



*Undergraduate syllabus*

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Working from a live model, students will draw and model the figure in clay as they study the human form and learn to directly observe and translate what they see into accurate sculptural representations. With a focus on modeling in clay, this course will include an exploration of anatomy, gesture, and expression to bring your sculpture to life. Students will explore the beauty of the human body through drawing and modeling the nude model. They will enhance this understanding through a deeper knowledge of human anatomy as an artistic language, and use this factual scientific grammar to access the deeper truths of the human condition through its poetic abstraction in artistic expression.

Through studio work and assignments, students will gain a greater understanding of themselves as incarnate beings and relate to creation and the Creator through the language of beauty with greater depth and means of expression. Projects and exercises will enhance each student's ability to share this understanding of the three transcendentals of truth and goodness through beauty.

This course will also explore the truth and meaning of incarnation, philosophically and theologically through an artistic exploration of the human body. This interdisciplinary approach to the liberal arts curriculum addresses the major requirements of establishing the fundamental Thomistic principle of *recto ratio fatabillium* (right reason made form). In exploring clarity of thought philosophically to come to an understanding of truth, understanding the meaning of goodness through theology and experimenting with artistic grammar in the capturing of beauty we will come to a greater understanding of these three transcendentals so as to establish a deeper relationship with their end which is the Incarnate God, Jesus Christ.

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

- Professor Dony Mac Manus
- Email: [macmanusd@cua.edu](mailto:macmanusd@cua.edu)
- Regarding assignments, absences, questions, or accommodations, please use the email above.

**CLASS MEETINGS**

- Tuesdays and Thursdays
- 3:40 – 6:10
- Salve Regina Hall, Room 103

**OFFICE HOURS**

- Office Location: Salve Regina Annex Building
- By Appointment

**COURSE GOALS**

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## OBJECTIVES

In this course, students will:

- Explore the beauty of the human body through drawing and modeling the nude model.
- Enhance this understanding through a deeper knowledge of human anatomy as an artistic language.
- Use this factual scientific grammar to access the deeper truths of the human condition through its poetic abstraction in artistic expression.

## OUTCOMES

Successful completion of this course will enable students to:

- Draw and model the human form with greater facility.
- Abstract from this knowledge a greater understanding of themselves as incarnate beings.
- Relate to creation and the Creator through the language of beauty with greater depth and means of expression.
- The ability to share this understanding of the three transcendentals of truth and goodness through beauty.

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## INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

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In-person/on-campus

## INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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### REQUIRED MATERIALS

- 50 Pound Box of Laguna Number 10
- Serrated Scraper
- 18" x 24" Newsprint Pad
- Vine Charcoal
- Charcoal Pencil

### RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

1. "Artistic Anatomy" by Paul Richer  
<https://www.google.com/search?q=artistic+anatomy+by+dr.+paul+richer&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari>  
<https://www.google.com/search?q=artistic+anatomy+by+dr.+paul+richer&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-us&client=safari>
2. "Letter to Artists" by St John Paul II [https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/letters/1999/documents/hf\\_jp-ii LET\\_23041999\\_artists.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/letters/1999/documents/hf_jp-ii LET_23041999_artists.html)
3. "Introduction to the Theology of the Body" by Christopher West, the book or <https://ascensionpress.com/collections/an-introduction-to-the-theology-of-the-body>

## CLASS POLICIES

- **Attendance**  
Attendance is mandatory in all studio classes. Because learning happens uniquely in the studio

classrooms, missed classes will effect your learning, and directly impact your final grade. Missing 20% of scheduled classes for the semester may result in failure in the course. In light of this attendance policy, if you anticipate having six or more absences (excused or unexcused), you are strongly urged to drop this class during the Add/Drop period. More than one late arrival or early departure from class without a valid excuse – submitted promptly to the professor and accepted as legitimate – may result in a mark of absent from class. The Art Department's attendance policy accords with Catholic University's Academic Regulations for Undergraduates, which clearly states the importance of attending all classes promptly and regularly. Attendance will be kept for every lesson and it will be reflected in the final grade.

- **Technology**

No headphones or buds in class as they obstruct the flow of information.

- **Late Assignments and Make-Up Exams**

Punctuality will affect grading. Submitting assignments and projects for grading one week late will result in an automatic non-negotiable mark down of a merit obtained grade.

## **GRADES**

- Continual assessment of class and homework will form the practical 80% of the grade, while the theoretical content will represent the other 20%.
- Midterm grades will be entered according the Academic Calendar.
- Grading criteria will look at competency and attention to detail in accomplishing technical tasks specific to each graded project, as well as the degree of difficulty and challenge involved.
- Students will be graded in their participation in discussions and critiques.

The University grading system is available:

- Undergraduates - <https://policies.catholic.edu/students/academicundergrad/gradesfull.html#ii> for undergraduates
- Graduates - <https://policies.catholic.edu/students/academicgrad/gradesfull.html#iii> for graduate students

Reports of grades in courses are available at the end of each term on <https://csprd.cua.edu/psp/csprd/?cmd=login&languageCd=ENG&>.

## **ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING**

Below is a list of major course assignments/assessments

- Review of modeling the human head in clay working through bone and muscle structure
- Review of drawing and modeling the figure in clay working through bone and muscle structure
- Completion of assignments of anatomical analysis of class drawings
- Participation in class discussions on theoretical material
- Presentation of Mid-term portfolio to assess progress in drawing and modeling skills
- Presentation of final portfolio to assess all work completed during the semester

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

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#### **Tuesday January 10**

Introduction to class. Overview of Syllabus and materials needed. Start work on skull study in clay.

**Thursday January 12**

Life drawing from the nude male and anatomical analysis for homework

**Tuesday January 17**

Life drawing from the nude female and anatomical analysis for homework

**Thursday January 19**

Life drawing from the nude male and anatomical analysis for homework

**Tuesday January 24**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday January 26**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday January 24**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday January 26**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday January 31**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday February 2**

Conversation with Steve Auth on his latest book "Pilgrims in a Museum"

**Tuesday February 7**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday February 9**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday February 14**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday February 16**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday February 21**

NO CLASS – ADMINISTRATIVE MONDAY

**Thursday February 23**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday February 28**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday March 2**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday March 7**

SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS

**Thursday March 9**

SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS

**Tuesday March 14**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday March 16**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday March 21**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday March 23**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday March 28**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday March 30**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday April 4**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday April 6**

HOLY THURSDAY – NO CLASS

**Tuesday April 11**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday April 13**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday April 18**

CLASS FROM 5-6:10 - RESEARCH DAY

**Thursday April 20**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Tuesday April 25**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

**Thursday April 27**

Draw or model in clay from the nude or model in clay from anatomical references

## **CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

### **UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL**

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All members of the Catholic University community have a shared responsibility to know and to abide by the University's policies, especially relating to:

- Academic Integrity
- Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
- Attendance
- Conduct
- Final Exams
- Grades and appeals

All of Catholic University's policies are detailed at <https://policies.catholic.edu/index.html>. Please follow up with the instructor if you have any policy-related questions.

Of particular note are the policies regarding Academic Integrity, Accommodations for Students with Disabilities, and Final Exams, which are described below.

#### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty at The Catholic University of America is not tolerated (<https://policies.catholic.edu/students/academicundergrad/integrityfull.html> and <https://policies.catholic.edu/students/academicundergrad/integrityprocedures.html>)

As such, academic integrity is not merely avoiding plagiarism or cheating, but it certainly includes those things. Academic integrity means, above all else, taking responsibility for your work, your ideas, and your effort, and giving credit to others for their work, ideas, and effort. If you submit work that is not your own – whether test answers, whole papers, or something in-between – that is considered to be academic dishonesty. University procedures related to academic dishonesty are conducted with respect and dignity, while also preserving accountability, and they presuppose that all participants will treat each other with respect and dignity.

The following sanctions are presented in the University procedures related to Student Academic Dishonesty:

*“The presumed sanction for undergraduate students for academic dishonesty will be failure for the course. There may be circumstances, however, where, perhaps because of an undergraduate student's past record, a more serious sanction, such as suspension or expulsion, would be appropriate. ...In the more unusual case, mitigating circumstances may exist that would warrant a lesser sanction than the presumed sanction.”*

At times, you may do group work for an in-class presentation or group project. For that *specific* assignment, you are allowed to share material, ideas and information; however, for any related work that is to be submitted on an individual basis, your submission is expected to be your own in its entirety. If there is no group work in the class you should not collaborate with classmates on work that is to be submitted for an individual grade.

For more information about what academic integrity means at CUA, including your responsibilities and rights, visit <https://integrity.catholic.edu/index.html>.

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:** Any student who feels s/he may need a reasonable accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Disability Support Services (<https://dss.catholic.edu/index.html>) by email at [CUA-DSS@cua.edu](mailto:CUA-DSS@cua.edu) or call 202-319-5211 to make an appointment to discuss possible accommodations. DSS recommends that a student with a disability meet with DSS staff during the first week of every semester since accommodations are not retroactive. Please note that instructors will only provide those accommodations included in the DSS accommodation letter. DSS is located in PRYZ 127.

**Final Exam:** The final exam must be given on the day and time assigned by Enrollment Services. Please plan accordingly for travel, work, special events, or appointments.

A student having an exam scheduling conflict as defined in the policy must report to her/his school's Academic Dean's Office no later than fourteen calendar days before the end of classes. The dean will assist the student in rescheduling the exam(s) for the course having the lowest enrollment(s). All make-up exams must be completed at the earliest possible time during the final examination period.

## UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

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- **Libraries** <https://libraries.catholic.edu/>
- **Center for Academic and Career Success** <https://success.catholic.edu/>
- **Math Center** <https://success.catholic.edu/academic-support/math-center/index.html>
- **Tutoring Services** <https://success.catholic.edu/academic-support/tutoring-services/index.html>
- **Writing Center** <https://success.catholic.edu/academic-support/writing-center/index.html>
- **Office of Disability Support Services** <https://dss.catholic.edu/index.html>
- **Counseling Center** <https://counseling.catholic.edu/index.html>
- **Student Health Services** <https://health.catholic.edu/index.html>
- **Dean of Students Office** <https://deanofstudents.catholic.edu/index.html>

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The following sanctions are presented in the University procedures related to Student Academic Dishonesty:

*“The presumed sanction for undergraduate students for academic dishonesty will be failure for the course. In the context of graduate studies, the expectations for academic honesty are greater, and therefore the presumed sanction for dishonesty is likely to be more severe, e.g., expulsion. ...In the more unusual case, mitigating circumstances may exist that would warrant a lesser sanction than the presumed sanction.”*

At times, you may do group work for an in-class presentation or group project. For that *specific* assignment, you are allowed to share material, ideas and information; however, for any related work that is to be submitted on an individual basis, your submission is expected to be your own in its entirety. If there is no group work in the class you should not collaborate with classmates on work that is to be submitted for an individual grade.

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- Office of Disability Support Services <https://dss.catholic.edu/index.html>
- Counseling Center <https://counseling.catholic.edu/index.html>
- Student Health Services <https://health.catholic.edu/index.html>
- Dean of Students Office <https://deanofstudents.catholic.edu/index.html>