

Fred Martin, Drawing I-II (Dr 120-2), Fall 2010

4:15-7:00 pm, Tuesday/Thursday, Studio 14

See www.fredmartin.net and click on “Classes” for further information.

Course Description:

This is a lower division drawing course designed for students with a year or less of previous college level drawing instruction. The course will introduce methods and materials of drawing—charcoal, pen and pencil and tempera, and will introduce the fundamentals of the control of visual space in drawing. Information will be presented in a semi-historical context: this is what the artists before us invented, this is how we can use their inventions now to develop our own work for the future.

General Goals:

To develop your perceptions—eye and hand, body and mind.

To develop your use of tools and materials—the markers and supports as well as your eye that sees and your mind that knows and your hand and body that use it all.

To develop your visual intelligence—the figure/ground relationship, control of space and the understanding of the “good gestalt.”

To develop your historical sense: where they were, where we are, what you might become.

To intensify your passion.

To make your own work.

Learning Outcomes:

Ability to use the main drawing media to make effective images in both small and large—life size—drawings in the main historic styles as developed to date.

Effective use of the visual means—points, lines, planes, light and dark, mass and void, figure and ground, positive and negative space—to make images that will affect the viewer.

A general understanding of the history of drawing in the West.

Grades Are Based:

On attendance, the completion of all assignments and the contents of midterm and final portfolios.

Weekly Calendar with topics

Note: Make a portfolio to save your drawings.

Each week keep two or three of your best drawing to have for the midterm..

Throw the rest of them into the recycle barrel.

Week 1, August 31-September 2.

August 31. Introduction. What this class is about—what I expect from you—what you should expect from me—why we are here together.

September 2. Gesture Drawing from two nude models. It is called "Gesture drawing" because it comes from the gesture of your fingers/hand/arm/shoulders/torso/whole body. Goal is to perceive the flow of forces in the subject (the model), and in the responsive forces (the "kinesthetic") in yourself, and in the picture plane and format.

Learning outcome: To perceive and draw not the object but the "abstract" energies in it and in you. Become aware of "line quality".

Week 2, September 7-9. Introduction to drawing three dimensional space.

September 7. Visualization of simple three dimensional forms in a closed space using line only.

September 9. Bring an old shoe Image the journey of your life by exploring the volume structure of one of your old shoes using line with a light source and modeling in light and dark. (Examples from Renaissance chiaroscuro prints and Van Gogh's shoes.)

Learning outcome: The formal elements to learn are the picture box and horizon line, figure and ground, volume and void, volume axis and volume tension, light source and light/dark modeling.

Week 3, September 14-16. Character and the human head. The models are class members. Use three dimensional space to explore and express the character of your friends. (Examples from Rembrandt and Van Gogh.)

Learning outcome: Using the picture box and horizon line, figure and ground, volume and void, volume axis and volume tension, light source and light/dark modeling to make a statement.

Week 4, September 21-23. The model is yourself.

Bring a cosmetic or shaving mirror with a stand so you can see yourself up close.

Use three dimensional space to explore and express your own character.

(Examples from Rembrandt, Van Gogh and Kathe Kollwitz.)

Learning outcome: Using the picture box and horizon line, figure and ground, volume and void, volume axis and volume tension, light source and light/dark modeling to make a statement about yourself.

Week 5, September 28-30. Models from cafes and the streets.

September 28. Bring notebook and pencil and pen to first half hour of class, be ready to hit the streets afterward. (Examples from Goya and Daumier.)

Learning outcome: Experience drawing people and places quickly and in awkward circumstances. Become aware and learn to record class, race, age and interrelationships.

September 30. Bring the notebook with at least 20 pages of heads, bodies, environments, and the newsprint pad, charcoal, chamois and kneaded rubber eraser in order to begin to develop "compositions."

Learning outcome: learn to use pre-established compositional schema, variety of scale, distance, light/dark values to create environments.

Week 6, October 5-7.

October 5. Continue with September 30 work.

October 7. Two clothed models, one male and one female. Invent a place for them to be.

Learning outcome: Further experience and development of all learning to date.

Week 7, October 12-14. Midterm week.

October 13. Show us two artists whose work you like and have learned from, plus one you don't like and tell us why.

October 15. Present a portfolio of your best drawings, one for each week this semester. Tell us why you think they are the best. Then pick a "best of best" and explain why.

Week 8, October 19-21. Cubism.

October 19. The new concept of space and how to draw it. (Examples: still life from Cezanne to Picasso.) Working from still life.

October 21. One nude female model. Working from the figure, continued exploration of cubist space/time ideas.

Learning outcome: Basic understanding and practice of Cubist principles.

Week 9, October 26-28, Cubism.

October 26. Three nude female models. The new concept of space and how to transform a traditional subject matter. (Examples: Botticelli's 15th C. *Primavera* compared to Picasso's 1927 *Three Dancers*.)

October 28. One male, one female model. Cubism with George Grosz in 1920's Berlin.

Learning outcome: Basic understanding and practice of Cubist principles.

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Week 10, November 2-4, Surrealism and Abstract Expressionism.

November 2. Surrealism with Andre Breton and Max Ernst and "Frottage"

Learning outcome: Direct experience of Surrealist principles at work.

November 4. Abstract Expressionism with your own hands.

Learning outcome: Making a mess on the table and floor might make an enormous rush in the psyche and soul.

Week 11, November 9-11, Using Surrealism and Abstract Expressionism.

November 10. The Wall of the Dark I, Surrealism and the crap in mass culture.

November 12. The Wall of the Dark II, Dada and the crap in the streets.

(Weekend homework, The Wall of the Dark III, Abstract Expressionism and the crap in your soul.)

Week 12, November 16-18.

November 17. The Wall of the Dark IV. Make the wall.

Learning outcome: Using anything you have learned since the midterm.

November 19. The "Archetypal Self," Tarot I.

Week 13, November 23-25, Thanksgiving week.

November 23. A movie about artists.

November 25. Thanksgiving Day, no class.

Week 14, November 30-December 2.

Tarot II and III

Learning outcome: Using everything you have learned all semester.

Week 15, December 7-9.

December 7. Final portfolio

December 10. Class Party.

Materials:

All prices from Artist & Craftsman Supply as of Fall 2009.

	<i>List Price</i>	<i>Student Discount Price</i>
<u>Need for first nine weeks</u>		
Sargent Charcoal 12 pack	6.13	4.60
Sargent Gray 12 pack	6.13	4.69
Chamois	4.00	3.60
Kneaded rubber eraser	1.41	1.08
Fine black Gel Roll pen,	2.78	2.12
two @ List \$1.39, Discount @\$1.06		
Newsprint pad, 100 sheets 18 x 24 inches	11.39	8.20
Strathmore Recycled Sketch book, 5.5 x 8.5 inches or similar	7.15	5.15
<u>Need for Week 10 (November 4) and later all of the above plus the following</u>		
8 oz. jar of Golden or other brand soft gel matte.	13.95	8.79
Sargent Gothic Tempera,		
Two 8 oz. jars each of black, white, yellow, red and blue	22.50	17.20
Each @ List \$2.25, Discount \$1.72		
#10 Flat Princeton Bristle Brush	7.50	4.05
Chip Brushes (cheap house painting brushes)	1.19	1.08
1" brush @ \$0.55 and a 1 ½" brush @ \$0.58		

Materials Total around \$70.55
Total Savings by shopping Artist & Craftsman: \$24.95

Also, some kind of box to keep this stuff in
 And get two or three 6 to 8 oz. jars with screw top lids.