

Ryman ARTS

Spring 2012 – Syllabus for Intermediate Drawing/Intro to Watercolor

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The emphasis for this class is on attendance, effort, participation, and willingness to experiment.

(Week 1) Feb 5: Watercolor still life with strong composition and color harmony.

- Demonstration on using watercolors & Make a color wheel

-Review value, color as value, and contrasting color

-Look at Vincent Van Gogh's relationship to Jean Francois Millet and discuss what it is to "study" art.

-Start with four compositions on newsprint from observation. Divide 18"x24" sheets into four quarters, then sketch four composition studies. Choose most successful composition for completing watercolor emphasizing range of value.

* **Due Next class:** Choose a painting by an artist who interests you. For homework paint a watercolor from a painting by this artist. Think about Van Gogh's drawings of Millet's paintings. I provided a list of example artists to research as a starting point. Bring in your painting and the original piece (magazine, book, etc) you worked from.

(Week 2) Feb 12: Complete watercolor still life emphasizing contrast in color and value.

Critique homework: watercolors after artists of choice.

***Due Next class:** Paint a watercolor still life with personal significance emphasizing value range and contrast. Search for an interesting composition.

(Week 3) Feb 19: Pastel Portraits of each other

We will use pastels, grey canson paper and drawing pad.

-Students will pair up to model for a longer color piece incorporating the space around the portrait.

- We review head proportions.

-Demonstration on color mixing, complementary colors. See how to make flesh tones mixing the primary colors or other triads.

***Due Next Class:** Finish watercolor still life emphasizing light and contrast.

(Week 4) Feb 26: Finish pastel portraits on grey canson. Continue drawing from observation creating a rhythm and strong composition.

(Week 5) March 4 : Field Trip to the Getty Villa

Draw from the sculptures in your sketchbooks. Bring several pencils & sharpener.

(Week 6) March 11: Figure Drawing with female model, use drawing tools and pastels.

-Review proportion of the body including the head.

***Due Next class:** Make a stamp and replicate your favorite figure drawing by eye with your stamp and black ink. (You can try using an eraser to cut out a stamp or invent one out of any material.)

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(Week 7) March 18: Figure Drawing with female model including color with soft pastels and watercolor.

***Critique:** the stamp drawings.

-Demo in watercolor showing wet into wet, dry brush, washes and glazes.

-Start with lightest colors, using the white of paper as white highlights. The rhythm of watercolor sometimes demands for two paintings at a time.

-We look at and discuss Paul Cezanne's watercolors and trapped light.

***Due Next Class:** Draw your room or a favorite place from observation clearly understanding the scale of the space and the viewer's vantage point. Media: your choice.

***Due April 15:** Draw a full-length self-portrait in mixed media. You may use paint. You can use larger paper, canvas, etc. or attach several sheets together. **Next week bring sketches.** Practice proportions. This will be a four-week assignment.

(Week 8) March 25: Costumed model. Pastel on Canson paper.

-Work on life-size self portrait. Bring it to class in progress next week.

(Week 9) April 1: Pastel from costumed model, continued.

-Review in-progress life-size self-portraits.

-Look at the portraits by Alice Neel, Rembrandt and Velasquez. What are the artists telling us about the people they paint?

Homework: Complete the Life-Size self-portrait. Incorporate the background. This will be a complete finished piece, figure/ground relationship is important.

**** April 8: No Class - Easter**

(Week 10) April 15: Figure Drawing with male model introducing ink washes and mixed media with pastel. (wet + dry)

Critique of homework: Life-Size self-portraits.

***Due Next Class:** Paint a simple and subtly colored self-portrait (or portrait of someone close to you) with mixed media (soft pastels, watercolor, and charcoal pencils) on watercolor paper. **Must be from life**, not from photos, **include environment**

(Week 11) April 22: Watercolor and/or pastel: Figure Long pose. Set up a figure in an environment to make the interior space and scale clear.

***Critique:** mixed-media self-portrait.

***Due Next Class:** Finish all projects and be ready for portfolio reviews.

(Week 12) April 29: Watercolor and/or pastel: Figure Long pose continued.

Sharing ideas and seeing the process of beginning sketching transform into a realized final product. Students will present to me for informal critiques and one on one final review. All students finish up projects and finish long pose figure thinking about texture and finding the approach and tool to translate touch into a visual experience.

***Final one on one reviews.**

List of Artists to Research

Jean Francois Millet

Vincent Van Gogh

Edgar Degas (pastels)

Henri de Toulouse Lautrec

Rembrandt (drawings, too)

Georges Seurat (conté drawings)

Franz Hals

John Singer Sargent (watercolors)

Paul Cezanne (watercolors)

Diego Rivera

Frida Kahlo

Richard Diebenkorn (ink drawings)

Jim Dine (mixed media)

Kathe Kolwitz (drawings/prints)

Alice Neel

Lucian Freud

Jenny Saville

Kara Walker