UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2016
REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2024
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval)**:** November 2029
Course outline form version: 28/10/2022

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: VA 225	**Number of Credits:** 3 Course credit policy (105)
Course Full Title: Figure Drawing Fundamentals **Course Short Title:** Figure Drawing Fundamentals	
Faculty: Faculty of Humanities	**Department (or program if no department):** Visual Arts

Calendar Description:

Students will investigate the formal and conceptual elements of introductory figure drawing while learning how to draw from a live model. A variety of live drawing techniques and in-class material demonstrations inform the experimental possibilities of figure drawing as it pertains to contemporary art practice and discourse.

Note: This course utilizes nude models.

Note: Students with credit for VA 101 cannot take this course for further credit.

Prerequisites (or NONE):	None. Note: As of September 2025, prerequisites will change to VA 100 or VA 113.
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	NONE
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	NONE

Antirequisite Courses *(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)*

Former course code/number: **VA 101**

Cross-listed with:

Equivalent course(s): **VA 101**

(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)

Typical Structure of Instructional Hours

Lecture/seminar	10
Tutorials/workshops	5
Supervised studio hours	30
Total hours	**45**

Scheduled Laboratory Hours

Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: ☒ No ☐ Yes

Course Details

Special Topics course: **No**
(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)

Directed Study course: **No**
(See policy 207 for more information.)

Grading System: **Letter grades**

Delivery Mode: **May be offered in multiple delivery modes**

Expected frequency: **Annually**

Maximum enrolment (for information only)**: 25**

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

PLAR is available for this course.

Transfer Credit *(See **bctransferguide.ca**.)*

Transfer credit already exists: **Yes**

Submit outline for (re)articulation: **Yes**
(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)

Department approval	**Date of meeting:**	May 9, 2023
Faculty Council approval	**Date of meeting:**	June 2, 2023
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	**Date of meeting:**	November 24, 2023

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate technical drawing skills in anatomical study, proportion, composition, light, and skeletal structure.
2. Implement experimental figure drawing processes.
3. Employ a range of 2D drawing materials.
4. Identify the formal and conceptual elements of timed, live figure drawing, with reference to diverse cultural approaches to figure drawing.
5. Develop a personal approach to figure drawing processes.
6. Respond respectfully to the ideas and feedback of others.
7. Discuss diverse artwork, including examples of Indigenous figure drawing, from inclusive and equitable perspectives.
8. Explain how contemporary figure drawing is informed by historical contexts, techniques, and approaches, including non-western and Indigenous practices.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Assignments:	60%	%	%
Portfolio:	40%	%	%

Details:

Assignments include 20% critiques.

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lectures, in-class exercises, independent projects, critiques, slide presentations, sketchbook assignments, demonstrations, readings, discussions.

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. Open Educational Resources (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.)*

	Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1.		Texts, journals, and visual resources reflect contemporary artists and practices; resources will vary by instructor and year to year.		2016
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

Course Content and Topics

- Protocols and procedures for figure drawing in draped and undraped settings
- Histories and taboos of nudity in context with contemporary figurative art
- Live demonstrations of figure painting and drawing techniques and processes by instructor
- In-situ problem-solving strategies for timed live figure painting and drawing
- Figure drawing as a representation of diverse bodies, genders, and sizes, including Indigenous bodies, bodies of colour, and LGBTQIA2S+ bodies
- Indigenous figure drawing practices as they contribute to resurgence and anti/de-colonialism
- Compositional fundamentals in figure drawing
- In-class demonstration (by instructor) of drawing fundamentals and materials for short, medium and sustained model poses
- Compositional and material experimentation
- Storytelling and positionality as critique methodology