

RYMAN ARTS Fall Semester 2024

Instructor: ROBIN PALANKER

Foundation Level

Sunday mornings and afternoons at Otis College

9:00 AM to 12:30 PM; 1:00 to 4:30 PM

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This is a college level class in observational drawing. Respectful behavior is expected and required. Join the class on time and be prepared to work. Always have all supplied materials --which are for Ryman use only-- unless notified. Students are expected to be self-motivated and disciplined. There will be mandatory weekly homework assignments and class critique of these assignments. Each homework assignment will be preceded and explained by class lesson. This is an opportunity to create portfolio-quality work. Along with a study of the elements of art (composition, value, line, texture, color, form) and the use of various media, students will employ planning, critical thinking, risk-taking and problem-solving to create quality college-level artwork, all in a uniquely supportive environment.

👉 **PLEASE** pay attention to your e-mail and read your syllabus.

👉 **VIDEOS** relating to class are linked, access digital syllabus on Ryman website.

👉 **AVAILABLE!** I am available during the week at rpalanker@ryman.org.

WEEK 1 September 8th

Composition: structure of all elements

We introduce ourselves

Introduction to course and materials with handouts

Composing objects, defining shapes, balance

Thumbnail sketches, sighting, using a view finder

Working from observation, introduction to value

Homework assignment:

Using three or more objects, make thumbnail sketches of different compositions on a half sheet of your large paper. Create depth by arranging objects, don't put objects in a line. Avoid a linear horizon line! Make a finished drawing on the other half of the same piece of paper in graphite (HB - 6B) from the strongest thumbnail composition. Know why you made your compositional choice! Define the composition by carefully creating a border. Utilize the relative value of the objects in the drawing. Avoid outlining. Don't let objects float in space: shadows and negative space are an equally important part of the composition. Control value by shading, not by smearing.

THUMBNAIL

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLTC_wENj1U

RULE OF THIRDS

<https://willkempartschool.com/the-rule-of-thirds-in-landscape-painting/>

HOW TO CREATE A STILL LIFE starring Master Teaching Artist Kaleeka Bond

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-3DWEfNIW80>

WEEK 2 September 15th

Value: the relative degree of light and dark

Critique of composition homework

Creating and drawing a still life, light, shadow, symmetry, with handouts

Observational drawing

Homework assignment:

Continue in the same manner as the previous week by planning your drawing first but this time DO NOT include the thumbnails on the final drawing. Create a composition of at least two or three objects with special consideration of their relative value. Use graphite (HB - 6B) and a single strong light source. Observe light and shadow carefully to give objects mass and weight. Avoid smearing and outlining! Use a complete range of values, from black to the white of the paper.

SYMMETRY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQugNvXCMdY>

WEEK 3 September 22nd

Texture: surface quality

Critique of value homework

Discussion on texture with handouts

Drawing in charcoal from objects with contrasting textures, experimenting with a new medium

Homework assignment:

Plan a drawing composed of at least two objects with very different textures. Work very lightly in graphite to plan your drawing but the final drawing will be completed in charcoal. Enjoy the relative speed of working in charcoal! As always, take time to plan your drawing including composition and value. Let the viewer know what the objects feel like.

CHARCOAL DRAWING SUBTRACTIVE TECHNIQUE PLUS SIGHTING

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6C1adQJG39Y>

CHARCOAL DRAWING, ADDITIVE TECHNIQUE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRy5SQqO9PM&t=36s>

WEEK 4 September 29th

Chiaroscuro: dramatic light and dark

Critique of texture homework

Discussion on chiaroscuro with handouts

Canson paper is supplied

Homework assignment:

Don't procrastinate! Spend time making sure you have a strong idea and composition before you start. Choose rough or smooth side of the paper carefully. Drawing will be on toned paper to create dramatic lights and darks. Work with a single light source. Use black charcoal and white Conté crayon or white charcoal pencil but remember to use white sparingly. Combine texture, value and composition. Let the paper be your middle ground. Chiaroscuro drawings are so beautiful!

CHIAROSCURO, Spoon

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMYfu-LNzhU>

CHIAROSCURO, water drops

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLDAbUxkZj4>

CARAVAGGIO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1lcb_7gj5k

WEEK 5 October 6th

Line and introduction to Figure Drawing

Critique of chiaroscuro assignment

Discussion about line, line in different weights and media with handouts

Learning to draw from a live model, basic proportions

Homework assignment:

Draw a family member or friend in an interior space. Clothes on PLEASE! Figure out a way to have your model hold still! Include elements of the room in the drawing. Always plan your drawing first. This time you will be drawing with line only. No shading. Draw from life. DO NOT USE PHOTOS. Be sure to vary line weight and to work in fluid lines. It is okay to draw lightly in pencil first, then finalize with a different medium such as pen or colored pencil, etc. Artist's choice.

DAVID HOCKNEY sketchbook

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYK94FUpgEY>

WEEK 6 October 13th

Color and color theory

- Critique of line assignment
- Discussion and handouts on color theory and atmospheric perspective with handouts
- Extended drawing with color

Homework assignment:

Make a drawing using colored pencils. All colors must be mixed by layering; black must be mixed, no black pencils! Choose objects with strong primary and secondary colors. One object should be transparent, such as glass or plastic. Utilize light, shadow, color temperature, atmospheric perspective and depth with color. Work lightly so that you can layer. This is a time-consuming assignment, take great care to plan your picture first.

👉 Colored pencils take time, this is the slowest assignment. PLEASE start early, don't wait until the last minute.

👉 You have two whole weeks on this assignment. Make it great!

3 APPROACHES

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DG36Ne7P1c0>

👉 **NOTE: October 19-20 NO IN-PERSON CLASS, COLLEGE PREP WEEKEND**

WEEK 7 October 27th

GUEST SPEAKER

Perspective: creating the illusion of 3 dimensions

- Critique of color assignment
- Discussion and demonstration on perspective with handouts
- Warm up with simple perspective exercises. Questions are welcome!
- Extended perspective drawing

Homework assignment:

Make a one- or two-point perspective drawing of the exterior of a building. Chart it out lightly with 2H pencil. If you are working in two-point perspective, work horizontally so the vanishing points will be far apart. Remember that perspective is a tool to create an illusion of depth. The media of the finished drawing is artist's choice: graphite, colored pencil, charcoal etc. Because of the pandemic and other dangers, inventing a building exterior while indoors is acceptable.

TWO-POINT EXTERIOR

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESpRTYIEYdk>

ONE-POINT EXTERIOR

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPM4Hog3XgA>

👉 **NOTE: November 3 Daylight Savings Time ends**

WEEK 8 November 3rd

Self-Portrait

- Critique of perspective assignment
- Discussion with handouts on facial anatomy and proportion with special attention to portraiture
- Warm up drawings
- Extended drawing of face and figure from model

Homework assignment:

Make a self-portrait using any medium: graphite, colored pencil, charcoal, watercolor etc. Artist choice. Carefully chart facial proportions. Capture a strong representation of yourself.

👉 You have two weeks on this assignment. Use your time wisely!

PROPORTIONS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7StHy2WFjc>

FRIDA KAHLO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N14yiuJ9v-o>

WEEK 9 November 10th **FIELD TRIP to the NORTON SIMON MUSEUM**

Field Trip, drawing on site

Bring sketchbook, pencils, colored pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners and/or pens, etc. No charcoal. No backpacks. Bring a sweater and wear comfortable shoes. Leave your homework assignment, toolbox, drawing board and large paper at home. Drawing on site.

Homework assignment:

Make a note of something that really affected you while on the field trip. Be prepared to share your heartwarming experience in class. Continue to work on extended self-portrait assignment. Catch up on all assignments.

WEEK 10 November 17th

Working with sequences, drawing from a moving model, creating motion

Critique of self-portrait assignment
Discussion with handouts on creating implied motion in a static format
Warm up storyboard drawings and sequences with dancer model
Drawings of motion with dancer model: in sequences, in continuous line, blurred and implied movement

Homework assignment:

Create an image with movement: a single image, a sequence, a continuous line, a blurred image or anything that implies motion. Use an observational source, but creativity is encouraged. Humans, pets, objects may be used. Due to the ephemeral nature of movement, photography and video are allowed as a reference. But never work from a single photo!

 **NOTE:** All outstanding homework **MUST** be turned in by Week 11!

WEEK 11 November 24th

Combining everything we've learned so far with Interior Perspective

Critique of action assignment
Lecture w/ handout on interior perspective
Warm up drawing exercises, extended drawing of interior perspective

Homework assignment:

Make a drawing in one-point, two-point or observational perspective of an interior. Medium is artist's choice. As always, plan a strong composition first. Apply any and all things that you've learned with color, texture, chiaroscuro, value, perspective and motion. Start early, this is your last assignment. Make it memorable! You do NOT have to work from observation on this assignment. Creativity is encouraged!

 You have two weeks for this assignment, use it well.

ONE-POINT INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USWY8BrRzyM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=etL4jL9jvk>

TWO-POINT INTERIOR PERSPECTIVE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2Ih6tcyWO8>

 **NOTE:** **December 1 NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING WEEKEND**

WEEK 12 December 8th

Last Class

Critique of creative interior perspective homework
Last class, sob! One-on-one discussion with instructor
Drawing from surprise subject matter

FALL 2024 SUPPLY LIST

Art Toolbox, *containing:*

Prismacolor Colored Pencil Set
Compressed Charcoal
Peel & Sketch Charcoal Pencil soft
Peel & Sketch Charcoal Pencil medium
Peel & Sketch Charcoal Pencil hard
White Charcoal pencil
Drawing Pencil 2B
Drawing Pencil 6B
Drawing Pencil HB
Drawing Pencil 2H
Conté Crayon WHITE 2 PC
Conté Crayon BLACK 2 PC
Conté Crayon SANGUINE 2 PC
Sanding Paddle
Blending Stump
General Eraser
X-Large Kneaded Eraser
Sharpener
Soft Vine Charcoal 1 PC

Portfolio 24 x 32 inches, *containing:*

Sketchbook 5 x 8 inches
Strathmore 300 Series Drawing Pad 18 x 24 inches 70 lb 25 Sheets
Artist Drawing Boards
Ruler 12 inch

Available as needed: Canson paper in felt grey, newsprint, vine charcoal