

Visual Process and Products in Drawing and Color “Nature / Environment”

Instructor - Leigh Cohen
tilethis@yahoo.com
828-281-1030

Castle Rock Institute
CRI 331/ART 331
Fall 2004

Course Description

The goal of this Art class is to help you see in a new way, which will then enable you to translate your visual perception into a two dimensional drawing. We will explore drawing through different exercises including fundamentals such as line, value, composition and the use of color. We will explore the basics of color theory, learn about certain color meanings and how colors can alter mood and provoke tension through their different combinations.

Many of the drawings will incorporate oil pastels, ink, watercolor, and colored pencil. In keeping with the theme of “nature” we will spend time outside sketching and finding some of our own drawing objects and materials.

Drawing is a learned skill acquired through practice, patience and a few skills aimed at redirecting how you see and view objects.

The class will run from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. when we will break for lunch, we will resume at 1:50 P.M

Any drawing that is not finished in class must be completed for the following class.

Sketchbooks

A sketchbook/journal must also be kept with out-of-class drawings. A minimum of 3 drawings of designated subject matter is expected every week. You should spend 20-30 minutes on each drawing. (Be advised, attempting to do all drawings the night before will be glaringly obvious to me.)

The sketchbooks will be graded on completeness, sincerity, development of technical skills, and experimentation.

The sketchbook can also be used to take notes and any writing that may further your development in this class. You are also allowed and encouraged to keep your sketchbook as a pictorial travel journal. (Pasting, drawing and writing of all the sights and sounds of your journey.)

Criteria That Will Be Evaluated

1. Finished drawings that will be assigned.
2. Time and effort put into weekly sketchbooks assignments.
3. Participation in discussion at critiques as well as in class, and effective use of time.
4. Overall improvement and understanding of sketching, drawing and use of color throughout the semester.

Grading Policy

Grades will be given to assigned drawings throughout the semester, which will be collected.

Grades will be numerical and averaged together for a final grade.

My grading system is based on letter grades

A “C” means a student has fulfilled the assignment, and has done no better or no worse than any other student.

A “B” is given when the finished project reflects effort, thought and the needed time outside of class.

An “A” is given when all of the previous are fulfilled and the finished piece is outstanding.

Texts

The New Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain, Betty Edwards, Penguin Putnam Inc.

Color and How to Use It, William F. Powell, Walter Foster publishing Inc.

Calendar of Events

September 2nd

Introductions

Line and drawing exercises – charcoal and ink (tornado and waves)

Draw tornado and waves again, this time with oil pastels. Create mood with color.

Face / Vase

Igor Stravinsky drawing

Blind contour- bark

•Homework:

With drawing pad, draw German Horse and Soldier upside down.

Read, Color and How to Use It, Pages 1-30

Read, Drawing on the, ...Pages XVII to XXI and Pages 2-7 & 50-63

September 9th

Blind contour – hands

Continuous contour – hands with objects, flowers.

Critique drawings

Introduction to color theory

Color wheel and color blends (pick around 40 leaves similar in size)

•Homework:

Finish color blends if necessary.

Read chapters 6 & 7 in Drawing... and the rest of Color and How to Use It.

Sketchbook: Draw continuous contour of 2 different hand positions with objects (from nature) and one of your foot.

September 16th

Composition

Drawing negative space-“still life” pencil and in ink

Watercolor of leaves, and found objects from nature.

•Homework:

Sketchbook: Set up you own “still life” using objects you find from nature, with “still life” set up all week, draw 3 different drawings using all of the tools you have learned thus far. (Feel free to do more drawings and include various positions)

Read: chapter 10 in Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain

September 23rd

Drawing Negative space – outdoors

Hatching and cross hatching

Value studies with charcoal

Critique

While out of the Country...

- Week of October 3rd

Clapping sticks – Draw 3 sketches of your finished product, include painted design.

- October 19th

Museum Day in New Zealand For -you are required to sketch at least 2 different 3Dsculptures. (If for some reason there is no sculpture in the museum then draw benches, water fountains, or even paintings. Draw me what I am missing here in NC.

- November 5th

Basket weaving – Draw 3 sketches of your basket.

- You are also required to draw at least 3 drawings per week; these can be anything from your own “still life” to sitting outside and drawing what you see. (Please make sure that the objects you draw are dimensional not flat)

- Bring back photos of landscapes and scenery that are of interest to you. For your first class back, we will look at the photos and then recreate them –in your own style.

- For the November 18th class-** clip out pictures of nature from magazines, (you can start while away if possible) we will put them to use when you return.

November 18th

Review sketchbooks and work sent back

Look at photos

Drawing refresher if needed

Collage drawing / painting

Critique

- Homework:**

Do a drawing from 3 different photographs.

Keep clipping out pictures of nature from magazines.

November 25th

Thanksgiving

December 2nd

Collage drawing/painting

Watercolor painting- using all materials

This project will incorporate what you learned about Aboriginal art, creating your own stylized painting from one of the photographs you took while in Australia or New Zealand.

- Homework:**

With sketchpad: Go out into nature and draw – your choice. This means any object or multiple objects, with any material but avoid only the pencil. Spend at least 1 hour on the drawing. Do 2

December 9th

Final class

Continue with watercolor painting

Critique