

Life Study - Art 300 - Tuesday evenings 6-9

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Fall 1998 - 319 Clough
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Office hours: wed 4-4:30 or by appointment

The purpose of this course is to teach careful observation and delineation of the human form and other subject matter/situations from "life". It will function as a drawing practicum. Classtime will be spent drawing from the nude and clothed model, field work, and drawing from still life. We will try to work to develop the whole space of the picture plane/environment. This semester we have an exciting opportunity to include a service learning component to the class, which will be explained and discussed in class.

Tentative schedule of study:

1. Line: gesture, contour. Gesture drawing develops an understanding of the movements and gestures of the body, and contour drawing develops skill in observing and recording more precise shapes, edges, and volumes.
2. Shape: cross contours, planar conceptions of form
3. Value: mass conceptions of form
4. Structure: drawing through form: figure in context, surface landmarks
5. Light: reduced value drawing, expanded value drawings, mapping
6. Scale and Expression

week 1: Intro
week 2: Line - Gesture: scribble and line (charcoal, ink). contour
week 3: Gesture: line, mass,
week 4: Gesture: con't.
Contour: slow, fast, blind
week 5: Study: blind contour, cross contour
week 6: Midterm critique, context drawings
week 7: Environmental drawings -- interior space, organizational
week 8: Light: reduced value drawings (conte crayon, ink)
week 9: Light: expanded value drawings
week 10: Light: mapping: strong light (ink)
week 11: Continued
week 12: Scale: (any media)
week 13: Scale: con't

Tentative dates for the service learning project:

Saturday Sept 16 - 1/2 day training at the YWCA (this is the only time outside of class.)

uring class time:

Oct 6 - on site workshop at YWCA

Oct 13 - continue

Oct Oct 27 - finish

Basic Materials: those required are italicized

Clipboard approx. 22x30"

Rough newsprint pad 18x24"

White bond paper pad 18x24"

Textured charcoal paper

Watercolor paper for ink drawing (140 lb. paper, 22x30")

Unusual papers: scavenge for commercial printed papers (they are sometimes free), wrapping papers, etc.

Dry media: *vine charcoal, compressed charcoal, conte crayons (black, umber, sienna, white), ebony pencils and/or 5&6B drawing pencils*

Wet media: *Higgins india ink, brush, pen, sticks, twigs, feathers, q-tips, and other "found" drawing implements*

Additional supplies: *pink pearl eraser, kneaded eraser, small piece of chamois cloth, stumps, spray fixative (workable matte), portfolio approx. 24x30" (heavy brown cardboard with handle), tool box, portable pencil sharpener, sandpaper*

Optional supplies: *toned charcoal paper, tube of gouache (burnt umber, raw umber, or any dark brown), water container, bamboo pen*

Recommended Activities:

Keep a sketchbook. Scavenge for drawing supplies (the best drawing tools are not necessarily in art stores). Wrapping paper, wallpaper, etc. can make interesting substitutes for regular white paper. Ink and gouache can be applied with sticks, feathers, etc. Bring visually interesting objects and supplies to class.

Class Requirements:

Log 46 minimum hours. Studio art classes at Rhodes require a minimum of 46 work hours for one hour of credit. To achieve this you must work an average of 3 hours each week. If you miss a class you must make up the hours on your own time.

Attendance:

Class attendance is mandatory, as is punctuality. You may not miss more than three classes for any reason. The only acceptable excuse for missing a class is illness or family emergency. These hours must be made up outside of class. Each unexcused absence will lower your grade by one letter. If you play team sports and go out of town, you must make up the time.

Participation in class discussions and critiques:

You must be prepared to give and receive constructive criticism. You must attend all critiques and presentations.

Production:

Engagement and completion of all work: At the end of the term, you must turn in a portfolio of your work. You will be asked once during the semester to set up an environment. Be prepared to be creative and come to class early to set it up.

Grades:

Fulfilling the above requirements attains a B-C grade. An A student should show a deeper level of involvement: do consistently outstanding work and show growth, enthusiasm, and risk taking.