

Instructor: Emily Underwood

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SYLLABUS

Course Description

In this course students will become proficient in graphite, ink, and color media and acquire training in the essential skills needed to create accurate and informative natural history illustrations. This is a fast-paced course, particularly in the condensed Summer Session format.

Remote Instruction

This course will be hosted on [Canvas](#). You do not need to sign up for an account, login with your CruzID and Gold Password at canvas.ucsc.edu. See [Canvas Getting Started Student Guide](#).”

This class will be asynchronous. You will watch videos and look at presentations and examples for each module and work on the assignments on your own. I will give you feedback through Canvas, and encourage you to arrange a time to meet individually over Zoom if you would like to discuss anything in the course.

Submitting your work digitally

You will be submitting images of your assignments. A few tips for taking pictures:

Lighting is key! Bright, but not glaring light please. Try to avoid shadows on the page. Bright, but diffused light from a window works well for me. If you have access to a scanner, that is great and very appreciated. Some phones have scanner apps on them that work really well too.

PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT “LIVE” PHOTOS (HEIC FILES). They don't open in Canvas.

Grading

There will be 9 modules (2 per week) and each module will be worth 100 points, except the final project which will be worth 200. In the normal academic year, this course is ten weeks, so the summer session modules are condensed. There are no art prerequisites for this course, so everyone comes into it at their own level. Some students are art majors and others have had little to no drawing experience. It is not a problem if you have not done much art in the past, you will make progress drawing a lot in the next weeks because you will be drawing and painting A LOT! **I grade your assignments on the time you put in and engagement with the subject matter, not on what skill level you are at.** You will find that the more you draw the better you get, especially if it is new to you. A steady and committed art practice is immensely rewarding, even if seems frustrating at times.

Because this class goes by so quickly, it is important to keep up. It is challenging for me to grade late work because it becomes out of sync with the class progress. Please let me know if you have problems keeping with the modules or have travel issues that keep you from submitting on time, but please don't expect me to answer emails about extensions right before the assignments are due.

It is important to keep up with the pace of this class so I can provide relevant feedback. Many students do some assignments on camping and backpacking trips, which is wonderful and I encourage. In the past, I have had issues with the way Canvas shows grades, showing full credit for missing assignments. The grading system is simple and you will not receive points for work you don't turn in. Typically, students who turn in all the assignments on time receive full credit.

I encourage you all to do as much drawing and sketching outside, directly observing the natural world. For students who are located in Santa Cruz County, here is a list of places I like to go:

Wilder Ranch (and any beaches really)
Big Basin
UCSC Campus Reserves
Natural Bridges (great tide pooling, best to go one hour before lowest tide)
Westcliff Drive

San Lorenzo river mouth for birdwatching
Pogonip
DeLaveaga Park
Watsonville Wetlands
Elkhorn Slough

Seymour Marine Discovery Center and Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History are other great places to visit and sketch.

Class policies

UC Santa Cruz is committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me as soon as possible in the academic quarter, preferably within 1 week and discuss with the instructor ways to ensure your full participation in this course.

Students are expected to adhere to the UCSC policy on academic integrity (www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic_misconduct).

All assignments should be done individually and be original works for this class.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Assignments will be due at midnight on Sunday at of each week (specified in Canvas). The first three modules will introduce media specific techniques, and the remainder are assignments for subjects where you will decide what media to use.

Module 1 Inspiring natural history illustrator, Drawing warm ups, graphite rendering of subject of your choice.

Module 2 Pen & Ink practice swatches, Pen & Ink rendering of a subject of your choice.

Module 3 Color swatches, color rendering of subject of your choice.

Module 4 Field Sketching practice

Module 5 Rare and endangered species illustration

Module 6 Flower dissection botanical plate.

Module 7 Event Map

Module 8 Species Interaction illustration

Module 9 Field guide page. An illustration of **at least three** related organisms.

DRC Remote Accommodations:

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. Operations continue via remote appointments. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, email the DRC Schedulers at drc@ucsc.edu for an appointment.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and all members of the university community. It tarnishes the value of a UCSC degree. All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.

In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student's transcript.

For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the [Academic Integrity page](#) at the Division of Undergraduate Education.

Title IX:

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct.

[Information about the Title IX Office](#), the [online reporting link](#), applicable campus resources, reporting responsibilities, the [UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment](#), and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at titleix.ucsc.edu.

The Title IX Office is actively responding to reports and requests for consultation. If you are not currently working with someone in the office and want to make a report/request a consult, you can expect the fastest response by using our [online reporting link](#).

For more information please visit the [Title IX Operations under Covid-19](#) page.