COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to the shared interface of observation in science and art using the natural setting of the UWM Field Station. Unlike a biological illustration course that focuses on the product of translating views into realistic images, this course instead emphasizes how careful observation, visual recording via drawing, and scientific understanding can illuminate each other. Each of these activities informs the observer via attention to detail, pattern awareness, and the visual isolation of parts of a whole. With a basic introduction to drawing and science, these observations will be recorded in a field notebook. Class time will be divided between expeditions exploring the natural habitats of the field station, and sessions of focused observations, drawing, and descriptions. Students will leave this course with basic skill sets in drawing and observation of the natural world. Students need no prior experience in drawing and all levels of expertise are encouraged to enroll.

Instructors: Professor Barbara Reinhart, barbara.reinhart@uwc.edu, Dr. Suzanne Joneson, suzanne.joneson@uwc.edu

Course Inquiries Contact: Dr. Gretchen Meyer, gmeyer@uwm.edu, 262-675-6844 for any questions related to this course.

Required Materials: A multi-purpose drawing sketchbook, writing or drawing pencil (#2 or 2B), pencil sharpener, white vinyl eraser. In place of a sketchbook you can also bring 25 sheets of white, unlined, multi-purpose, 8.5" x 11" paper with a firm drawing surface. Suggested firm surfaces include a clipboard, or hard-cardboard with book-clip for holding loose papers. For loose sheets of paper bring a folder in which to keep your drawings and paper clean.

Optional Materials: Drawing pencils with a variety of hardnesses 4H - 6B, kneadable eraser.

Useful materials: Paper and writing utensil for taking notes, field clothing, a hand-lens or magnifying glass if you have one (10X - 20X is good, some loaners available).

Your grade in the class will be based on the following components. The weekend field session is required and you must attend both days of the field session to receive a grade in this course.

GRADING

Quiz: Based on the readings posted on Canvas.................................10 points
Pre-course drawing ................................................................. 5 points
Drawings completed at Field Station ...........................................50 points
Field Guide - Post Course ..........................................................25 points
Participation .............................................................................10 points
Course Online Access  This class is taught partially online, so you must have access to a computer with internet access. You must login in to Canvas (https://uwm.edu/canvas/home/) to access course materials. Contact the help desk (help@uwm.edu or 414-229-4040 for help with Canvas).

ASSIGNMENTS....................... DUE-DATE/TIME

Week 1 - July 15th - 21st
  Introduce Yourself on Canvas ............ July 17th, 11:59pm
  Start Readings on Canvas

Week 2 - July 22nd - 28th
  On-line quiz ................................... July 24th, 11:59pm
  Pre-course drawing .......................... July 26th, 9am (bring to class)
  Attend Field Session ........................... July 26th - 27th

Weeks 3 & 4 - July 29th - August 9th
  Complete Post-Course Field-Guide ...... August 9th, 1:00pm (scan and upload to Canvas)

Pre-Course Drawing  Observe and draw a plant. To complete this assignment draw in pencil on a white, un-lined, 8.5” x 11” piece of paper using a style of your choice, and bring this completed drawing to the first day of class.

In Class and Post-Course Field Guide  Instructions will be given in class.

Discussions  The discussion area on Canvas allows you to share information with each other. There are three discussions set up for this class. "Introduce yourself" is required. This will help you get to know a little bit about each of your classmates before you meet in the weekend field session. "Carpooling" is for your convenience, so that those of you who want to can share rides to and from the Field Station during the weekend field session. "General help" is for any general questions about the class.

Meals and housing for field weekend  Free housing is available at the Field Station if desired and meals are available for purchase. If you don’t want to drive back and forth each day you can use a bunkbed in a shared room at our farmhouse. You will need to bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and towels. Meals are available for purchase (optional). You can sign up for lunch and dinner on Friday, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Please contact Cindy Boettcher at the Field Station (cboetchr@uwm.edu, 262-675-6844) for more information, or to sign up for meals or housing.