Syllabus: AW: Observational Drawing

The Professional Institute for Educators
ED*7693C*01
Caroline Santa, csanta@uarts.edu
Cheryl Catherwood, ccatherwood@uarts.edu

Course Description
Drawing is the fundamental foundation for all fine arts, crafts, media and design areas. Working from direct observation of still life, figure models and the urban landscape, participants improve perception and technical skills. Create in a variety of basic drawing media such as charcoal, pencil, ink and conte crayon, this course considers proportion, line and tone in illustrating the physical world. Content designed for those seeking to establish drawing skills as well as those interested in developing existing skills in more depth.

Course Objective
This course will be composed of a variety of exercises in learning to see line, form, and value. Each component of the course will build upon the previous one. By the end of the course, students will be able to:
1. Draw and see forms from life with accuracy and faithfulness
2. Understand the characteristics of various media and their application
3. Be aware of light, distinguish varying degrees of intensity, and how light creates space and volume
4. Participate in the critique of one's work and the work of classmates.
5. Be open-minded about one's own creative process while working with discipline.

Attendance
All students are expected to attend classes regularly and promptly, and for the duration of the scheduled instructional time. The only way to hone your skills in drawing and seeing is by practice. If you miss class, you will miss valuable instruction and participation time in increasing drawing and hand-eye coordination skills, and in the fine-tuning of visual awareness.

General Class Policies
Please, no cell phone or ipod use during class.
It is the student’s responsibility to arrive to class with enough time to assemble a workstation along with the required materials for the day. Class will begin promptly and will end ten minutes early to allow time for clean up. Please leave the space as it was found, and clean up all materials.

Sketchbooks
Each student is required to have a sketchbook (roughly 9 x 12, preferably spiral bound) for recording ideas, notes from demos or critiques, compositional ideas, and thumbnail sketches for assignments. It is a good idea to start the practice of keeping a sketchbook as a personal visual diary, if not doing so already. Homework may be assigned in the sketchbook.

Critiques
Critiques will take place at least daily to discuss assignments in progress or complete. This is an excellent opportunity for students to learn from each other and to develop vocabulary for discussing works of art. Participation from each student is vital for fruitful discussion.

Course Assessment
The majority of the assignments in this course will be completed during class. However, additional time outside of class may be needed. Evaluation will take place during daily in-class critiques, and on a one-on-one basis.

Excellent work demonstrates the highest skill in design, execution and concept. Good work is above the average solution for the assignment. Average work simply fulfills the assignment given. Poor work does not meet the stated criteria, or meets them inadequately.

The following things are considered when determining grades:
Problem solving- brainstorming with thumbnail sketches, visual evidence of search, experimentation, going beyond the first obvious solution to achieve the goal.
Skill development- degree of success in controlling and engaging with materials, sensitivity to the materials and the surface, technical growth and presentation skills of final work.
Quality of Invention- degree of care, imagination, devotion, and expression of creativity in work.
In Class Performance- Participation during in-class critiques, working habits, use of class time effectively, and completion of assignments.

Session 1
Date: 08-09-2010
Introduction and class policies, review of materials.
Topic 1-Gesture Line
Slide presentation and demonstration of gesture line

In Class Activities- Gesture drawing with still life: 10, 15, 25, 45 second drawings, followed by 1, 5, 10 minute drawings, then a more sustained gesture drawing.
Vocabulary- unification, continuous line, mass gesture, hand-eye coordination, volume, line weight, measuring, curvilinear, and geometric line.
Topic 2 - Blind and Sighted Contour Line
Slide presentation and demonstration of blind contour and sighted contour.

In Class Activities- Contour drawings of vegetables and drapery; blind contour followed by sighted contour.
Gesture and contour drawing combined in a sustained drawing.

Session 2
Date: 08-10-2010

Topic 1 - Positive and Negative space

In Class Activities- Drawing exercises with India ink. Discussion of what makes a "good" composition.
Vocabulary- cross contour, enhanced contour, weighted contour, line weight, gestalt, scale, rhythm, movement, balance

Topic 2- Perspective
Introduction, slide presentation, and demonstration

In Class Activities- Drawing rectangular forms in one-point perspective and two-point perspective
Introduction to thumbnail drawings

Session 3
Date: 08-11-2010

Topic-Perspective
Demonstration of 3-point perspective

In Class Activities- 2 and 3 point perspective drawings in the landscape/cityscape (weather depending).
Vocabulary- atmospheric perspective, linear perspective, converging lines, horizon line, orthogonal lines, vantage point, foreshortening, ellipse.

Session 4
Date: 08-12-2010

Topic- Value
Introduction, slide presentation, and demonstration of drawing light and shadow.

In Class Activities- Exercises in drawing value with a white-on-white still life with spot lights using charcoal on white paper. Sustained value drawing with black and white conte on gray paper.
Vocabulary- cast shadow, highlight, lowlight, tonal, chiaroscuro, contrast

Session 5
Date: 08-13-2010

Topic 1- The Figure
Introduction, slide presentation, and demonstration of drawing the figure.

In Class Activities- Exercises drawing the figure in gesture, contour, and value, with attention focused toward the construction of the skeleton and anatomy. Sustained figure drawing in charcoal.
Vocabulary- inside structure, tension, planar structure, axial tilts, directive movement, interior and exterior lines

Topic 2- Figure/Ground Relationship
Slide presentation on figure/ground relationships.

In Class Activities- William Kentridge video.
Sustained figure/ground drawing in a variety of media.

Student Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost per item</th>
<th>Vendor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newsprint Drawing Pad, Rough, 18x24&quot;</td>
<td>required</td>
<td>$4.99</td>
<td>Utrecht</td>
</tr>
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<td>Spiral bound Drawing Pad, 50 sheets, 70 lb, acid free, 18 x 24&quot;</td>
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<td>Windsor and Newton Vine Charcoal, Soft, 12 pack</td>
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<td>Blending stumps, 5 pack</td>
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<td>Design Kneaded Rubber Eraser-Large</td>
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</table>
All students are expected to attend classes regularly and promptly, and for the duration of the scheduled instructional time. Individual instructors will decide the optimum time for taking attendance and may penalize for habitual lateness or absence. Repeated absences may result in a grade of "F" for the course.

Students who withdraw from a course must do so in writing. Nonattendance does not constitute an official withdrawal.

Educators taking courses for credit are required to complete assignments for evaluation outside of direct contact hours. These assignments may include lesson plans, readings, papers, projects, presentations or other work relating the course content to classroom application. Most final course projects will be due two weeks after the final class meeting. An official grade report will be provided automatically 10 to 15 business days after projects are submitted.

Courses for credit qualify for PA Act 48 standards; non-credit coursework does not qualify. A three credit class will be posted as Act 48 90 hour equivalency. Students must supply their unique PA Act 48 Professional Personal ID number and complete the request form, distributed in class, to have their credit course posted. Act 48 posting to the PA Department of Education occurs at the end of each month, after final grading for coursework is complete.

The University of the Arts reserves the right to cancel classes due to low enrollment, reschedule any course or to change the instructor. If a cancellation should occur, students will be notified prior to the start of classes and will have the option of taking another course or receiving a full refund. The University is not responsible for supplies that may be purchased in advance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Cost per item</th>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>$2</td>
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Material Cost: $80.34 (Total Required: $71.35)