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APA 3140
Intermediate Figure Painting
Instructor: Joshua Newth
Spring 2015
3133 Old Main: Tuesday and Thursdays 8:30 – 11:20 am

Office hours: T/TH 11:30am – 1 pm or by appointment (Old Main 3132)
Email: ai8688@wayne.edu

Course description:

Figure Painting (APA 3140) Cr. 3 (pre-req: APA 2140)

Intermediate figure painting will revolve around fundamental painting techniques and principles including, perspective, scale, proportion, composition, value, and negative space. These techniques will be taught through individual class sessions in which the primary subject matter will be the figure. We will be working from models the majority of the semester. During this course you will also begin to develop an artistic dialog through individual as well as class critiques. These fundamentals in technique and dialog will assist you in developing a foundation for more advanced studies in any number of artistic media.

Learning Outcomes:

- Base of Knowledge: Demonstrate an effective knowledge of the essential materials and techniques appropriate to the figure
- Critical Thinking: Demonstrate the ability to reflect on and articulate the effective application of materials, techniques, concepts and practices appropriate to artistic work

Elaborating on our course's Learning Outcome: Base of Knowledge. Students will be able to reproduce the figure and three dimensional objects in a two dimensional space (through the application of specific objectives):

- Correctly manipulate oil painting materials
- Understand and use paint to convey space, shape, and form
- Reproduce human form through correct proportions
- Understand and apply color schemes and relationships
- Understand and apply composition correctly
- Understand and reproduce value to create 3D objects

Elaborating on our course's Learning Outcome: Critical Thinking. Students will continue to develop and apply artistic dialog through a multitude of activities.

- Discuss and critique one's own work as well as the paintings of fellow artists
- Understand and discuss the relevance of mediums used to create the work of art
- Discuss the importance of artistic and ideological content
- Understand and apply the ideas which reflect the history of art in a contemporary society
- Explore alternative surfaces as substrates

Studio Environment:

Attendance:

One of the most critical aspects of the artistic process is creating a good studio work ethic. This begins with constant and intense practice (ideally one should draw and make work on a daily basis), under the watchful eye of an experienced artist. Consequently, attendance is extremely critical and will be reflected in your final grade. Although perfect attendance is desirable, three absences will be tolerated. Any more than three will negatively affect your final grade. For every absence after 3 your final grade will drop half a letter grade (e.g., a B with four absences results in a B- overall). If at all possible please let me know prior to missing a class, that way we can discuss what it is you will be missing, allowing you to stay on pace with the class. Similarly, as most lectures and demonstrations will be presented at the beginning of the class period, and those arriving late will miss the instructions: again, those who are persistently late or leave early will be jeopardizing their final grade. Lastly, this is a studio class and as such you cannot pass the class if you are not here. **Under no circumstances can you pass this studio class if you do not attend class!**

*Note that we cannot provide a makeup session for most in class assignments involving a model!
Therefore, please avoid class conflicts whenever possible.*

Lateness/Tardiness:

Arrive early and set up your easel, get out your material!

Most lectures and assignment explanations will occur at the beginning of class, thus, those arriving late will miss the instructions and be behind the rest of the class. Arriving late is disruptive to the entire class, as well as disrespectful to the instructor, peers, and the model. If a student arrives late it is the student's responsibility to get the information missed from a fellow student (not from your instructor) (I will not replay PowerPoints or redo missed lectures for students absent or tardy). Arriving late or leaving early will result in a loss of participation points, arriving more than 15 minutes late will result in an absence.

Similarly, make sure when scheduling your courses make sure you allow yourself enough time to get to and from classes (and remember to keep track of the campus shuttle schedule, the shuttle is not an excuse for tardiness or an early exit from class).

Student Expectations:

- Attend class and participate in all class exercises and activities
- Read and understand all assigned readings (if something does not make sense let your instructor know)
- **Assignments/projects will be worked on inside and outside of class per their individual instructions, and for every hour in class, a minimum of one to two hours of work outside class will be required to complete the projects**
- Written assignments will be typed, grammatically correct, and original per instructions
- **Come to class prepared and with all necessary materials, otherwise you will be marked absent**
- Complete all assignments on time and following the specific guidelines, each assignment must have the artist's name and assignment name on the reverse side of the paper
- Save and neatly maintain all of the semester's work (we may revisit it for the final review)!
- Behave responsibly and respectfully, (any disrespectful students will be asked to leave and may not be allowed to return until they have talked to the Dean of Students and they have the Instructor's permission), behave honestly (academic dishonesty can result in class dismissal and disciplinary action)
- If you know you will be absent please talk to me ahead of time so we can discuss what will be missed
- I will try to answer emails within 48 hours (not including weekends), do not email me at the last minute and expect a response
- **This course is about learning the fundamentals, fostering creativity, and applying both, as such the artist needs to practice and make personal decisions....so do not constantly ask your instructor any of the following: "how is this," "is this good," "am I done," "what else do I need to do," "is this good enough," etc..**
- Some projects may require local off campus activities and visits (library, museums, galleries, etc.)
- **Be on time.** It is especially important when studying from a live model to arrive promptly for class and take into consideration that comings-and-goings will be disturbing to the model, the instructor as well as to your fellow students (**the classroom door will remain locked during modelling session, and late students will have to wait until a break to enter!**)
- **Mobile phones are strictly prohibited during this class (out of consideration for the model and your peers)!**

Homework:

As was previously mentioned constant and intense practice is important, as a result, homework will act to reinforce the principles introduced in class. The homework assignments will allow you the opportunity to put more time and care into a painting (As a reminder, we will all be able to tell if you do not spend the appropriate amount of time on a piece).

Homework will consist of specific large-scale oil sketches, portrait studies, old master/contemporary studies, and sketchbook work. The fulfillment of each individual assignment will result in a grade that will be applied towards your final grade for the class.

Grades:

Each assignment is graded on compliance of individual assignment directions, effort, technique, improvement, and overall application of previously learned skills. All homework and in-class paintings will be critiqued by both your peers and the instructor. These critiques will take place the day the assignments are due, if you are absent for a critique then not only will your assignment be late but your participation grade will also be negatively affected. **Assignments which are received late will receive half credit** (e.g. an A- is automatically a C-). However, if you are not content with a specific homework assignment grade you may redo the homework assignment and submit it along with the original for a better grade, (as long as there is marked improvement in the new piece). All missed and/or redone homework must be turned in no later than the last second to last day of class. (no exceptions)!

Over the course of the semester students will be evaluating and grading themselves on specific painting/assignments, helping to establish their individual project grades (instructor has the final say on all grades). This practice is meant to reinforce self-criticism, artistic reflection and honesty about the artist's progress, effort, and application of learned principles and practices.

Final grades will be comprised of the following:

class participation (critiques)/attendance	150 pts.
homework/sketchbook	400 pts.
class work	700 pts.

This breakdown of the final grade can change at the instructor's discretion and depends on our progression over the course of the semester

Remember, if you do not attend the class you will not pass the class, even if you submit all of the assigned work!

Classroom/Working Conditions:

- We are trying to create a mutually workable studio environment for all and as such personal music devices in any form is not permitted during the class
- Workable Fixatives must be used in the spray booth! **Spraying in the hallway or anywhere else in the building or outside of the spray booth is strictly prohibited!**
- Breaks will occur several times per class, and the time/length will be determined on a class-by-class basis
- Please, do not leave personal belongings unattended
- There are lockers available for storing your supplies, see the art office to register for a locker
- **NO Personal Devices will be Allowed During Model Sessions**
- Cell phones must be turned off or on vibrate during class, and please no text messaging during class
- At the conclusion of each class period make sure to clean (wipe down) your immediate working environment

Misc.

- Please keep all paintings and drawings; they will be used in determining your final grade.
- Keep/store your drawings flat and neatly.
- Drawing is one-half observation and one-half rendering, (remember to always draw what you see not what you think you know).
- A drawing is never an end product, but an experiment and a means to greater work.
- We will be taking a trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts at some point this semester; as a result if you do not have a membership or are not a resident of Oakland, Macomb, or Wayne Counties you will need to pay for your own ticket into the museum.
- Material fee which is part of the class is explained in the Schedule of Classes (F,W).
- You must have your materials each and every day, if you fail to do so you will be marked absent that day.
- If and when it is necessary to get a hold of the class or an individual I will be doing so via your WSU email address, so make sure you check it.

Prior to every class I strongly urge all students to check their Wayne State email for any class changes; whether due to weather, instructor illness or another factor the school or your instructor will notify you prior to the beginning of the class.

Cheating/Plagiarism in the Visual Arts:

- All art submitted for a grade should be original work created solely by you for this course
- Drawing from another artists work is prohibited unless you give the original artist credit and done strictly for educational purposes
- Stealing/'borrowing'/copying another artist's work/imagery/ideas without expressed permission will result in a failing grade

Departmental / College / University Student Policies:**Religious Holidays** (from the Academic Calendar):

Because of the extraordinary variety of religious affiliations of the University student body and staff, the Academic Calendar makes no provisions for religious holidays. However, it is University policy to respect the faith and religious obligations of the individual. Students with classes or examinations that conflict with their religious observances are expected to notify their instructors well in advance so that mutually alternatives may be worked out.

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism and Cheating (edited statement from the DOSO's web site): Academic misbehavior means any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the institution or subvert the education process. All forms of academic misbehavior are prohibited at Wayne State University, as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct (<http://doso.wayne.edu/codeofconduct.pdf>). Students who commit or assist in committing dishonest acts are subject to downgrading (to a failing grade for the test, paper, or other course-related activity in question, or for the entire course) and/or additional sanctions as described in the Student Code of Conduct.

Course Drops and Withdrawals: In the first two weeks of the (full) term, students can drop this class and receive 100% tuition and course fee cancellation. After the end of the second week there is no tuition or fee cancellation. Students who wish to withdraw from the class can initiate a withdrawal request on Pipeline. You will receive a transcript notation of WP (passing), WF (failing), or WN (no graded work) at the time of withdrawal. No withdrawals can be initiated after the end of the tenth week. Students enrolled in the 10th week and beyond will receive a grade. Because withdrawing from courses may have negative academic and financial consequences, students considering course withdrawal should make sure they fully understand all the consequences before taking this step. More information on this can be found at: <http://reg.wayne.edu/pdf-policies/students.pdf>

Student Disability Services: If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Student Disability Services (SDS) office is located at 1600 David Adamany Undergraduate Library in the Student Academic Success Services department. SDS telephone number is 313-577-1851 or 313-577-3365 (TTY: telecommunication device for the deaf; phone for hearing impaired students only). Once you have your accommodations in place, I will be glad to meet with you privately during my office hours to discuss your special needs. Student Disability Services' mission is to assist the university in creating an accessible community where students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in their educational experience at Wayne State University.

Department policies: www.art.wayne.edu/advising.php

College policies: www.art.wayne.edu/CFPCA_Syllabus_Policies.php

University policies: www.art.wayne.edu/CFPCA_Syllabus_Policies.php

The departmental Student Safety Handbook can be found at:

http://art.wayne.edu/files/student_safety_handbook_2010_11.pdf

Material and Supplies

The following materials are necessary for APA 3140: Intermediate Figure Painting; if any other materials are needed, I will notify you ahead of time. If you do not have your materials you will be marked absent.

- Graphite pencil 2B
- Palette knife
- Oderless mineral spirits
- Stand oil or Liquin (2.5oz)
- Box of vine charcoal
- 1 Staedtler eraser
- Plastic tackle box or tool chest (optional)
- Large zippered or cardboard portfolio for storing drawings
- Drawing pad (wire bound) roughly 11" x 14", 50 sheets of paper
- Brushes (synthetic Flat or Bright) #2, #10, #20 (two of each size)
- Oil Paint (all tubes 37 - 40 ml, except white)
 - Flake White (150 ml)
 - Naples yellow
 - Yellow Ochre
 - Cadmium Yellow
 - Cadmium Red Medium
 - Alizarin Crimson
 - Burnt Sienna
 - Burnt Umber
 - Raw Sienna
 - Cerulean Blue
 - Cobalt Blue
 - Ultramarine

We will talk about substrates prior to each painting, and we will stretching our own canvases for two of the paintings and we will talk about specific supplies. We will also be painting on 3D objects and will talk further about possible substrates in the second half of the semester.

All of these materials should be available online and at:

Utrecht Art Supplies:

4501 Woodward Ave. Detroit.
313.833.9616

Blick Art Materials

14339 Michigan Ave. Dearborn
313.581.7063

"I'm drawing a great deal and think it's getting better." Vincent van Gogh

Class Schedule

Schedule is subject to change

This schedule is tentative and subject to change depending on the class progression, weather, and the Instructor's discretion; specific dates will be discussed further during the semester. Simultaneously, the assignments may change or be altered depending on the class and the instructor's discretion.

Students are required to bring all supplies itemized on the materials list to every class, however, if there are any ancillary materials needed I will notify the class via Moodle email ahead of time.

Week 1.

Introduction, syllabus,

- HW: purchase supplies

Review of Measurement/Alignment and basic proportions of figure & intro to gestures

- HW I: Proportion drawings (sketchbook)

Week 2.

The painted gesture & intro to line of essence

- HW II: Old Master study of gestures and line quality (sketchbook)
- HW III: Ribcage and pelvis drawings from skeleton (sketchbook)

Week 3.

Introduction to color palettes & Begin painting I (Grisaille)

- Explore different flesh palettes
- HW IV: Arm & leg drawings from skeleton (sketchbook)

Introduction to planer structure and rendition

Week 4.

Continue Painting I & Review of composition

- Compositional studies
- HW V: Old Master Study (sketchbook)

Introduction to reductive layout of painting (blocking in form)

Week 5.

Figure in Space Painting

- HW: Contemporary master study (sketchbook)

Week 6.

Figure in Space Painting cont. & Skull and intro to facial proportions

- HW VII: Skull painting from life (sketchbook)
- Extra credit: Contemporary master portrait study (sketchbook)

Week 7.

Portraiture

- HW VIII: Portrait drawing (skull superimposed with tracing paper)
- Quiz (skull/facial proportions)

Week 8.

Foreshortening Painting

- HW IX: Old Master foreshortening study (sketchbook)

Week 9.

Foreshortening cont.

- HW X: Locate at least five pieces of brown cardboard, at least 12" x 16" (for gestures)

Week 10.

Collaborative paintings (oil sticks)

Introduction to Feet & Hands

- HW: Feet/Hands painting study from life

Week 11.

Alla Prima painting (one day painting)

- HW: Bring in the five pieces of brown cardboard

Week 12.

Figure in Composition

- Final HW: Figure in Composition painting

Week 13.

- HW: Collect alternative drawing/painting materials (newspaper, magazines, litter, various recycled materials, etc.) & alternate 3D substrates

Week 14.

Alternative materials painting

Week 15.

Alternative materials painting cont.

Final painting & Figure in Composition HW drawing due

Final Opportunity to Submit any work for Grading

Week 16.

Final Group Critique/Discussion: Time/Date TBD

This Final is mandatory, if you miss this critique you cannot pass the course.

Note that the final day to Drop or Withdraw from a class without a failing grade is April 15.