

Ben Cressy

Art 7A Beginning Drawing: Spring, 2017. Friday, 9-4pm (lunch is 12-1)

Contact: email: bcressy@santarosa.edu Office hours immediately after class and via email.

Important Dates:

- February 5th Last day to drop a class without “W” symbol
- February 17th Presidents Day = No Class
- February 26th Last day to opt for P/NP
- March 17th Midterm Review
- March 24th Spring Break = No Class
- April 23rd Last day to drop a class with “W” symbol
- May 26th Final

Catalog Description:

A basic course in drawing and composition to develop a student's ability to perceive and define shape, mass, contour, volume, space, and light, using a variety of graphic media and subject matter.

Objectives:

We will be primarily drawing from observation of the natural world to develop skills. There will also be a few abstract exercises to demonstrate specific concepts. Students will develop confidence and ability to create drawings from observation, memory and concept. We will explore aspects of visual representation using formal elements of line, shape, value, texture, and composition.

Studio procedures:

- Turn off and put away cellphones.
- Presentations of concepts, review of homework, demonstrations and slide shows will be held at the start of the session. Please be on time.
- Start cleaning up 15 minutes before the end of class. Dispose of eraser pilings, pencil shavings and charcoal dust into the garbage cans using a dustpan. *Wipe down your table.*

General Rules:

No cell phone use or excessive off topic talking. We are here to talk about drawing. Work to build a positive and encouraging learning environment. You will learn as much or more from your peers as you will from your instructors.

Health and Safety:

Most of the materials used in drawing are considered non toxic except for spray fixative. Use fixative in a well ventilated (outside) area and be considerate of which way the wind is blowing.

Homework:

Assignments of about 3 hrs/week will be assigned on Friday and is due on the following Friday.

Homework turned in later than one week is not accepted.

Assignments allow you time to build upon concepts discussed in class, as well let you dictate more personal subject matter.

If you don't hear the assignment, contact me (via email) or a friend in the class to get the assignment.

Remember that while it takes time, it will also be fun/relaxing. Getting started is the most difficult part.

Grading Policy

As with anything, you get out what you put in. Making art isn't easy. This class can be taken for credit/no credit if you request it at the Registrar's Office before the deadline.

Grading is based primarily on completion of assignments, effort, involvement, and attendance.

100– 90% = A

80 – 89% = B

70 – 79% = C

60 – 69% = D

< 60% = F

Attendance and development of class projects: 60%

Attendance is essential as each session builds upon the concepts of the previous class. Missing more than two full days may result in the loss of a letter grade. If you know that you are going to be absent, please let me know beforehand to arrange make up work. Make up work must be completed within 1 week of the absence.

Punctuality is also essential as assignments and demonstrations are discussed at the beginning of class. 3 late arrivals, early departures, or extended breaks equal 1 full absence.

Homework is assigned and explained during class.

Homework and Portfolio 25%

Your portfolio consists of class projects and homework assignments. There should be evident growth of understanding within the cumulative body of work that you create.

The grading of your work is based on:

- Understand and complete the assignment on time: 70%
- Come up with creative solutions to the assignments: 10%
- Consideration of aesthetic and material presentation: 10%
- Push to expand your capabilities- not just doing what worked in previous pieces. 10%
- The Final Project will be heavily weighted for determining borderline grades.

Class participation and contribution to critiques: 15%

Your involvement will determine how well you do in general. Pay attention to demonstrations and ask questions when you don't understand.

Critiques are a chance to step back from your work and that of your classmates to recognize what is working, why it's working, as well as ideas for possible improvements. You will develop of a vocabulary over time, but don't let not having the right words stop you from trying to express the visual. Your participation helps create a positive and enriching environment for all, and you will learn much through conversations about drawing with your peers.

Projects:

This is a rough guideline of the subject schedule, and may change at any time. The specifics of each lesson/project will be discussed at the beginning of class.

Week	date	
Week 1	1/20	Introductions. Materials overview. HW: Acquire materials. Personalize Sketchbook
	1/20	Lines and Backgrounds
Week 2	1/27	Materials exploration –Dot to Dot – straight, curved.
	1/27	Contour lines from observation and Cross Contour
Week 3	2/3	Compositional Awareness Power of Negative Shapes
	2/3	Observation techniques Seeing Flat. Sighting and Framing Square
Week 4	2/10	Line Quality and Mark Making
	2/10	Building Mass - Shapes and value
Week 5	2/17	Presidents Day = NO CLASS
Week 6	2/24	Value and shading Core Shapes
	2/24	Approaches to value and value range
Week 7	3/3	Value in ink
	3/3	Ink wash
Week 8	3/10	Working from images
	3/10	Divergences from image - stylizations
Week 9	3/17	MIDTERM REVIEW
	3/17	Landscape drawing
Week 10	3/24	SPRING BREAK = NO CLASS
	3/24	
Week 11	3/31	Perspective: Isometric
	3/31	Perspective 1pt
Week 12	4/7	Perspective 2pt
	4/7	Perspective from observation
Week 13	4/14	Heads
	4/14	Portraits
Week 14	4/21	Intro to the figure
	4/21	Figures
Week 15	4/28	Figure drawing (model if available)
	4/28	Figure drawing (model if available)
Week 16	5/5	Color
	5/5	Color
Week 17	5/12	Final Drawing
	5/12	Final Drawing
Week 18	5/19	Final Drawing
Week 19	5/26	FINAL EXAM

Materials:

Art stores often have their best sales at the beginning of the semester. Look for coupons and use your student discount. (20% off at Riley Street)

Some supplies can be cheaper at a hardware store or 99cent stores.

SRJC Bookstore (*will have a bundled kit with the items)

Riley Street Art Supplies, rileystreet.com 103 Maxwell Ct, Santa Rosa, or 1138 4th st. San Rafael

Village Art Supply, Montgomery Village shopping center 715 Hahman Dr, Santa Rosa

Blick Art – dickblick.com, 811 University Ave, Berkeley, or Market Street, San Francisco.

<p>Case for carrying materials Masonite Drawing Board (optional but recommended for homework) Portfolio Case Sketchbook 9x12 Drawing pad 14 x17 (~50 sheets – 2 pads) Optional – Glassine several sheets – protects unfixed drawings Soft pencils (2b, 4b, 6b or ebony) Graphite stick 4b or 6b Pencil sharpener (preferably captures shavings) Blending stump (optional) 1 Chamois (soft fuzzy leather – car dryer) 1 box of Vine Charcoal (medium or soft –not hard!) “Char-kole” soft charcoal sticks (6) 1 White charcoal or pastel stick Erasers (Sanford plastic, pink pearl) pencil eraser (optional) Pentel Oil pastels 24 (not chalk pastel) 18” or 24” straight edge 1 clear ruler 12”. Artist tape Workable spray fixative Pens felt tip and ballpoint (black ink) Watercolor or Sumi brush – round Black waterproof India ink Watercolor palette</p> <p>Recommended: nail brush for cleaning hands. Optional – Disposable rubber gloves</p>	
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Questionnaire for Ben Cressy

Name _____
First Last

Nickname- what should I call you? _____

What are your past experiences/classes in design/ painting/ drawing/ making art?

What would you like to be able to design / draw / paint?

Who are your favorite artists or styles?

Anything else I should know about you?