Course Description
Drawing Explorations is designed to encourage students to experience drawing as not only a practice of representational depiction, but also a powerful vehicle for conceptual and material meaning. Students explore unique characteristics of various media through a series of drawing projects that express universal themes and ideas, while also helping to initiate the discovery and development of personal aesthetic and drawing styles. Technical skill-building, design principles, and critical thinking are reinforced throughout the course, and a shared vocabulary of design terminology is established and articulated within supportive in-class discussions and critiques.

Course Objectives
At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following knowledge and skills:

~Familiarity with key principles of 2D design as related to drawing.
~Experience with a variety of drawing materials, processes, and techniques.
~Ability to successfully plan, execute, and speak about drawing projects.
~Discovery and development of individual creative style and aesthetic.
~Comprehension of abstract concepts and their application in pictorial space.
~Proficiency at solving commonly encountered visual design problems
~Improved ability to think and speak critically about artwork and offer meaningful feedback in a group setting.

Grading
Drawings are assigned grades based on:

Evident comprehension of material
Effective and creative application of concepts
Diligent effort and time commitment
Quality craftsmanship and execution
Active participation in class discussions and critiques
DRAWING EXPLORATIONS

Grade Breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>215 pts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Drawings</td>
<td>175 pts (7 x 25 pt)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sketchbook</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Drawing</td>
<td>10 pts (extra credit)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Grade Range:

- A (93%) = Exceptional
- A- (90%)
- B+ (87%)
- B (83%) = Good
- B- (80%)
- C+ (77%)
- C (74%) = Average
- C- (70%)
- D+ (67%)
- D (64%) = Poor
- D- (60%)
- F (50%) = Fail

Primary Drawings

There are seven primary drawings that are each worth 25 points. Each drawing challenges students to visually express a different universal concept through drawing-based processes. Themes are broad, and open to interpretation. Students are encouraged to consider material as subject, and are not limited to purely representational compositions. Design, creativity, effort, craftsmanship, and successful communication of the theme determine grade (see below). A minimum time investment of 10 hours should be expected to achieve “A” level results on each drawing.

The following five categories are assessed when assigning credit, each worth a possible 5 points (25 total).

- Design: 0-5 points
- Creativity: 0-5 points
- Commitment and Effort: 0-5 points
- Craftsmanship and Execution: 0-5 points
- Communication of Theme: 0-5 points
Sketchbook
Keeping a sketchbook is essential. Your sketchbook will serve as a space for preparation, practice, ideas, and experimentation, as well as a document of your time and progress in this class. Sketchbooks will be collected and reviewed at the end of the semester and will account for 10 points towards your final grade.

Participation
Participation in class discussions and critiques is required and will account for 10 points, to be attributed at the end of the semester. Peer feedback is an important source of constructive criticism. We will discuss how to approach and analyze work in a thoughtful and supportive manner so that we can offer and receive helpful commentary.

Attendance
Attendance is required. After two unexcused absences, final grades will be lowered 10 points per subsequent absence. Tardiness or leaving early is treated as a form of absence and results in a 5 point deduction. 6 total absences results in automatic failure of the course.

Late Work
Work submitted late (after the beginning of class on a due date) automatically receives a 5 point penalty.

Work Revision
As long as a drawing is completed on time for critique, it may later be revised or redone and resubmitted for additional points. The revision should address issues specifically raised during critique in order to regain lost points. Work turned in late or unfinished does not qualify for revision.

Studio Etiquette
All persons using this lab are responsible for its upkeep. This includes cleaning your own and class work areas, maintaining tools and equipment, and returning borrowed tools and materials to their proper location. Make sure all of your materials are properly stowed away before you leave. Westminster will not be held responsible for missing or damaged property/projects. Out of respect of our collective work time, excessive cell phone use during class is prohibited. Headphones may be used respectfully during class. Always respect the work and working environment of other students in class.
Academic Integrity
You are expected to follow the academic integrity policies outlined in the Westminster College Student Handbook. Cheating is not tolerated in any form including but not limited to the following: plagiarism, submitting work from previous projects or other classes, misrepresentation, falsification, deception, fabrication, sabotage, collusion to cheat and professional misconduct. Any form of cheating designed to unfairly enhance your efforts or damage/harm/hinder the work or efforts of others will result in an automatic F for the course and the matter will be taken to the Academic Dean for review.

Accessibility Statement
Westminster College strives for the full inclusion of all our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers should contact Faith Craig, Director of Disability Resources, located in 209 Thompson-Clark Hall. Phone 724-946-7192. Email craigfa@westminster.edu

Materials

Paper is provided. For the rest of your materials, a Course Supply List can be found at dickblick.com. To access on the site: Menu > For Educators > Blick U > Find your Blick U Course Supply List).

Other Recommended Materials:

Provided In Class: Palette paper
Brown craft paper
Newsprint
Paper towels
Containers/cups for holding water
Straight edges/rulers

Not Provided:
Painters/Drafting tape
Art supply box/supply carrier
Portfolio for transporting work

***Additional supplies not listed may be required.
**Tentative Critique Schedule:**

**Week 3**  
January 29  
Critique Drawing 1: Place

**Week 5**  
February 12  
Critique Drawing 2: Memory

**Week 7**  
February 26  
Critique Drawing 3: Narrative

**Week 10**  
March 19  
Critique Drawing 4: Transformation

**Week 12**  
April 2  
Critique Drawing 5: Connection

**Week 14**  
April 16  
Critique Drawing 6: Nature

**Week 17**  
Finals Week  
Critique Drawing 7: Identity