COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible via email. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing: https://www.utep.edu/chs/covid-testing/

As the pandemic situation continues, face masks are strongly recommended. You are encouraged to wear a face mask at all times while indoors on campus. Masks should fit securely over the mouth and nose. You are also encouraged to wash your hands frequently or use a hand sanitizer.

A spray bottle with sanitizing bleach solution will be available in the drawing studio if you would like to wipe down your personal work area before and after use. Clean your hands frequently when using common materials and equipment like the pencil sharpener, paper cutter, etc. Use common sense. Do not touch your face, eyes or mouth, especially after contact with common use materials and equipment.

• Be aware that Information missed during an absence is the sole responsibility of the student. It is the student’s responsibility to stay current with missed work and assignments, and to stay in contact with the instructor regarding health status, recovery, and anticipated return to class. Use your UTEP email account to stay in contact. •

From the Provost’s Office:
The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor’s name: Alexandra McGovern
Instructor’s office location: FOX Fine Art 461A
Instructor’s office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 12:00 -1:00 by appointment
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 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. Her work has been shown in Europe, and the United States. Website: alexandramcgovern.com

Course Description

DRAW 2318 is an advanced level studio drawing class in which students are encouraged to explore drawing as an independent discipline. Students will study the contemporary field of drawing while beginning to develop a personal sense of imagery. As the first class in a sequence of advanced study courses for Drawing majors and minors, focus is placed on studying the relation between form and content along with experimentation of medium and process. 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 should expect to devote a minimum of six hours of work per
week outside of class.

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 will keep a sketchbook as a tool for image and
concept development. Slide lectures will be presented to provide examples, ideas, and context. In person,
social distanced critiques will be held for comparative evaluation and critical feedback regarding in-progress
and finished work. There will also be regular posting of work on our class Blackboard site. Your work and
participation are required at each critique. Two image identification tests covering a range of images by
contemporary and historical artists will also be given.
There will be a self-directed final project and accompanying written artist statement.

### Course Prerequisite Information

DRAW 2308 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

Drawing assignments will be critiqued and graded on an ongoing basis. 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 the
number of drawings due. **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. No late assigned work or late portfolios will be accepted.**

Your grades 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; your drawing should demonstrate and understanding of the
   specific drawing problem we are looking at for each assignment.
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.

Two image identification tests will be given and each image test is worth 5% of the final grade. In order to
pass the class you must pass the image tests. Opportunity will be granted to re-take the test if necessary.

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/they should seek clarification from the instructor.

**Attendance:**
You are being graded not just on the work submitted in your portfolio, but also on your work ethic in class. Roll will be taken every day at the beginning of class.

**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.

**COVID19:** If you receive a positive COVID test result, notify me immediately, stay home and work remotely for 10 days from onset of symptoms before returning to class. These will not be counted as absences.
- 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 s/he/they can commit the proper attention to the course.

**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.

**Incomplete, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail:**

Because of the unusual circumstances this term, you may find yourself needing an “I” or “W”. Please talk to me if you are experiencing COVID19 health issues or need to care for someone who is:
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.
Please plan on bringing a range of materials: scissors, rulers, exacto knives, adhesives, masking tape, erasers so as to minimize sharing. You will need a sketchbook and should have it with you for every class.

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. 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 Spring 2022

Course schedule is subject to change. Class days are devoted to studio work, slide lectures, and/or demos unless noted otherwise. You will also be expected to complete a substantial amount of work at home. Due dates for assigned work and additional critiques may be added to the calendar.

Course Planning Calendar for the semester:

Wednesday January 19: First day of class: go over syllabus, protocol and expectations. I will be handing out materials and you will be signing up for classroom cubbies.
Monday January 24: “Void” slides. Come to class with a wide selection of drawing materials and 3 different loose sheets of paper that you think would be interesting to draw on. Be adventurous: don’t bring in 3 of the same paper. You will have the best luck with variety of loose sheets at the Art Center on Yandell.
Wednesday January 26: First “Void” drawing due. Start second: 2 objects
Monday January 31st: Second “Void” drawing due. Start the third
Wednesday February 2nd: Work day
Monday February 7: 3 Void drawings due. Class critique. Grid slides
Wednesday February 9: Work day
Monday February 14th: Grid due, class critique. “Off the Grid” slides
Wednesday February 16: Image Test 1 and work day
Monday February 21: Off the Grid due, start “Fill the Void”
Wednesday February 23: Work day
Monday February 28: “Fill the Void” due. Start “Layering”
Wednesday March 2nd: Work day
Monday March 7: Layering 1 due
Wednesday March 9: Work day
Spring Break: March 11-20
Wednesday March 22: Work day
Monday March 28: Image and Text due: Introduce Final Project and Artist statement
Wednesday March 30: Final project ideas and sketches
Monday April 4: Work day
Wednesday April 6: Image Test 2 and work day
Monday April 11: Work day
Wednesday April 13: Work day
Monday April 18: Work day: 1st draft of artist statement due
Wednesday April 20: Work day
Monday April 25 Work day
Wednesday April 27 Work day
Monday May 2nd: Final project and artist statement due
Wednesday May 4th: Last class: continue with final project critiques
Monday May 8th: 10:00 -11:00 Pick up work, clean out cubbies