sleeping or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in, minimally, a request to leave class, which will be counted as an unexcused absence.

**Cell phones and headphones may be used for music in class during drawing sessions, but should not be out otherwise. Please put headphones away at the start and end of each class, during all critiques, instructions, demos, etc. Please keep volume to a level that allows you to be aware of your surroundings. If you need to make or accept a phone call, etc. please step out to do so in the hallway*

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ADMINISTRATIVE DROP POLICY FOR ATTENDANCE

If a student has been absent for 40% or more of the course at the midterm/midpoint of the semester, they will receive an administrative drop from the course and will need to re-take the class when they are better able to attend and successfully complete the course.

Attendance Policy

Regular and punctual attendance is expected and required. Art is a practice-based discipline and the learning process requires active and dedicated participation. Attendance is taken during each class session at the beginning of class and/or after break. Students are expected to be present in each class, for the entire class period.

Students will receive a letter grade deduction for their fourth absence, and each additional absence. Being tardy for class equals 1/2 of an absence. If a student arrives after roll has been taken but within the first 30 minutes, they will be counted tardy. If a student arrives after the first 30 minutes of class it is in an absence. Two late arrivals equal one absence.

Most lectures, demonstrations, and assignments will occur at the beginning of class periods and will not be repeated for those who come in late or for students with an unexcused absence. If you are late to class, you will need to notify me by the end of the class period to replace an absence with a tardy. In-class assignments missed may only be made up with an official doctor's excuse or note from the office of student affairs excusing the absence for a reason covered under the official ETAMU Policy. Due to the nature of critiques, they may not be made up. When a class is missed, it is your responsibility to find out what was missed and what is expected of you from course peers and the D2L.

I recommend you share contact information with at least 3 classmates, so that you may reach out to them for anything missed during class. It is your responsibility to source the missed content and information. Please reach out as needed so that I can support your success in the class and program.

END-OF-SEMESTER STUDIO CLEAN-UP

Students are required to attend and participate in the end-of semester studio clean up on the scheduled class date during class hours. Failure to attend and participate in final clean-up will result in a one-letter-grade drop in your final grade. You are responsible for cleaning your work area, your storage area, and any checked out materials. You are to remove all stored work and materials from both storage and your lockers.

Final day to remove work: TBD Any artwork or materials left after this day cannot be stored

for you and will be disposed of the following day.

STUDIO CARE & CLEANING

All students are expected to maintain and help clean up the shared studio spaces each class day, including sweeping floors and wiping down sinks and cabinets in addition to their work areas. Not maintaining the studio may result in a class letter grade deduction for the current major assignment for each instance.

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Handbook & Safety

While the online manual covers specific issues related to the Department of Art, Texas A&M University-Commerce policies must also be followed. All users of Department of Art (DOA) classrooms and facilities are required to follow the health and safety guidelines outlined in this manual at all times. Report any safety issues IMMEDIATELY to your instructor(s), Teaching Laboratory Specialist, or to the DOA Health and Safety Liaison. Each course instructor will discuss their area's inherent risks, procedures and policies to provide the student with informed consent. These will be reviewed verbally at the start of each semester. A link to the online Handbook: <http://sites.tamuc.edu/art/resources/healthandsafety/>

Students that meet in face-to-face Department of Art courses must complete the online form for each course they attend.

Online form: <http://sites.tamuc.edu/Forms/ArtLabPolicy>

**This must be completed on-campus while using the University wifi or ethernet connections.*

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myleo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

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LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.p df>.

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

ETAMU Attendance

Students participating in sports or other University activities can be excused from the Departmental policy if they have made arrangements with the instructor to address missed class-work BEFORE the scheduled event. A schedule of the days they are planning to perform or play must be provided at the beginning of the semester or at least a month before their first planned absence. Excessive absences may result in the student being administratively dropped from the course.

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

Graduate Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax(903)468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Student Disability Services](#)

<https://www.tamuc.edu/student-disability-services/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#)

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document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedure/s/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



<http://tdusproduction.com/app/5108.html>

AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism). Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

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In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty
13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

Course Supply List

Please see attached

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Course Supply and Materials List

Art Department, East Texas A&M University

Drawing 1, Spring 2026

Instructor: Mary Beth King

Please note that you are expected to have/have ordered all of the course materials by the start of the 2nd week of class. If a student does not have required supplies by the start of the 3rd week, they may be administratively dropped from the course.

Supply List

1 drawing board, 24" x 32" (for home use)

2 clamps, bulldog or large office clamps

1 (or more) pad of white drawing paper, 18" x 24"

Sketchbook (spiral is better) not anything smaller than 7" x 10", preferably 8.5" x 11"

1 can workable fixative.

1 pink pearl eraser or white vinyl eraser,

1 kneaded eraser

1 metal ruler, 18" long

Graphite pencils, at minimum: #2 (or HB), 2B, 4B, 6B

Charcoal, vine charcoal, or conte sticks are optional (will discuss these).

Small, good quality metal pencil sharpener

Toolbox or supply box

Portfolio, big enough to carry 22" x 30" drawings

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