



ARTS 1316 Drawing 1

Course Syllabus: Fall 2026

"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed."

Instructor: Mileah Hall, M.F.A., Professor of Art

Office: H 121

Phone: 903-434-8172

Email: mhall@ntcc.edu

Weekday	Office Hours
Monday	8:30-9:30 AM, 2:30-3:30 PM
Tuesday	8:30-9:30 AM, 1:30-3:30 PM
Wednesday	8:30-9:30 AM, 2:30-3:30 PM
Thursday	8:30-11:30 AM
Friday	None

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description:

A foundation studio course exploring drawing with emphasis on descriptive, expressive and conceptual approaches. Students will learn to see and interpret a variety of subjects while using diverse materials and techniques. Course work will facilitate a dialogue in which students will engage in critical analysis and begin to develop their understanding of drawing as a discipline.

Prerequisite(s): None

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Describe visual subjects through the use of accurate and sensitive observation.
2. Generate drawings that demonstrate descriptive, expressive, and conceptual approaches.
3. Utilize varied materials and techniques with informed aesthetic and conceptual strategies.
4. Demonstrate an appropriate level of professional practice, including safety, craft and presentation.
5. Analyze and critique drawings verbally and/or in writing.
6. Relate drawing to design, art history and contemporary artistic production.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

The breakdown of the course requirements is as follows:

%	Requirement
50%	Three Drawing Projects
25%	Sketchbook (Assigned drawing projects)
20%	Artist Presentation and Online Portfolio
5%	Safety Knowledge

Semester grades will be earned as follows

Percentage	Letter Grade
90% and above	A
80 % to 89%	B
70 % to 79%	C
60% to 69 %	D
59.9% and below	F

All assignments must be turned in by due dates announced in class and /or stated in the syllabus. Some assignments are due before the midterm. See the calendar for dates. Assignments are graded by a rubric to be discussed in class. Rubrics are located in appendices. Grades will be posted in your Blackboard grade center one week after the assignment is due.

Required Instructional Materials:

You may find the following required items in the college bookstore, online, Hobby Lobby, Michaels, and/or Walmart. Must have all supplies by 2nd class.

- 3-4 paper stumps OR tortillions
- Chamois piece for blending. You can get a large car chamois (not the synthetic kind) and cut it up into 6-8 inch squares.
- Kneaded eraser
- 9 x 12 drawing journal – Make sure the paper is thick enough for drawing...thin paper such as copy paper will not work.
- Magic Rub Eraser by Stanford (white eraser)
- Alligator clips – 2 each
- Container for your supplies
- Graphite Pencils – Set of 12 different degreed pencils in a set. Derwent and Staedler are good brands.
- Ebony pencil
- Conte crayons – 2 white, 2 black. You can get red-brown ones to experiment with, but they are not required.
- Pencil Sharpener
- Charcoal – a variety of vine, compressed, and soft and medium pencils

- Can of spray fixative

Additional items not in the kit from the bookstore

- Portfolio for your drawings (optional)
- Collect sorts of objects – sticks, leaves, bottle caps, feathers, ribbons, receipts (man-made & natural objects) for your first project. We will discuss in class.
- Your OWN photographs – no magazine images, no celebrities (unless you took the images yourself), no anime or Manga, no formal studio poses. You can use copyright-free images from Pixabay or Unsplash only if they have proper lighting. All images must be approved by Professor Hall.
- Knitting needle or straight wooden skewer
- Sharpening block or sandpaper – 120 or 150 grit
- Utility knife
- Camera or phone camera for photographing work to upload into Blackboard.

Optional Instructional Materials:

There is no required textbook for this course. However, there are recommended books if you are interested in purchasing them. They are: Drawing from Observation by Brian Curtis and Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain by Betty Edwards.

Minimum Technology Requirements:

Computers are in the Humanities computer lab, the library, and you may use your own laptop.

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

Adobe Photoshop skills (instructions will be provided), Blackboard, Microsoft Teams and email.

Course Structure and Overview:

There are no formal written tests. Drawing projects will serve as tests. The sketchbook drawings will serve as individual assignments and will also be graded as a whole as a major grade at the end of the semester. Artist presentations and online portfolio also count as major grades.

Assignments by Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's):

SLO#1 - Still-life drawing of your own props, "From Nature From Man" (descriptive).

SLO#2 - Two different drawings: "Biomorphic Forms" (conceptual) and "Surrealism" (expressive).

SLO#3 – Sketchbook (eleven projects) exploring a variety of materials (dry, wet, etc...) and techniques.

SLO#4 – Safety knowledge with rubric, online portfolio, and prepare for the student art show.

SLO#5 – You must participate in all class critiques verbally and/or in writing.

SLO#6 – One oral presentation using MS PowerPoint which relate your drawings to one historical artist and one contemporary artist.

Communications:

The instructor will answer and return all NTCC emails and phone calls within a 24-hour period, except on weekends. Please load your phone with the Microsoft Teams app and find Drawing 1 course for further communication. NTCC email is the official form of communication used by the college. The instructor will only respond to NTCC email accounts from students. No other email accounts may be used. You may also use Microsoft Teams to communicate with me. In all communication, include your full name, student ID, and course number/section number. Students must complete the FERPA agreement and it must be on file in the myEagle portal before I can talk with parents. Please explain this to your parents. The instructor will not discuss your grades/progress with them without the proper permission from you. It is the law.

Institutional/Course Policy:

Attendance and promptness are mandatory. But, if you MUST miss class for emergency only, email me at mhall@ntcc.edu or call 903-434-8172. The mail and phone number are also listed at the top of the syllabus.

You are responsible to get with a classmate or two for topics covered in the missed class. Get their phone numbers or emails. Have a buddy system. Coordinate with your classmates ahead of time, so the classmates can take notes for you.

You MUST complete all assigned projects. Projects turned in late (one week late) will receive one letter grade reduction. Absenteeism and arriving late, 5 minutes (more than 2 times) will result in a loss of points to your overall grade. Leaving early (more than 2 times) will result in a loss of points/percentage to your overall grade. More than two absences are detrimental to your final grade, and more than four absences will result in a drop from the course or a failing grade. You MUST be punctual and attend class regularly. This is important not only for you and your classwork, but it is a matter of respect for your fellow classmates and your professor. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes that are appropriate for working with equipment and supplies in the art lab. Complete drawing assignments in class. If you finish a drawing assignment, you must get the instructor's approval before going on to the next assignment. If you need more time than allotted in class for finishing your assignments, you must schedule extra time in the lab prior to the due date of the assignment.

You are expected to come to class on time, alert and ready to participate in ALL activities during the art class to the best of your ability. Participate with your fellow classmates and talk to them about the projects, the art terms, sketchbooks, and different art areas. Interact with each other. "Trying is better than not trying at all."

Turn volume off cell phones when in the classroom. Step outside if you MUST talk on the phone. One earbud is allowed in class while working independently. No texting during lectures. Earbuds are not allowed during lectures.

You are expected to keep your workspace area clean. This includes placing your work in progress in your bin, disposing all trash in the large waste baskets, and cleaning your desk so that it is ready for the next class.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements:

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

Statement Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology:

Employees and students shall be permitted to explore artificial intelligence (AI) and implement its use in and out of the classroom in accordance with policy and administrative regulations. The use of AI shall only be as a support tool to enhance student outcomes or as necessary to engage in research and shall never take the place of faculty, staff, and student decision-making. Any use of AI must comply with law, policy, and administrative regulations relating to student and employee privacy and data security. A student shall only use AI tools with faculty permission and shall be expected to produce original work and properly credit

sources, including AI tools used in creating the work.

Example:

APA (7th edition)

OpenAI. (2026). ChatGPT (March 25 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

MLA (9th edition)

OpenAI. ChatGPT. 25 Mar. 2026, <https://chat.openai.com/>.

Employees or students who use AI tools to deceptively harm, bully, or harass others shall be disciplined in accordance with policy. [See DH, DIA series, FFD series, FFE, FLB, and the FM series] AI Use by Employees and Students. Northeast Texas Community College 225500 TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CRB ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (LOCAL) DATE ISSUED: 12/8/2025 1 of 1 UPDATE 50 CRB(LOCAL)-AJC Adopted: 12/16/2025

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodation. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Tentative Course Schedule:

(*note* instructor reserves the right to adjust this timeline at any point in the term):

Week 1 - First day of class

We will go over the following information: Introductions, Discuss Morning Routines, Syllabus, Rubrics, Microsoft Teams, Videos, Safety Tests, Presentations, lunch times, expectations for sketchbook, and your supply list.

You will complete a still life drawing.

Week 2

- Complete a Sketchbook activity (a) from Rubric [Neurographic Art](#) ;
- Discuss Mechanics of Drawing, General to Specific, Line Variation & Quality, Blind Contour, Contour & Cross Contour Drawing, Intuitive Gesture Drawing. (Take notes in your sketchbook)
- Introduction of Classroom Project – “From Nature From Man” – Using your man-made & natural objects with negative space. Students may use graphite, conte or charcoal in their descriptive project. Guidelines will be discussed in class. Begin this project.
- Use Feldman’s Method of Art Criticism to Critique a Drawing
- View the video and discuss: • [Contour Drawing – How to Draw from Life, Drawing and Composition \(Straight Line Block-in\)](#)

HOMEWORK:

Complete a Sketchbook activity (b) from Rubric [How to Draw with Graphite Pencils - Realistic Light Bulb](#) – This is due at the start of class, Week 4.

Week 3 – Holiday – No Class

Weeks 4

Continuation of “From Nature, From Man” working in class on your classroom project.

HOMEWORK: Sketchbook Activity:

Watch the video: [Drawing with Negative Space](#) – Draw the window, top of the shoe, and the head. Place them all on one page. These will be small drawings. This is due at the start of class, Week 5.

Week 5 - Continuation of “From Nature, From Man” working in class on your classroom project.

HOMEWORK: Sketchbook Activity: [Drawing an Apple with Cross Contour lines](#). This is due at the start of class, Week 6.

Week 6 - Continuation and completion of “From Nature, From Man.” Students may work in their sketchbook if time permits after completion of “From Nature, From Man.”

HOMEWORK: Sketchbook Activity: [How to Draw a Tea Pot](#). This is due at the start of class, Week 7.

Week 7 - Introduction of Classroom Project – “Biomorphic Forms” which will focus on the positive space. Guidelines will be discussed in class.

HOMEWORK: Sketchbook Activity: [What Do I Do With This Conte Crayon – Drawing a Pear](#). This is due at the start of class, Week 8

HOMEWORK: Continue watching videos from the page of the syllabus and practice along with the videos. You may practice in your sketchbook. Begin working on PowerPoint presentations.

Week 8 – Continuation of “Biomorphic Forms” focusing on the positive space. Students will work in class.

HOMEWORK: Work on Online Portfolio and PowerPoint presentations.

Week 9 – Continuation and completion of “Biomorphic Forms”. Students will work on and complete the project in class. Students may work in their sketchbook if time permits after completion of “Biomorphic Forms”.

HOMEWORK: Work on Online Portfolio, Artist presentations, and remaining sketchbook assignments.

Week 10 - Introduction of Classroom Project – “Drawing to Surrealism”; Guidelines will be discussed in class.

HOMEWORK: Work on Online Portfolio, Artist presentations, and remaining sketchbook assignments.

Week 11 – Continuation of “Drawing to Surrealism”; Students will work in class on the classroom project.

HOMEWORK: Work on Online Portfolio, Artist presentations, and remaining sketchbook assignments.

Week 12 - Continuation of “Drawing to Surrealism”; Students will work in class on the classroom project.

HOMEWORK: Work on Online Portfolio, Artist presentations, and remaining sketchbook assignments.

Week 13 - Continuation and Completion of “Drawing to Surrealism”. Students will work and complete the classroom project. If time permits, students may work in their sketchbooks once the project is complete with permission from the instructor.

HOMEWORK: Work on Online Portfolio, Artist Presentations, and sketchbooks.

Week 14 – Artist presentations will be presented in class on this day.

HOMEWORK: Work on sketchbooks if needed and online portfolio.

Week 15 – Online Portfolio presentation and Sketchbooks are due today.

Week 16 – Mandatory attendance, Receive your graded sketchbooks, Lab Clean-up