

ART 7A: Beginning Drawing and Composition

T/Th 1:30–4:30pm | Analy Hall 740

Instructor: **Laeh Glenn** | Email: lglen@sanatarosa.edu

Office Hours: 1–1:30pm T/Th (Room 785)

Final Exam Critique: Tues., Dec. 18, 10am–12:45pm (attendance required)

Welcome – This class is all about learning to see the world around you. No prior drawing experience is needed—just curiosity and a willingness to experiment. We'll focus on drawing from direct observation, practicing how to look closely at objects, spaces, and environments. By the end of the semester, you'll be better at noticing details, improving your hand-eye coordination, and developing your own visual language.

We'll also explore how drawing can be a way to express ideas and ask questions. We'll look at both historical and contemporary artists for inspiration, learning how different approaches to drawing can inform your own work.

Classes will include short demonstrations, hands-on studio time, group critiques and discussions.

Learning Outcomes – Students will:

- Create/revise compositions using varied tools/techniques.
 - Learn how to make objects look three dimensional with light and shadow and learn how to draw in one and two-point perspective.
 - Critically evaluate work and compile a skill-based portfolio.
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Evaluation & Grading – Based on attendance, class performance, skill growth, and understanding of concepts.

- **A (Excellent):** 87%+ coursework, 85%+ homework, ≤3 absences, strong participation, originality, risk-taking.
- **B:** 80%+, ≤3 absences, above-average participation, meets objectives.
- **C:** Meets minimum requirements; lack of motivation, unfinished work, or poor attendance lowers grade.

- **D/F:** Incomplete work, poor ethic, or excessive absences.
- **P:** Meets minimum requirements, portfolio submitted.

Weights: Participation 20% (attendance, preparedness, critiques), work ethic, attendance (>3 absences = drop in grade; 8 = possible drop; 3 tardies/early leaves = 1 absence), homework (A only, 1–2 hrs/week, 85%+ complete, no make-ups), conduct (respectful environment; no food, excess talking, cell phone use; headphones only during drawing).

Sketchbook Required for A grade!(daily drawing; periodic checks),

Disruptive Behavior – Includes talking/texting during lectures, loud chatter, tardiness, lack of supplies, guests, eating etc... Warnings issued; repeated issues may result in removal, suspension, and counted absences.

Conduct & Academic Integrity – Follow Student Conduct Code; respect others. Work must be original—cheating/plagiarism = failing grade for assignment; second offense may lead to course drop.

Complaints & Grievances – 1) Speak with instructor, 2) If unresolved, contact Department Chair/Administrator, 3) Formal grievances go to Dean. Contacts: Santa Rosa (707) 527-4424 | Petaluma (707) 778-4141.

Health & Disability Support –

Student Health Services: Free nurse and mental health appointments for all students; call (707) 527-4445 or email studenthealthservices@santarosa.edu.

Disability Resources: Call (707) 527-4278 or email disabilityinfo@santarosa.edu for accommodations.

Course Calendar – (Subject to change)

Wks 1–7: Line & Value, Contours, Rendering, Composition

Wks 8–11: Perspective & Spaces

Wks 11–13: Texture, Composition, Abstraction

Wks 14–16: Figures & Faces

Wk 17: Final Project

Key Dates –

Sept. 7: Last day to drop w/o “W”
Oct. 20–Nov. 16: Midterm grades posted
Nov. 16: Last day to drop w/ “W”
Nov. 27: Fall Break
Dec. 8: Portfolios due (last late work)
Dec. 12: Last day for P/NP
Dec. 18: Final Exam (attendance required)

Supply List –

Dry Media: Vine charcoal, charcoal pencils (2B, 6B), conte crayon (black, sanguine, white), graphite (2H, HB, 4B, 6B, 8B), colored pencils (yellow, red, blue), compressed charcoal.

Erasers: Kneaded, white vinyl, paper stump.

Wet Media: Black sumi ink, pen holder + nibs (Speedball C4, Globe), round watercolor brushes (small & large), plastic palette cups.

Paper: Sketchbook (9×12 or 11×14), 18×24 pad (Strathmore 400 or equiv.) 18x 24 newsprint pad, 2–3 toned charcoal sheets, 2 printmaking sheets (22×30).

Large portfolio: Large portfolio for carrying paper and finished work. Can make one for yourself out of cardboard and tape. Needs to be 22 x 30” or bigger

Other: Masonite board w/ clips, workable fixative, sharpener & razor, tackle box, masking/artist’s tape, 24” ruler.

Supply kits at Riley Street Art Supply: <https://www.rileystreet.com>