

R Y M A N A R T S Spring 2010

Instructor: ROBIN PALANKER

Beginning Drawing

Saturday morning schedule 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

rpalanker@gmail.com

GUEST ARTISTS TO BE ANNOUNCED

WEEK 1 January 30th

Composition: structure of all elements

Introduction to course and materials

Composing objects, balance

Thumbnails; viewfinder

Working from a still life, introduction to value

Homework assignment:

Using three or more objects, make at least 6 thumbnail sketches of different compositions on half of a sheet of paper. Create depth; don't put objects in a line. Make a drawing on the other half of the same piece of paper with a soft graphite pencil (HB - 6B) from the strongest thumbnail composition. Know why you made your compositional choice. Define the composition of the final drawing by making a border. If you use an entire sheet of paper bring thumbnails to class on a separate sheet. Use a single strong light source and utilize the relative value of the objects in the drawing. Avoid outlining. Include shadows and don't let objects float in space. Control value by linear shading, not by smearing.

WEEK 2 February 6th

Value: the relative degree of light and dark

1/2-hour critique of composition homework

Talk and demonstration

Still life drawing

Homework assignment:

Continue in the same manner as the previous week by planning your drawing before you start: make thumbnail sketches of at least three objects to create a composition for a larger drawing which will use an entire sheet of paper. (Do not include the thumbnails on the final drawing.) Plan the composition and the relative value of the objects. Use soft graphite pencils (HB - 6B) and a single strong light source. Observe light and shadow carefully and use it to give objects mass and weight. Avoid smearing and outlining! Use a complete range of values, from black to the white of the paper.

WEEK 3 February 13th

Line

1/2-hour critique of value homework

Talk and handout on line

Contour drawing from life model

Gesture

Line in different weights and media

Homework assignment:

Draw a person, a friend or family member in an interior space. Include elements of the room in the drawing. Always plan your drawing first. This time you will be drawing with line only. No shading. Draw from life; do not use photos. Be sure to vary the weight of the line and work in fluid lines: don't sketch. Use charcoal or pencil. Choose a model who will hold still!

WEEK 4 February 20th

Texture: surface quality

1/2-hour critique of line homework

Lecture on texture

Animal drawing

Homework assignment:

Draw two or more objects with very different textures. Use charcoal. Be sure to vary the weight of the lines to indicate light and texture. As always, take time to plan your drawing first, including composition and value. Let the viewer know what the objects feel like.

WEEK 5 February 27th

Perspective: creating the illusion of 3 dimensions

Critique of texture homework

Lecture on perspective w/ handout

Warm up with simple perspective exercises

Extended perspective drawing outdoors, weather permitting. Dress accordingly.

Homework assignment:

Make a two-point perspective drawing of the exterior of a building. Chart it out lightly with a hard pencil (HB or 2H). Work horizontally so that your vanishing points will be far apart.

WEEK 6 March 6th

CAREER DAY

Interior Perspective with circles and ellipses

1/2-hour critique of perspective homework

Lecture w/ handout

Warm up drawing exercises

Extended drawing of interior perspective including circles and ellipses

Homework assignment:

Make a drawing in one-point, two-point or observational perspective of an interior. Include a round or cylindrical object. This is a creative assignment; you may work in any medium as long as it will fit in your portfolio.

WEEK 7 March 13th

Chiaroscuro: light and dark

1/2-hour critique of interior perspective homework

Lecture on chiaroscuro with handout

Warm-up exercises and quick drawings dealing with lighted forms

Begin extended (two-week-long) drawing at Natural History Museum

Canson paper will be supplied

NOTE: the museum is open until 5 PM and you may stay on after class

Homework assignment:

Plan on spending two whole weeks on this assignment. You cannot finish in one week. Make sure you have a strong composition and idea before you start. Use toned Canson paper to create a dramatic sense of light and dark. Use a strong single light source. Use charcoal with white Conté crayon. Combine texture, line, value and composition.

NOTE: Bring the drawing in next week for critique even though it won't be finished.

RYMAN ARTS, *continued*
Beginning Drawing

WEEK 8 March 20th

Chiaroscuro, continued

Discussion of unfinished chiaroscuro homework
Complete extended drawing at Natural History Museum

NOTE: the museum is open until 5 PM and you may stay on after class

Homework assignment:

Finish the chiaroscuro assignment. Give it all you've got!

WEEK 9 March 27th *Color*

Critique of 2-week chiaroscuro assignment
Lecture with handout on color and color theory
Color exercises using colored pencils, extended drawing with color

Homework assignment:

Make a drawing using colored pencils. All colors must be mixed; no black or brown pencils can be used. Draw at least three objects with strong primary and secondary colors. One object must be transparent, such as glass. Always pay attention to light and shadow. Work lightly so that you can layer. This is a very time-consuming assignment, be sure to plan your picture first. Use the extra time during the Spring Break to make a magnificent color drawing and to catch up on any unfinished assignments.



April 3rd

SPRING BREAK - NO CLASS

WEEK 10 April 10th

FIELD TRIP TO MOCA

Bring your lunch, journal, pencils and/or colored pencils.

Homework assignment: Continue work on the color assignment. Use the extra time wisely and to catch up on any unfinished assignments.

WEEK 11 April 17th

Figure Drawing

Critique of color homework
Lecture with handout on anatomy and proportion
Warm up gesture drawings from life model
Extended drawing of life model
All projects must be finished and returned to Ryman

Final homework assignment:

Make a self-portrait using any medium you choose. Make it great. This is your last assignment.

WEEK 12 April 24th

Critique of self-portrait homework
Last class
All projects must be finished and returned to Ryman
One-on-one discussion of class work with instructor
Draw if you have completed all assignments