

**Spring 2020**  
**Advanced Drawing 3- DRAW 3318- 001**  
**CRN: 21248**

**Class time: Tuesday-Thursday 9:00 – 11:50**  
FOXA 453

**Instructor Contact Information**

Instructor's name: Alexandra McGovern  
Instructor's office location: FOXA 461A  
Instructor's office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 12:00-1:00 **by appointment! I will usually be there but please let me know you are coming to be sure.**  
Instructor's email: amcgovern@utep.edu

**Instructor Introduction**

Alexandra McGovern is a painter. She received her MFA from Pratt Institute and her BA with a major in painting from Yale University. She has exhibited her work in New York, Europe and El Paso. She has been teaching at the University of Texas El Paso since 1998. Prior to that she taught at the New School for Social Research in New York City and at the Maine College of Art, Portland Maine.

**Course Description**

DRAW 3318 is an advanced level studio drawing class. It is expected that students taking this course are committed to exploring the possibilities offered by the drawing discipline and are willing to invest the necessary amount of time, work, and attention to fulfill this commitment. **In order to successfully complete the amount of drawings due for this course students will need to devote a minimum of six hours of work per week outside of class in addition to the required six hours of in class studio work.**

Students will complete at least 15 to 20 drawings over the course of the semester to include assigned problems and drawings initiated by the student. Students are encouraged to keep a sketchbook as a tool for image and concept development. Slide lectures will be presented to provide examples, ideas, and influences. Critiques will be held for comparative evaluation and critical feedback regarding in-progress and finished work. Your work and participation are required at each critique. Individual critiques are available during office hours and by appointment.

Brief written work in sketchbooks will be assigned to acquaint students with well-known artists and developments in contemporary drawing.

**Course Prerequisite Information**

DRAW 11853 or instructor approval.

**Course Goals and Objectives**

- Experience in handling varied media.
- Development of successful compositions.
- Exposure to art historical precedents and contemporary artists working within the drawing discipline.
- Exploration of various stylistic approaches to image-making and beginning to develop a personal style.
- Development of improved planning skills and creative thinking.
- Further development of the ability to think and speak critically about artworks.
- Continued development and practice of the work ethic and commitment necessary to achieve the course

goals and objectives.

### Course Requirements

Two portfolios will be reviewed and graded during the semester. The number of drawings required for each portfolio will be determined by the instructor based on class schedule and assignments planned for the semester. Handouts will be provided throughout the semester with information regarding assigned work and announcing the number of drawings due for each portfolio. **Students are responsible for keeping me up to date with drawings they are doing outside of class. I won't accept portfolios containing work done exclusively outside of class unless I have seen evidence of the work in progress.** The portfolios will be due at midterm and the last week of class. Some assigned drawings will have due dates prior to the portfolio due dates. **No late assigned work or late portfolios will be accepted.**

Individual drawings will not be graded; instead your portfolios will be graded on the overall quality and the quantity of work completed, as well as on progress made with content and execution.

**Your portfolio grade will be based on:**

1. Aesthetic and conceptual strength of your work, to include aspects of visual interest, originality, creativity, and awareness of contemporary art issues.
2. Degree of growth, effort, experimentation, and ambition.
3. Thoroughness of execution to include use of materials, craftsmanship, and presentation.
4. Relevance of work to assigned problems.
5. Amount of work completed.
6. Completion of assignments on time.
7. Presentation of ideas, sources, and influences through sketchbook work and research.
8. Work ethic in class to include amount of time devoted to drawing, class conduct, and being prepared with materials and ideas.
9. Critique participation.

Each portfolio is worth 45% of your final grade, and the sketchbook assignments will be worth 10%

**Adjustments to the final grade will be made if necessary to reflect the student's attendance record. Plagiarism and / or cheating will result in a failing grade for this course and disciplinary action.**

### Course Policies

It is the responsibility of the student to fulfill all the class requirements to the best of her/his abilities. If a student is unclear about anything in the syllabus, s/he should seek clarification from the instructor.

Make-up tests will only be given if the student has an acceptable reason for rescheduling. Not being prepared is not an acceptable reason. The make-up exam will be given no more than two class sessions after the original date of the exam provided the student has notified the instructor in advance, and the student has a valid excuse for missing the regularly scheduled exam. Make-up exams are always more difficult than the regularly scheduled exam.

**Attendance:**

You are being graded not just on the work submitted in your portfolio, but also on your work ethic in class. Therefore your regular attendance is required and you must be prepared with ideas and materials for each class. It is impossible to make up information presented in slide lectures, critiques, demonstrations, etc., so it is important that you attend every class, arrive on time, and stay to the end of class. Roll will be taken every day at the beginning of class.

Class time is not to be used for doing "research" either in the classroom or in another studio.

**Art Department Attendance Policy:**

- After three absences, your final course grade will be lowered one letter grade per additional absence. Ex: A final grade of "A" becomes a "B" with 4 absences, a "C" with 5 absences, a "D" with 6 absences. Absences

may be excused with proper notification for documented serious illness, death in the immediate family, or university sanctioned events.

- Arriving to class late or leaving early counts as 1/2 an absence.

Arriving any time past the designated start time of class is counted as late; leaving any time before the designated ending class of time is counted as leaving early. Students must arrive to class with all necessary materials. Arriving on time, staying for roll, then leaving to get materials will be counted as a late arrival.

- Coming to class without any materials to work with will count as one absence.

Each student needs to have his/her own set of materials; borrowing from other students is not acceptable.

- Students with excessive absences and/or problems with arriving to class on time should consider dropping this course and retaking it at a time when the student can commit the proper attention to the course. Students whose attendance and work are considered below average may be withdrawn from the class by the instructor.

- No extra credit is available to offset attendance problems.

**Additional Course Policies:**

- **Students are allowed one 15-minute break per class session.**

- **Class time is not meal time - don't use class time to eat your lunch (or breakfast or dinner).**

- **No cell phone use or texting during class.**

- **Help keep the drawing studio clean by cleaning up after yourself at the end of each class session.**

**Incompletes, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail:**

Incompletes or "I" grades will be considered for students completing satisfactory or better work and having serious legitimate situations beyond their control requiring additional time to complete the course requirements. All "I" grades are at the discretion of the instructor and the approval of the Department chair.

Students hold the full responsibility for withdrawing from this course if that procedure is elected. Withdrawals must be completed on or before the final date to drop a course with a W. (See calendar at the end of the syllabus.) Students missing this deadline will be issued a grade for their performance in the course. Withdrawals made prior to the census day will not count toward the six-course drop limit.

This is a grade-based course and is not available for audit or pass/fail options.

## Materials and Personal Equipment

You are required to have a portfolio or sturdy cardboard tube large enough to hold your work without folding or bending it. In most cases the choice of drawing materials and surfaces will be determined by the student, although **drawings done on basic drawing pad sheets or on newsprint will not be accepted for finished work.** Some assigned drawings may require specific materials. It is strongly suggested that each student have a variety of both black and white and color drawing materials along with an assortment of papers with which to experiment. Appropriate materials must be brought to each class session.

**The Art Department does not supply individual consumable materials.**

Supplies may be purchased at Art Center, UTEP's bookstore, Hobby Lobby, and at on-line sources such as Dick Blick, Pearl Paint, Utrecht Art Supplies, Stephen Kinsella, and New York Central Art Supply.

### Course Planning Calendar for the semester

Course schedule is subject to change. Class days are devoted to studio work, slide lectures, and/or demos unless noted otherwise. Due dates for assigned work and additional critiques will be added to the calendar as the semester progresses.

Tuesday Jan 21 :First Day of Classes. We will go over the syllabus and materials list.

Thursday Jan 24: Start: “Going Farther” with Familiar Materials and introduction of research project

March 13-22: Spring Break

Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup>: Final Portfolio due: critiques

Thursday May 7<sup>h</sup>: last class: critiques

#### **PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY STATEMENT**

Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to

<http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> for further information.

#### **DISABILITIES STATEMENT**

Disabilities: I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Disabled Student Services Office in the East Union Bldg., Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. The Disabled Student Services Office can also be reached in the following ways: Fax: (915) 747-8712, Web: <http://www.utep.edu/dsso>, E-Mail: [dss@utep.edu](mailto:dss@utep.edu), Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY