



SD STATE ONLINE

SPRING

# CONNECTIONS



From left, Lyle Olson, the graduate program advisor, and Rocky Dailey, the online MMC program advisor, listen and ask questions while an online master's degree student defends her thesis.

## Online Education Recognized at Celebration of Faculty Excellence

### In this Issue

- ◆ Online Education Recognized at Celebration of Faculty Excellence (pg. 1)
- ◆ Study Abroad Opportunities (pg. 2)
- ◆ Course Spotlight: Drawing I (pg. 3)
- ◆ Meet SD State Online Students: Eric Markley and Erica Knippling (pg. 4)

Once a year the faculty of South Dakota State University come together to celebrate and recognize success through the Celebration of Faculty Excellence event. As part of this event, the SDSU Faculty Award and Recognition program celebrates faculty successes surrounding learning, discover, engagement and leadership. This year, two awards were presented recognizing online education at SDSU; Excellence in Online Teaching and Outstanding Online Program.

The 2015-2016 Excellence in Online Teaching award served to recognize a faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in designing and delivering online instruction at SDSU. Qualified nominees must have designed and taught one or more online courses with an imaginative approach, created well-designed course materials and instructional

strategies, developed a positive relationship with course participants, and produced effective learning outcomes. The recipient of the 2015-2016 Excellence in Online Teaching Award is Dr. Rocky Dailey. Dr. Dailey is the online graduate program advisor for the Master of Mass Communication (MMC) program at SDSU.

The 2015-2016 Outstanding Online Program award serves to recognize an outstanding online degree or certificate program offered by SDSU. Qualified programs must have demonstrated excellence by effectively educating students, provided access to a diverse group of learners, and developed high levels of student and faculty satisfaction at an affordable price. The recipient of the 2015-2016 Outstanding Online Program is the Master of Mass Communication program.



Faculty-led program through Greece during summer 2015.

## Study Abroad Opportunities

Study abroad opportunities are available to online students, as well as those taking courses on campus. The Office of International Affairs & Outreach is excited to announce that several faculty-led programs will be available to students for this upcoming summer. Faculty-led programs allow students to study and travel with a group of students and are led by one or several SDSU faculty members. Faculty-led programs are short-term and can range from being one week to six weeks long. They typically take place over winter and spring break and throughout the summer.

Faculty-led programs focus on a variety of topics and disciplines including agriculture, nutrition and food science, interior design, ecology and environmental science, architecture, theatre, German, Spanish, and history. Many of the faculty-led programs include service-learning opportunities while students

gain academic credit for their program. Students can also participate in provider programs. Provider programs offer students many opportunities to study throughout the year in over seventy countries around the world. Students can take courses in any subject and can choose to study abroad for a semester, full academic year or between four to twelve weeks long in the summer.

Costs for studying abroad varies depending on the length of the program, location and number of credits taken while studying abroad. We have many programs that can fit any type of budget. Students can apply their financial aid and the South Dakota Opportunity and Jackrabbit Guarantee scholarships to their study abroad program costs.

For more information about SDSU study abroad opportunities, please visit <https://sdstate-sa.terradotta.com>.

### Did you know...

Over 90% of high school students say they want to study abroad when they get to college, but less than 10% actually do! - Dr. James Pellow, President and CEO of CIEE

# Course Spotlight: Drawing I (ART 111)

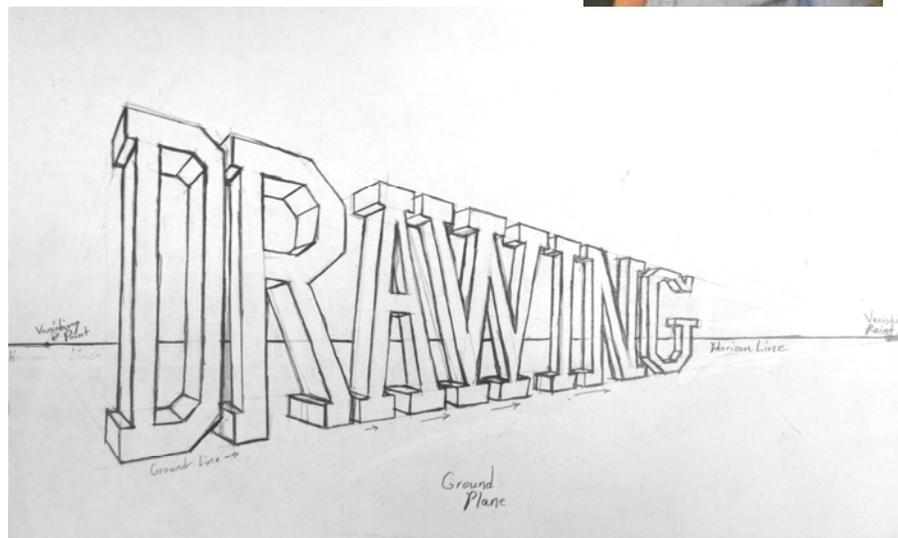
Art 111 is an online course that introduces students to various drawing concepts, media, and processes developing perceptual and technical skills related to accurate observing and drawing. Any student, any major may take this course. The course is designed for both students who have had previous art related classes and for students who have not taken an art class since kindergarten.

The course functions around observational drawing and is broken down into three modules: Line, Space, and Value. Creativity and exploration is encouraged throughout the semester in individual course work.

Students taking this course will need to have regular online access and possess a camera to document their work with. Their camera could be anything from a DSLR to what they have on their cell-phone as long as they can convert it to a .JPEG to submit to SDSU's D2L Dropbox. The other supplies needed are equivalent to what they would need for any face to face drawing class (i.e. Pencils, charcoal, ink, etc).

The online section of Art 111 follows close to what the face-to-face courses do, but the online student experiences more of the professional practice within the arts in regards to documenting and submitting work digitally.

The online Art 111 course is currently taught by Professor Peter Reichardt. Alongside being a full time instructor at SDSU, Professor Reichardt is a professional artist who exhibits work nationally with an emphasis in drawing. He holds an MFA in Printmaking from Washington State University and a BFA in Drawing from the Cleveland Institute of Art. Prior to working at SDSU, he was an adjunct instructor at Washington State University, Pullman.



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## Meet SD State Online Students: Eric Markley and Erica Knippling



Eric Markley earned his Bachelor of General Studies degree this past summer. He is originally from Harrisburg, SD and is now living in Atlanta, GA.

"The freedom distance learning allowed was wonderful. It allowed me the flexibility to work as a firefighter, travel, and ultimately move, all while continuing on with my education," Eric said. "I enjoyed the variety of classes I took. Many areas I had no experience with previously, so I loved learning new things in a variety of topics."

Eric identified his physics and biology classes as the most interesting. "[I enjoyed] physics because it was something I had never taken before and biology because I discovered so much about the world around me," Eric said.

When asked what piece of advice Eric would give to new distance students he said, "Just keep plugging away. It may seem like the day will never come, but slowly, one class or two classes at a time, you will eventually get there."



Erica Blood Knippling is a current Bachelor of General Studies student originally from Webster, SD. She is now living in Flandreau, SD and plans to graduate in May, 2016.

"My mother had gone back to school to become a nurse later in life, and I had always admired her for that," Erica said. "After her passing, I decided that it was time to make positive steps for not only my future, but for my family's as well. Finishing my degree was one way I could help provide a future for my children and show them what you can achieve when you apply yourself. I wanted to live by example, not just by words."

When asked why Erica chose an online education she said, "Taking courses online allowed me to continue working full time in conjunction with finishing my degree. I don't have to compromise one for the other."

Erica offers the following advice to other adults considering completing their degree online. "Don't doubt yourself. Adult learners bring a new perspective to education. We have lived life, and most likely had some trials and tribulations along the way that allow us to view higher education concepts differently. Adult learners bring a new complexity to any college course they are in."

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### Spring 2016 Important Dates

- ◆ Mar 14 — First half Spring Term ends
- ◆ Mar 17 — Deficiency reports due
- ◆ Mar 25-27 — Easter recess
- ◆ Apr 5 — Last day to drop a course
- ◆ May 2-6 — Final exams
- ◆ May 7 — 130th Commencement
- ◆ May 11 — Grades due on WebAdvisor

### Summer 2016 Important Dates

- ◆ May 9-27 — May Interim
- ◆ May 30 — Memorial Day Holiday
- ◆ May 31-Aug 5 — 10 Week Summer Session
- ◆ July 4 — Independence Day Holiday
- ◆ Aug 8-19 — August Interim

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