College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline

1. **COURSE ID:** ART 207   **TITLE:** Life Drawing   **C-ID:** ARTS 200
   Units: 3.0 units **Hours/Semester:** 32.0-36.0 Lecture hours; 48.0-54.0 Lab hours; and 64.0-72.0 Homework hours
   Method of Grading: Grade Option (Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass)
   Prerequisite: ART 204

2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**
   Degree Credit
   Transfer credit: CSU; UC
   AA/AS Degree Requirements:
       CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E5c. Humanities
   CSU GE:
       CSU GE Area C: ARTS AND HUMANITIES: C1 - Arts (Arts, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater)

3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**
   Catalog Description:
       Introduction to drawing the human figure from observation using a wide variety of drawing media and techniques. Topics include an introduction to human anatomy and the historical and contemporary roles of figure drawing in the visual arts. Students in this course will learn both descriptive and interpretive approaches to drawing the figure.

4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**
   Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:
   1. Create drawings from the live figure model in a wide range of drawing media that demonstrate successful understanding and application of the fundamentals of observational drawing and human anatomy.
   2. Develop expressive content to drawings of the human figure.
   3. Evaluate and critique class projects using relevant terminology in oral or written formats.
   4. Examine and describe the major historical, contemporary, and critical trends in figure drawing in written and oral formats.

5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**
   Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:
   1. Create observational drawings from the live figure model using various media.
   2. Demonstrate an awareness of the dynamic, living figure through gesture drawing and massing of form.
   3. Recognize and illustrate the anatomy and structure of the human body.
   4. Construct correct proportions of the human body through measuring, sighting and foreshortening.
   5. Use line and value in describing the human figure.
   6. Apply the concepts of volume and space to drawing the human figure.
   7. Describe and draw the structural and planar analysis of the figure.
   8. Compose a drawing using the human figure.
   9. Produce expressive content developed through manipulation of line, form, value, composition, pose, and anatomical proportions.
   10. Use a variety of drawing materials and techniques appropriate for drawing the human figure.
   11. Critically evaluate and critique class projects using relevant terminology in oral or written formats.
   12. Study and analyze the major historical, contemporary, and critical trends in figure drawing.

6. **COURSE CONTENT:**
   Lecture Content:
       Lectures occur in the following order:
   1. Gesture Drawing
   2. Proportion
   3. Gesture and Proportion together
   4. Review of Renaissance Light Theory on the Planar Head
   5. Planes and Masses, Blocks and Wedges
   6. Bony Landmarks (skeletal, anatomical survey of the whole figure)
   7. Begin Semester-Long Investigation of Artistic Anatomy, Lectures:

A. Skeleton, including the major forms: skull, trunk and pelvis.
B. Skull and Neck
C. Features of the Face
D. Muscles of the Trunk
E. Arms and Hands
F. Legs and Feet
8. Discussion of various treatments of the figure by master artists throughout history, culminating in a field trip to a museum to see those drawings.
9. Foreshortening of the Figure.
10. The Figure and the Background
11. Two Figures Interacting
12. Final: The Figure in Context: Multiple Figure Composition

Lab Content:
1. The use of various drawing media, which may include charcoal, graphite, Conte Crayon, and ink to represent the human form.
2. Observational drawings from anatomical models employing a foundational principles and practices of sighting and measurement, proportional studies, contour and gesture, descriptive value, and development of volume.
3. Critique and evaluation of drawing assignments and exercises.
4. Expressive drawings from the live model.

7. **REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**
Typical methods of instruction may include:
A. Lecture
B. Lab
C. Activity
D. Critique
E. Discussion
F. Field Trips
G. Individualized Instruction
H. Observation and Demonstration
I. Other (Specify): Besides the above, homework assignments include drawings based upon each topic studied in class, a final project and a written report analyzing the techniques and style of a master figure drawing.

8. **REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS**
Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:
Writing Assignments:
A report analyzing the techniques and style of a master figure drawing, which the student has copied and visited at the Achenbach Collection of Prints and Drawings at the Legion of Honor, S.F.
Reading Assignments:
Reading Assignments from the required texts and instructor's handouts.

9. **REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION**
Representative methods of evaluation may include:
A. Class Participation
B. Class Performance
C. Class Work
D. Field Trips
E. Final Class Performance
F. Homework
G. Lab Activities
H. Papers
I. Portfolios
J. Projects
K. Research Projects

10. **REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):**
Possible textbooks include:

A. Compendium of authors. *Anatomy for Artists: A visual guide to the human form Anatomy for Artists: A visual guide to the human form*, ed. 3DTotal Publishing, 2021