

Rhodes College, Art Department
Art 103/303-01, Life Study
Spring 2008, Clough 312, M/W 2-4:30pm
Professor: Erin Harmon
Email: harmone@rhodes.edu
Campus phone: 843-3826
Office hours M/W 4:30-6PM or by appointment

LIFE STUDY



TEXT:

How To Draw The Human Figure: An Anatomical Approach,
Louise Gordon, Penguin Books, 1979

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This class gives you the opportunity to explore various concepts and material techniques in working with the human figure including the structure of the body (interior & exterior), proportion, value, texture, and an introduction to content as related to the body throughout the ages in a variety of media.

Expect to work in and out of class. Drawing in class is a major emphasis but is not the only effort required of you. 50% of your work will be done in class on Studio Workdays which cannot be made up in the event of an absence and 50% of your assignments for the class will be done as homework.

The class will be based on 20 Studio Workdays, 6 completed assignments and group critiques and a sketchbook. All assignments are due as outlined in the syllabus. Additional deadlines may come in the form of assignment sheets throughout the semester. Completed Assignments will be awarded points based on the following:

- Quality of craftsmanship
- Complexity, ingenuity & uniqueness of the idea
- Mastery of materials and techniques

ESSENTIAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- **DEVELOPING CREATIVE CAPACITIES (INVENTING, DESIGNING, PERFORMING IN ART):** by focusing on *flexibility and divergence in thinking*,

elaboration of thoughts and insights, imagination & expressiveness of individuality.

- **GAINING A BROADER UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF INTELLECTUAL/CULTURAL ACTIVITY:** *by gaining and valuing a “Liberal Education”*
- **LEARNING TO APPLY COURSE MATERIAL (TO IMPROVE THINKING, PROBLEM SOLVING, AND DECISIONS):** *by applying what you have learned in this class to clarify thinking or problem solving.*

COURSE GOALS:

In this class you have the opportunity to:

- Develop observational skills and hand-eye coordination.
- To become familiar with the anatomy of the human body and certain exterior markers that might aid in structure and proportion.
- Use the body in a number of ways to create a diverse artist portfolio

CRITIQUES:

This is a studio course so a portion of examination comes through the process of critiques. Critiques will manifest in multiple forms but will mostly involve the entire class in a discussion about how each student fulfilled the assignment. Your constructive participation in critiques and discussions is expected and attendance at critiques is mandatory. Critiques can not be made up in the event that you are absent. If you miss a critique it will warrant a non-review of the assignment and you will not receive participation points for the day. There will be a variety of critical methods used including one-on-one, roundtable discussions, and written responses. Your overall grade in this class is greatly affected by your participation and performance in critiques. (see grading & assessment for breakdown) **IF YOU DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN CRITIQUES, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE PARTICIPATION POINTS FOR THE DAY.**

ART EVENTS:

You are required to attend at least 3 art department functions including lectures & openings over the course of the semester. In a one page essay, give the event, date, location and any other important identifying information. Describe your impressions of each event. This essay (worth 5 points pass/fail) will be submitted to me at the end of the semester. (Please see schedule)

MODEL ETIQUETTE:

Drawing from a live model is a vital component to any studio experience; a specific synergy is created between artist and model that is not re-created in any other environment. But it is also a privilege. You will, of course, show the utmost maturity and respect both to the model, myself and your fellow classmates. This includes coming to class prepared and on time, talking in a low voice while the model is in pose, helping to put the model back in pose at the beginning of each drawing session. The studio door will be locked after class begins to preserve the modesty of the model. Please close the door if you need to leave and help to keep the studio windows and blinds closed. Also, please keep cell phones turned off. It is appropriate to move around the room either to find the best possible angle or to observe the progress of your classmates.

STUDIO:

Please consider this a co-operative space in which you are all part owner. The building can be accessed 24hours a day including over breaks and I hope will become one of your most frequented places on campus. Although this is a great studio, it's limited in space. It is very important that you all work to keep the studio clean and clutter free for a safe & comfortable work environment. You are each responsible for cleaning up after yourselves every time you leave the studio. NOTHING can be left out after class. Each of you will be assigned rack space and a cart & drawer. You may want to bring a lock. Any materials that don't fit in your drawer or storage rack must be taken home so that space is suitable for the next class. DO NOT LEAVE MATERIALS OUT. FOLD AND PUT AWAY EASELS AFTER USE. IF CLEANING UP BECOMES AN ISSUE, YOUR STUDIO WORKDAY POINTS WILL BE EFFECTED.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

For a good portion of the semester we will be drawing from a live nude model. Obviously, missing class on these days is detrimental to your grade because these Studio Workdays can not be made up.

Attendance and punctuality is an absolute requirement for successful completion of this course. You must be working in the studio during class time. You will be granted three absences – I do not need an excuse or doctors note for these three days, however you will not receive Studio Workday points either (9 point total loss). On the occasion of your FOURTH absence, your points will be docked an additional 11 points, dropping your grade one full letter. An expected A- will become a B-. On the occasion of your FIFTH absence, your points will be docked an additional 20 points, dropping your grade ANOTHER full letter. THREE tardies/incomplete class days equal one absence. Come to class prepared to work on the assignment at hand, including all supplies, homework and/or research materials. (Should you confront personal problems or illness it is your responsibility to seek me out to discuss the situation BEFORE YOUR GRADE IS IN CRISIS.)

ASSESSMENT & GRADING:

Point Breakdown: points possible: 200 received

Studio Workdays- (20@3pts each)	
Includes participation, preparedness, punctuality, clean up	60
Group Critiques – (6@5pts each)	30
Sketchbook Assignments	20
Continuous Environment Drawing	10
Including studies	
Textural Environment Drawing	10
Including studies	
Post-It Note Drawing	10
Including studies	
Photo Archive	10
Multi-Figure Compositions	15
Including studies	
Secret Window Cabinets of Curiosity	20
Art Events (pass/fail)	5

-minus lost points for absences

Extra Credit Digital Portfolio

200-190 points	A	151-145 points	C
189-179 points	A-	144-139 points	C-
178-172 points	B+	138-132 points	D+
171-165 points	B	131-125 points	D
164-159 points	B-	124-119 points	D-
158-152 points	C+	118 points & below	F

MATERIALS LIST:

- 9X12 Sketchbook
- 20x26 Drawing Board
- Dual tip sharpie marker in black
- Ball point pen in black
- 18x24" Newsprint Paper Pad (50 sheets +)
- approx. 5 pieces 19x25" Canson Color Line paper (\$1.30 each) in any of the following colors: snow, sweet, meadow, curcao, ivory, wheat, peach, violet or pacific
- approx. 5 pieces 19x25" Canson Mi-Teintes paper(\$2.15 each) in any of the following colors: azure, lilac, dawn pink, cream, honeysuckle, oyster, champagne, bisque, orchid, light blue, blue, pearl, moonstone, sky blue, steel gray, felt gray or sand
- @ least 5 pieces Multimedia 22x30" 140 LB paper (\$2.90 each)
- Aprox. 1 Stonehenge 30x44 Multimedia White
- Art Gum eraser
- Kneaded eraser
- 1 HB graphite pencil
- 1 2B " "
- 1 4B " "
- Black Conte' 2B (2pack)
- Terra Cotta or Sanguine Conte' (2pack)
- 1 stick White Chalk or White Chalk Pencil "
- 2 double sided Blending Stumps
- 3"x4" chamois
- 1 can workable fixative
- #10 or #12 bamboo brush
- Small water color brush
- Higgins Black ink
- 4 Watercolor Cups, baby-food jars, TUPPERWARE, or other small containers with lids

PLACES TO PURCHASE SUPPLIES in town:

- **Art Center Supply**, 1636 Union Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104 (901) 276-6321
- **Michaels Arts & Crafts**, 857 South White Station Road, Memphis, TN 38117 (901) 762-0117 – "10% OFF ANY ITEM" COUPON IN SUNDAY PAPER
- **Sharri's Discount Arts**, 3517 Southern Avenue, Memphis, TN 38111 (901) 323-4681

INTERNET

- **Dick Blick** www.dickblick.com
- **Pearl Paint** www.pearlpaint.com
- **Utrecht** www.utrechtart.com

CLASS CALENDER*

I reserve the right to revise, change or add-to this list in anyway appropriate throughout the course of the semester

Wednesday, January 9: Introductions, syllabus, materials list

C: SLIDE LECTURE

Sketchbook Assignments

HW: “ “

Monday, January 14: Studio Workday

C: Drawings from the skeleton – “*MEASURING, ARRANGEMENT & PROPORTIONS*”

HW: Drawing from the skeleton

Sketchbook Assignments

Wednesday, January 16: Studio Workday

C: Drawings from the skeleton

HW: Sketchbook Assignments

Monday, January 21: ~~*NO CLASS – MARTIN LUTHER KING OBSERVANCE*~~

Wednesday, January 23:

CRIT SKELETON DRAWINGS

C: SLIDE LECTURE

Studio Contour drawings

HW: Sketchbook Assignments

Monday, January 28: Studio Workday

C: Contour drawings from the **model**

HW: Sketchbook Assignments

Wednesday, January 30: Studio Workday

C: Contour drawings from the **model**

HW: Sketchbook Assignments

Monday, February 4: Studio Workday

C: Contour drawings from the **model**

HW: Continuous Environment Assignment

Sketchbook Assignments

Wednesday, February 6: Studio Workday

Demo: VALUE SCALE

C: **INDIVIDUAL IN-PROGRESS CRITS** Continuous Environment Assignment

HW: Finish Continuous Environment & Sketchbook Assignments

Monday, February 11:

CRIT CONTINUOUS ENVIRONMENT ASSIGNMENT

SKETCHBOOKS DUE

C: SLIDE LECTURE

HW: Photo Archive

Wednesday, February 13: Studio Workday
C: Graphite drawings from the **model**
HW: Textural Environment Collage & Photo Archive

Monday, February 18: Studio Workday
C: Graphite drawings from the **model**
INDIVIDUAL IN-PROGRESS CRITS Textural Environment Assignment
HW: Textural Environment Collage, Post-it Note Drawing & Photo Archive

Wednesday, February 20: **NO CLASS**
ERIN GONE – COLLEGE ARTS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION
HW: Textural Environment Collage & Post-it Note Drawing & Photo Archive

Monday, February 25:
CRIT TEXTURAL ENVIRONMENT
HW: Post-it Note Drawing & Photo Archive

Wednesday, February 27:
CRIT POST-IT NOTE DRAWINGS
C: look at value scale. Demo Conte' with studies & photos
SLIDE LECTURE
HW: Photo Archive

Monday, March 3: ***NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK!!***

Wednesday, March 5: ***NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK!!***

Monday, March 10: Studio Workday
C: Conte' drawings from the **model**
HW: Photo Archive

Wednesday, March 12: Studio Workday
C: Conte' drawings from the **model** – **HANDS & FEET**
HW: Photo Archive

Monday, March 17: Studio Workday
C: DEMONSTRATION: TONED GROUND
Toned Ground drawings from photographs
INDIVIDUAL CRITS to discuss Photo Archives –due today
HW: Multi Figure Composition

Wednesday, March 19: Studio Workday
C: Toned Ground drawings (#1) from the **model**
HW: Multi Figure Composition

Monday, March 24: Studio Workday
C: Toned Ground drawings (#1) from the **model**
INDIVIDUAL IN-PROGRESS CRITS Multi Figure Composition
HW: Multi Figure Composition

Wednesday, March 26: Studio Workday

C: Toned Ground drawings (#2) from the **model**
HW: Multi Figure Composition

Monday, March 31: Studio Workday

C: Toned Ground drawings (#2) from the **model**
HW: Multi Figure Composition

Wednesday, April 2:

CRIT MULTI FIGURE COMPOSITIONS

C: DEMO Ink Wash Drawings
SLIDES

HW: Research Reference materials for Secret Window/Cabinets of Curiosity

Monday, April 7: Studio Workday

C: Ink Wash Drawings from the **model**

HW: Research Reference materials for Secret Window/Cabinets of Curiosity

Wednesday, April 9: Studio Workday

C: Ink Wash Drawings from the **model**

HW: Secret Window/Cabinets of Curiosity

Monday, April 14: Studio Workday

C: Ink Wash Drawings from the **model**

INDIVIDUAL IN-PROGRESS CRITS Secret Window/Cabinets of Curiosity

HW: Secret Window/Cabinets of Curiosity

Wednesday, April 16: Studio Workday

C: Ink Wash Drawings from the **model**

HW: Secret Window/Cabinets of Curiosity

Monday, April 21: Studio Workday

Wednesday, April 23:

FINAL CRITIQUE

EXTRA CREDIT DIGITAL PORTFOLIOS DUE

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1:00PM: MANDATORY STUDIO CLEAN UP