

Aleksandra Dulic

This upper division studio course explores formal and conceptual issues in the visual arts through contemporary drawing practices contextualized within a variety of drawing methods. Artwork reviews, individual research, studio practice and projects are structured to help students further develop and expand drawing skills and gain a deeper understanding of what defines drawing in the 21st century. Students engage in analyses of contemporary and historical drawing practices as a context for the development of their projects and personal body of work. Students are encouraged to push the boundaries as they investigate new materials, subject matter, process and interpretation related to image making.

The course is structured around research and development of four self-directed and professor-guided individual (or collaborative) projects. The projects are technically and conceptually challenging to offer considerable opportunity for creative interpretation and individual expression. Much of the allocated class time is devoted to studio work supported by relevant technique explorations. Each project culminates in an oral presentation and assessment through the class critique focused on the conceptual, material and formal attributes of the works. The critique provides an opportunity to evaluate whether the artist's intention and final artwork are in alignment and to provide students with insights of how viewers and their peers experience the project.

The projects are designed to engage students with personally relevant content that can spark creative passions and curiosities. Both individual research and group critique of projects support the refinement of the conceptual, communication and critical thinking skills. Learning activities include review and analysis of relevant artwork, development of personal body of work, discussion and critique. This process enables students to develop abilities to construct, interpret, and discuss their own drawings, their classmates' drawings, and masterworks. All students are expected to participate in studio work in and outside of class, group and individual critiques, literature and artwork research and review, gallery visits, and other related events.