

Syllabus

Ryman Arts

Foundation Drawing

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Meeting times: Saturday 9:00-12:30 or 1-4:30

Location: Cal State Fullerton, Room: VA D 281 and 160

WORK ETHIC NOT INSPIRATION

"We who choose art as our medium of expression should realize that it has certain fundamentals from which we progress, just as there are fundamentals of literature, drama, or music."

-Andrew Loomis

"If I could say it in words there would be no reason to paint"

-Edward Hopper

Overview

Foundation Drawing is a foundational studio art course in the Ryman Arts curriculum. In this course we will primarily learn by drawing, or making, considered as an extension of thinking. We will simultaneously develop skills in technique and subject. Topics covered will include; Composition, Value, Line, Texture, Prismacolor, Chiaroscuro, Perspective, and Contemporary art practices. These topics will be strengthened by projects focused on Still-life, Portrait, Figure, and Landscape/Architecture drawings with **emphasis on representational accuracy**. Critical thinking about drawing is developed through group critiques which are MANDATORY and 1 on 1 feedback. You should expect to produce 5-6 exhibition ready artworks by the end of the semester employing the techniques learned here so that you are ready for the Intermediate Drawing & Painting class.

The anticipated Student Learning Outcomes will include student's ability to:

1. Demonstrate effective use of drawing methodology in the rapid and rendered depiction of natural and mechanical subjects: executed in proportion with use of perspective and emphasis of line dimension.
2. Demonstrate the use of value to model the effects of light and so render the subject as a three-dimensional illusion on a flat surface using a variety of drawing materials to effectively investigate varied art concepts.

Classroom expectations

Work- Good drawing requires patience, time, effort, and commitment. I expect students to always arrive on time ready to work, be willing to put in the extra hours, and use the techniques/concepts learned in class.

Participation and Critique- Constructive feedback is generated through discussion of the work, and everyone benefits when we all contribute. Every class will begin with a critique of the homework assignment. I expect students to contribute their ideas and opinions to these discussions and group critiques every class session. **Critique is mandatory and cannot be skipped.**

Participation in class exercises and studio time is expected so plan on being present and using this time effectively.

Development- I expect students to adopt an attitude of open-mindedness and experimentation that is reflected in the work with good use of technique.

Homework- Homework assignments need to be completed with good presentation at the beginning of class so that you can be a part of critique. Each week you will have several hours of homework so please set time aside for that.

Everyone works at a different rate or is inspired to be more ambitious based on learning a new technique. As a result, you may be asked to work on an assignment for longer so that you can get a firmer grasp on technique or content. Unless I tell you otherwise, have all homework ready to the best of your ability on the expected due date.

Sketchbook- Artists keep sketchbooks and are constantly drawing. I expect students to use their sketchbooks to sketch, make notes, and develop ideas in an ongoing manner. Keep it with you at all times and we will look at it together in 1-1 meetings so I can track your progress.

Props- We will be working through various concepts by focusing on still-lives to tighten up our understanding of how light falls across various objects. As a result, I will frequently ask you to bring in a prop to draw in class. **You must bring in a Prop when requested.** Have fun with it!

A Few House Rules and Classroom Considerations

-Cell phones: When in class, you are expected to be engaged with the class assignments and disconnected from the grid. Therefore, phones must be turned off or left on vibrate when in class. If this becomes an issue I will ask that you turn in your phone to me at the beginning of class then you can pick it up for break and after class.

-Clean up: There are other classes using the room, so clean-up any mess you make. Check the floor around you before leaving. A good rule of thumb is to leave the room cleaner than you left it.

-Assignments: Only course assignments will be worked on in class. **No combining Ryman class work with school Art assignments.**

-Fellow student contact info: Exchange contact information with other people in class. You will need this should you miss a day and need to get caught up. You can always email me, but having the contact info of a classmate can often result in a quicker response.

-Still-life setup: We will often be setting up and bringing down a still-life together in class. Be prepared to participate.

-Guest Artist: We will have a guest artist attend one of our classes this semester. Please be courteous and prepared to ask questions.

-Midweek email: I will often email you between Tuesday and Thursday with class information and will at times expect you to submit work in progress photos so I can see how you are progressing. Make sure to check your emails and respond if prompted.

Materials List:

12" PLASTIC RULER
ARTIST CLIP BOARD 20 X 26
PRISMACOLOR PENCIL SET 12 CLR
PRESSED CHARCOAL STICK
PEEL OFF CHARCOAL PENCIL / Soft, Medium and Hard
Chamois
EAGLE PENCIL / HB, 2B, 6B, 2H
CONTE CRAYON WHITE, BLACK, CARD
MAGIC RUB ERASER (rectangular)
SANDPAPER PAD
#5 BLENDING STUMP
KNEADED ERASER
PENCIL SHARPENER
ART BIN 1-TRAY
CLASSIC WIRE SKETCH BK 7 X 10
400 SERIES DRAWING PAD
White pencil

Schedule

1. 8/24/2024

Color wheel, Prismacolor

- Class Introduction/Review Syllabus/Look at past student work
- Handout materials and explain their construction/application
- Introduction to color theory.
- Hue, Value, and Saturation.
- Create a color wheel.
- Understand how to layer color. Begin Color Chart
- Prismacolor techniques
- LALO Artist Database

Homework:

Complete the still-life we set up in class.

Continue working on the Color Chart and get at least 3 rows done.

Look up 1-3 artists in the LALO database and be prepared to share some images of their work with each other next class.

7/31/2024 No Classes

2. 9/7/2024

Sighting, Perspective, Line

- Introduction to critique
- Introduction to Perspective (1&2 point perspective) with emphasis on Horizon Line.
- Sighting techniques
- Line quality and variations
- Still-life Drawing Focusing on line through accuracy of Positive and Negative shapes

Homework:

-Line work cubes of different sizes and colors 3 below 3 above horizon line. (Use 2 point perspective)

-Set up a 3 cube still-life in 2 point perspective. Have fun with it and pick items you want to draw!

-Line drawing only (value is good but not necessary).

-Write the initial measurement on the back of the page..

-Focus on line accuracy through proportions and relationships based on the initial measurement.

-Drawing must be 1ft on the shortest side.

-Take a photo of the still life and make sure it matches the vantage point of the drawing.

-Good Presentation, meaning no bent pages, stains, or other issues with the paper. Imagine this page is going up on a gallery wall for presentation.

3. 9/14/2024

Cylinders, Value, Chiaroscuro

- Understand values and express a range of values as a scale of grays.
- Determine the value of the local colors of the objects in a still life on a value scale.
- Understand elliptical perspective and describe its use in drawing.
- Draw an accurate ellipse freehand.
- See the underlying cylindrical form of objects in order to simplify their shape.
- Draw cylindrical objects accurately and with a sense of the object's volume.

Homework:

- Line work cylinders of different sizes and colors 3 below 3 above horizon line. (Use 1 point perspective)
- 5 step value scale
- Continue working on the in class still-life in value. Goal is to have at least 50% rendered in value. (**2 week Assignment**)
- The only white of the paper should be the highlights on the objects. Everything else should be rendered in value.
- Eliminate directional line work on objects.
- Render or stylize the background.
- Write your initial measurement on the back of the page.

4. 9/21/2024

Composition, Spheres, Value, Chiaroscuro

- Element of composition. Unity.
- Use a variety of techniques to achieve unity in composition.
- Draw a reasonably accurate circle freehand.
- Light on basic forms
- See the spherical shapes, including partial or modified spheres, in everyday objects.
- Draw a spherical shape with the illusion of three-dimensional volume by accurately depicting light and dark areas.

Homework:

- 7 step value scale. Even steps, absolutely no directional line work.
- 3 thumbnail sketches of possible compositions.
- Set up a Still life composed of at least one Cube, Cylinder, and Sphere like object. (**2 week Assignment**)
 - Focus on Unity of composition based on ideas from the lecture.
 - One strong directional light source.
 - The only white of the paper should be the highlights on the objects. Everything else should be rendered in value.
 - Include initial measurement
 - Render the background in value.

5. 9/28/2024

Composition, Cones, Complex objects

-Session 3 Still Life Assignment due.

- Element of composition. Focal Point.
- Create interest in a drawing by establishing a strong focal point.
- Perceive the underlying conical shape of many everyday objects.
- Render the volume of a conical object using shading.
- Draw any complex inanimate object accurately and with a sense of volume using knowledge of the four basic shapes.

Homework:

- 10 step value scale.
- Line work Cones of different sizes and colors 3 below 3 above horizon line. (Use 1 point perspective)
- Set up a Still life composed of at least one Complex, Cube, Cylinder, Sphere, and Cone like object and render fully in value. **(1 Week Assignment)**
 - 3 thumbnail sketches of possible compositions.
 - Focus on the focal point of the composition based on ideas from the lecture.
 - One strong directional light source.

6. 10/5/2024

Composition, Texture, Drapery, Metal

-Session 4 Still Life Assignment due.

-Session 5 Assignments due.

- Element of composition. Balance.
- Create symmetrically and asymmetrically balanced compositions.
- Understand the role of drapery in the composition of a still life.
- Accurately draw the form of a fold of fabric and shade it to give the illusion of volume.
- Render the tones of fabrics of a variety of local colors, adding any patterns in the fabric as details.
- Use light and shadow to render the textures of various kinds of fabric.
- Understand the distinctive characteristics of light on highly reflective surfaces such as polished metal.
- Accurately render the reflections in highly reflective surfaces with the correct range of values.
- Draw flares in the highlights of metal surfaces.

Homework:

- 3 thumbnail sketches of possible compositions.
- Choose either a symmetrical or asymmetrical composition based on ideas from the lecture.
- Set up a still life with Drapery, at least 1 reflective Metal object, and at least 1 complex object. Fully rendered. **(3 week Assignment due on Session 8)**
- One strong directional light source.

7. 10/12/2024 Field Trip

- Walk-through of curated exhibitions.
- Architectural drawings in sketchbooks.
- Study of various works in sketchbooks.

Homework:

- We talked about design and concept during our field trip and discussed how we saw those ideas reflected in the work. Identify a concept that resonated with you and explore it in more depth by using it as a thesis for your next piece. **(2 week assignment due on Session 8)**

College Preparation Weekend**10/19-10/20****8. 10/26/2024****Movement in Composition/ Inclined planes**

- Movement: Animating the Composition for Landscape
- Understand what a Trace Point is and how it functions.
- Accurately render inclined/declined planes.
- Look at architecture drawing examples

Homework:

Complete the plein air drawing that we began in class. **(1 week assignment)**

9. 11/2/2024**Self Portrait**

- Head construction using basic shapes.
- Student examples.
- Begin Self Portrait.

Homework:

-Complete your Self Portrait by adding a background. Think about how the background can help generate a meaning along with the rendering of yourself. The background can be stylized. **(1 week assignment)**

10. 11/9/2024

Figure drawing

- Live model
- Gesture and structure

Homework: (2 week assignment)

- 6 gesture drawings.
- Finish rendering the background for one of your figure drawings.

11. 11/16/2024

Figure drawing

- Live Model
- Anatomy
- Begin 1 on 1 end of semester meetings.

Homework: (1 Week Assignment)

- 6 gesture drawings
- Figure drawing of a friend or family member.

12. 11/23/2024

- Complete any final touch ups or reworks of portfolio pieces.
- Introduction to exhibition practices and norms.
- Final Critique.
- Finish 1 on 1 meetings.

Homework:

Give yourself a high five, you made it through!

OPTIONAL

12/08/2024

Sticker Market at OTIS