

R Y M A N A R T S *Spring semester 2017*

Instructor: ROBIN PALANKER

Foundation Level

Saturday at Cal State Fullerton

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Guest Artist *to be announced*

☞ *This is a college level class in observational drawing. Arrive on time and be prepared to work, always bring all supplied materials unless otherwise specified. These art materials are for Ryman use only.*

Students are expected to be self-motivated and disciplined. There will be mandatory weekly homework assignments and classroom critique of these assignments. Each homework assignment will be preceded and explained by classroom lesson. Along with a study of the elements of art (composition, value, line, texture, color, form) and the use of various media, students will employ planning, critical thinking, risk-taking and problem solving to create quality artwork, all in a uniquely supportive environment.

☞ **NOTE:** Put your name tags and/or name on your art bin, portfolio and on the back of your drawing board

WEEK 1 January 28th

Composition: structure of all elements

Introduction to course and materials

Composing objects, balance

Thumbnail sketches

Working from observation, introduction to value

Homework assignment:

Using three or more objects, make thumbnail sketches of different compositions on half a sheet of paper. Create depth, don't put objects in a line. Avoid a linear horizon line. Make a finished drawing on the other half of the same piece of paper in graphite (HB - 6B) from the strongest thumbnail composition. Know why you made your compositional choice! Define the composition by creating a border. (If you decide to use an entire sheet of paper for your finished drawing, please bring thumbnails to class on a separate sheet.) Utilize the relative value of the objects in the drawing. Avoid outlining. Don't let objects float in space: shadows and negative space are an equally important part of the composition. Control value by shading, not by smearing.

WEEK 2 February 4th

Value: the relative degree of light and dark

Critique of composition homework

Talk and demonstration about drawing from a still life

Observational drawing

Homework assignment:

Continue in the same manner as the previous week by planning your drawing before you start: make thumbnail sketches 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 graphite (HB - 6B) and a single strong light source. Observe light and shadow carefully 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 11th

Texture: surface quality

Critique of value homework

Discussion on texture

Drawing from objects with contrasting textures

Homework assignment:

Plan a drawing composed of objects with very different textures. Work lightly in graphite at first but the final drawing will be in charcoal. Be sure to vary the weight of the lines to indicate light and texture. As always, take time to plan your drawing, including composition and value. Let the viewer know what the objects feel like.

WEEK 4 February 18th

Chiaroscuro: dramatic light and dark

- Critique of texture homework
- Lecture on chiaroscuro with handout
- Canson paper will be supplied

Homework assignment:

Don't procrastinate! Spend time making sure you have a strong idea and composition before you start. Choose rough or smooth side of the paper carefully. Drawing will be on toned paper to create dramatic lights and darks. Work with a single light source. Use charcoal, black and white Conté crayon. Combine texture, value and composition.

WEEK 5 February 25th

Color

- Critique of chiaroscuro assignment
- Lecture and handout on color theory
- Extended drawing with color

Homework assignment:

Make a drawing using colored pencils. Colored pencil is so beautiful! All colors must be mixed; no black or brown pencils may be used. Choose objects with strong primary and secondary colors. One object must be transparent, such as glass or plastic. Utilize light, shadow and depth with color. Work lightly so that you can layer. This is a very time-consuming assignment, be sure to plan your picture first.

☞ **OPTIONAL: Next week, March 4, wear something with horizontal stripes**

WEEK 6 March 4th CAREER DAY

Perspective: creating the illusion of 3 dimensions

- Critique of color assignment
- Lecture on perspective w/ handout
- Warm up with simple perspective exercises
- Extended perspective drawing, time permitting

Homework assignment:

Make a two-point perspective drawing of the exterior of a building. Chart it out lightly. Work horizontally so the vanishing points will be far apart. Remember: perspective is a tool to create an illusion of space. The medium of the finished drawing is artist's choice: graphite, colored pencil, charcoal etc. as long as it fits in portfolio.

WEEK 7 March 11th

Line and introduction to Figure Drawing

- Critique of perspective assignment
- Discussion and handout about line, line in different weights and media
- Gesture and contour drawing from life model
- Extended drawing from life model

Homework assignment:

Draw a family member or friend 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 line weight and to work in fluid lines: don't sketch. Figure out a way to have your model hold still! It is okay to draw lightly in pencil first, then finalize with a different medium.

WEEK 8 March 18th GUEST ARTIST

Figure Drawing

- Critique of line assignment
- Lecture with handout on anatomy and proportion
- Warm up gesture drawings from life model
- Extended drawing of life model

Homework assignment:

Make a self-portrait using any medium as long as it can fit in your portfolio. Artist Choice!

WEEK 9 March 25th **GUEST DANCER**

Figure Drawing, working with motion

- Critique of self-portrait assignment
- Discussion with handouts on creating motion in a static format
- Warm up gesture drawings with dancer model
- Drawings of motion, in sequences and implied movement with dancer model

Homework assignment:

Create an image that implies motion, using any medium that can fit in your portfolio. Use an observational source but creativity is encouraged. Due to the ephemeral nature of movement, photography is allowed as a reference.


WEEK 10 April 1st **FIELD TRIP to NORTON SIMON MUSEUM**

Field Trip, Drawing on site

- Bring journal, pencils, colored pencils, etc. Bring a sweater and wear walking shoes. No backpacks! Leave your homework assignment at home! We will be having a discussion on a specific masterpiece and then drawing on site.

Homework assignment:

Write a short paragraph on something that really affected you while visiting the museum. Be prepared to share your heartwarming story in class. Continue work on motion assignment and use the extra week wisely. Catch up on all assignments.

 **NOTE:** All homework **MUST** be completed and turned in by next week.


WEEK 11 April 8th

Combining everything we've learned so far with Interior Perspective and Ellipses

- Critique of motion homework and reading of paragraphs about the field trip
- Lecture w/ handout on interior perspective and ellipses
- Warm up drawing exercises
- Extended drawing of interior perspective including circles and ellipses
- ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE, NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Final homework assignment:

Make a drawing in one-point, two-point or observational perspective of an interior, including a round object. Artist's Choice! Medium is also Artist's Choice! This is a creative assignment: you may be inventive. As always, plan a strong composition first. Apply any and all things that you've learned with color, texture, chiaroscuro, value and perspective. You may work in any medium that can fit in your portfolio. Start early on this assignment. This is your last assignment. Make it memorable! You have two whole weeks for this homework, use it wisely.

 **NOTE:** You do **NOT** have to work from observation on this assignment. Creativity is encouraged. Hooray!

 **NOTE:** April 15th **NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK**

WEEK 12 April 22th

- Critique of creative interior perspective homework
- Last class, sob!
- All homework **MUST** be finished and returned to Ryman, absolutely no exceptions
- Student DJs encouraged
- One-on-one discussion of class work with instructor
- Choosing artwork for student show
- Drawing from surprise subjects