

Ben Cressy

Art 7A Beginning Drawing: Fall, 2018. Section 4158. Friday, 9-4pm (lunch is 12-1)

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

Important Dates:

- September 9th Last day to drop a class without “W” symbol
- September 30th Last day to opt for P/NP
- October Midterm Review
- November 25th = No Class (Thanksgiving Holidays)
- November 18th Last day to drop a class with “W” symbol
- December 21st Final (Required!)

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, and chairs up.***

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.

Try to develop a personal drawing habit!

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.

An A student attends all classes, and does all the homework on time, pursuing each project with intensity and curiosity. Their sketchbook is filled with explorations of different ideas and possibilities of each assignment, as well as independent ideas.

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 (weeks) *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. Essential to be on time!

Week	date	
Week 1	8/24	Introductions. Materials overview. HW: Acquire materials. Personalize Sketchbook, Draw something
		Lines and Backgrounds. Vertical and Horizontal. 'Big dumb concepts'
Week 2	8/31	Materials exploration –Dot to Dot – straight, curved, parallel.
		Contour lines from observation and Cross Contour.
Week 3	9/7	Observation techniques Seeing Flat. Sighting and Framing Square
		Compositional Awareness, Power of Negative Shapes
Week 4	9/14	Line Quality and Mark Making
		Building Mass - Shapes and value
Week 5	9/21	Core Shapes, shading and Value
		Value Range
Week 6	9/28	Approaches to value and value range
		Drawing with an eraser
Week 7	10/5	Scaling up an image
		Working from images
Week 8	10/12	Working from images
		Divergences from image - stylizations
Week 9	10/19	MIDTERM REVIEW
		Stylization continued
Week 10	10/26	Perspective: Isometric
		Perspective 1pt
Week 11	11/2	Perspective 2pt
		Perspective from observation
Week 12	11/9	Heads
		Portraits
Week 13	11/16	Intro to the figure – proportion and invention
		Figure drawing (model if available)
Week 14	11/23	THANKSGIVING
Week 15	11/30	Color
		Color
Week 16	12/7	Final Drawing
		Final Drawing
Week 17	12/14	Final Drawing
		Final Drawing
Week 18	12/21	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</p> <p>Masonite Drawing Board (optional but recommended for homework)</p> <p>Portfolio Case</p> <p>Sketchbook 9x12</p> <p>Drawing pad 14 x17 (~50 sheets – 2 pads)</p> <p>Optional – Glassine several sheets – protects unfixed drawings</p> <p>Soft pencils (2b, 4b, 6b or ebony)</p> <p>Graphite stick 4b or 6b</p> <p>Pencil sharpener (needs to capture shavings)</p> <p>Blending stump (for fine tuned blending)</p> <p>1 Chamois (soft fuzzy leather – or imitation leather car dryer)</p> <p>1 box of Vine Charcoal (6-9 sticks medium or soft –not hard!)</p> <p>“Char-kole” soft charcoal sticks (3-6)</p> <p>1 White charcoal or pastel stick</p> <p>Erasers (Sanford plastic, pink pearl)</p> <p>pencil eraser (optional)</p> <p>Pentel Oil pastels 24 (chalk pastel is less preferable but can be used)</p> <p>18” or 24” straight edge</p> <p>1 clear ruler 12”.</p> <p>Artist tape ½”</p> <p>Workable spray fixative</p> <p>Pens felt tip and ballpoint (black ink)</p> <p>Recommended: nail brush for cleaning hands.</p> <p>Optional – Disposable rubber gloves</p>	
---	--

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?