

# Course Outline - Figure Drawing

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course focuses on drawing from human figure. In a range of structured exercises varying from short gestures to sustained poses, the principles of composition, proportion and volume are explored through line and tone and the modeling of light and shadow. Anatomy and portraiture are introduced, as well as techniques such as measuring and reference point.

Studio exercises may be based on the following:

#1 Gesture: Understand movement and associated action within the figure.

- Use of large fluid movements to describe the action.
- Avoid static outlining around forms
- Compositional design of the figure to the page
- Overall expression

#2 Descriptive line: Accurately translate angles and distances from the model to the drawing to achieve proper proportions. Descriptive use of the weight, speed and direction of line to describe the subtlety of overlapping forms.

- Understand edge and cross contour and its relevance in descriptive line.
- Proper placement to the page.
- Overall expression.

#3 Sustained pencil: Understand light source in use of shading.

- Appropriate skill in building layered tones of hatch.
- Accurate use of proportion.
- Design to the paper.
- Overall expression

#4 Black and white on tone: Use of paper tone in the grey scale.

Integration of previously learned elements, while introducing positive and negative.

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

On completion of this course students will have the means to accurately render the human figure through observational exercises.

## **SUGGESTED READINGS**

Ted Seth Jacobs, Drawing with an Open Mind, Watson-Guption Publications, New York

George B. Bridgman, Bridgman's Complete Guide to Drawing from Life, Weatherlane Books, New York

## **SUPPLIES**

Basic list includes:

- Drawing board, 18" x 24" or larger, with clamps to hold paper

- Newsprint pad, 18" x 24"
- Cartridge pad, 18" x 24"
- 1 or 2 sheets good quality white drawing paper (i.e. Ingres, 18" x 24")
- 1 or 2 sheets toned pastel paper, 18" x 24"
- Black or brown plus white, conte sticks
- HB, 2B, 4B graphite pencils
- Kneadable eraser