LIFE DRAWING

**Objectives:**

Drawing the human figure with emphasis on structure, form and anatomy. Also, emphasis will be given to further development of each student’s individual qualities. Compositional problems and the understanding of various spatial relationships will be studied.

Figure drawing is an important element of advanced drawing. The diverse and difficult problems of drawing the human figure provide a continuous challenge for the beginning artist as well as for the experienced and established older artist.

**Procedures**

The student will work mostly in black and white media—pencil, pen and ink, charcoal, and possibly some Conte’ crayon. The student will study the figure through short-gesture drawings and longer sustained poses. As the student becomes more familiar with the human figure, they will be introduced to simple anatomy in order to better understand the structure of the figure and to make the drawings easier to read. Short lectures will be given from time to time that are intended to aid the student in becoming more cognizant of:

1. The anatomical landmarks used by the artist in drawing the figure.
2. The origin and insertion of the muscles and muscle groups.
3. The overlapping planes established by the layering of muscles.
4. The role of muscles and tendons in establishing the rhythmic quality of the figure.
5. The basic form concepts related to anatomical features.

The student will be required to keep a sketchbook for master studies and drawing outside of class.

**Expectations:**

*Attend each class, arriving on time.* Roll will be taken during the first five to ten minutes of each class session. If you are tardy, make sure that you check with me
during break or at the end of class so you can be included on the roll. Repeated tardiness will count against you.

Be prepared to start work at the beginning of each class.

Be an informed and verbal participant in critiques.

Be alert for that moment when your understanding will be deepened, and understanding that this opportunity may come from a variety of sources (classmates, instructor or your own observations, etc.) Cell phones must be turned off (no phone calls during class time) and personal music can only be used during extended drawings and only with ear-buds (no ear-covering head phones.)

Notes should be taken during lectures so that the student can incorporate what is learned in class with the work that is done outside of class. Any concepts or terminology not clearly understood should be researched at the library or online. Being curious is the first step to making progress and gaining knowledge.

All class and out of class work should be kept, signed and dated (inconspicuously) and stored in a portfolio during the semester. These works will be subject to review at mid-term and will be turned in for the final grade.

Each class and each week, assignments or parts of assignments will be due. Expect approximately 10 hours of homework a week or two hours per weekday.

The instructor only grades classroom-assignments which are supervised by the instructor in the classroom and homework assignments that are given by the instructor. Missing assignments will adversely affect the students’ final grade. Late work will also result in a lower grade.

**Grading and Evaluation:**

Your general standing and progress will be revealed through the discussions and class critiques. A midterm progress review and grade will be given. Your grade will be based on all the work completed during the semester.

**Grading System:**

- **(A) 5** Excellent work that exceeds the requirements of the assignment and performance expectations of the class with perfect attendance.
- **(B) 4** Above average work that demonstrates a thorough understanding of the assignment with enthusiastic participation in class with good attendance.
- **(C) 3** Average work that meets the minimum involvement in the class.
- **(D) 2** Below average work with minimal involvement in the class.
- **(E) 1** Failure to accomplish the requirements of the class.
75% of the students’ grade will be determined by the work in class and the remainder will be determined by the outside assignments and master studies and work in the sketchbook.

Exams:

There will be no specific exams. The presentation of the students’ portfolio and sketchbook along with a final assignment function as the final exam.

Portfolios:

Contents: Save all drawings, sketches for ideas and gesture studies in your portfolio for midterm review and for the final grade,

Presentation: Clearly write your name and the class info on the outside and place your work in the portfolio in chronological order, from the first to the last project. Trim off any perforated edges and square the corners. Make sure any charcoal or Conte’ drawings are spray-fixed.

Attendance:

Being present during class time is essential. Every unexcused absence over three will lower the final letter grade by one. We will be working with the model most of the time and it is important that you be here on time, so if you are late three times that will count as an absence.

Materials: (Some of these will be provided)

1) Drawing board, 20” x 26” or larger and clips or masking tape to hold the drawing paper.
2) Drawing paper, 18” x 24” or larger. Newsprint and some better grade paper in a larger format for log poses. We will start with newsprint and only use the better grade paper as needed.
3) Assorted graphite drawing pencils, 2 each HB, 2B, 4B and 6B
4) Two charcoal pencils in a 2B and 4B grade.
5) Charcoal, 3 or 4 sticks in a soft grade vine.
6) Two sticks of Conte’ or two Conte” pencils (sepia, umber or black)
7) Erasers—kneaded and white plastic or Pink Pearl
8) 1 portfolio, large enough to hold and protect your work without bending it.
9) Sketchbook or two if you like to draw a lot in sizes 9” x 12” or 11”x 14”
10) A good black technical pen
11) A box to carry your drawing supplies (Necessary and the student must provide.)
This is a basic list and you probably have many of the items listed above. Some of the materials will be furnished. It will be your responsibility to keep the materials given you and to have them in class with you at the time they are to be used. A few other materials may be required during the course.

**Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as by abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another person in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at: [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH automatically becomes an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.
Students with Disabilities

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, in Room 325, 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.

For additional information, go to: http://www.sfasu.edu/disability services/