

AI 343 Discovering The City Through Drawing - Spring 2006

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Location: Naperville, Thursdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., March 28 – June 6

Competencies : A1A, A1B, A2A and A-5

Course Description

This course is designed for those students wishing to learn basic drawing techniques using the city as a resource. Students with little or no drawing ability are encouraged to take the course. Building on observation skills and simple exercises, the student will learn a variety of ways to capture the urban landscape. A variety of media including pencil, marker and colored pencil will be taught. The class will have two sessions which will meet off campus and on location in the city. These will most likely be on a weekend. A list of materials will be provided. It is suggested that students do not purchase materials until the first class meeting when the instructor will give detailed information.

Expected Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will

- be able to analyze an object for its basic shapes and use those shapes as a preliminary approach to drawing the urban environment.
- be able to understand the applications of and differences between drawing techniques including the use of value, highlighting, shading and shadows.
- be able to create drawings of the urban landscape in a variety of media.
- be able to understand the basic concepts of good composition applied to drawing.
- be able to draw recognizable objects using their acquired observation skills.

Learning Strategies: Demonstrations, Hands-on Experiences, Lectures (on artists using the urban landscape as a subject matter for their work), Field Trips

Supplies

Do Not Purchase Until After First Class Meeting

11" x 14" or 12" x 18" good quality drawing pad with white paper (recommend Strathmore 400)

2 – Micron #01 and .005 Fine Line Marking Pens

1 medium nib marking pen (permanent ink)

Drawing pencils (1 each 2H, 2B and 4B)

1 Ebony Pencils

1 set of colored pencils (24 count or larger)

1 set of watercolor pencils (12 pencils)

#5 paint brush (soft hair that comes to point)

Pencil sharpener

Kleenex

3 sheets of colored drawing paper (preferably earth tones)

1 white plastic eraser.

1 kneaded eraser

1 sandpaper block to sharpen pencils.

Supply Sources

Pearl Artist Supplies on Grand Ave., Chicago

Michaels Arts and Crafts

Carlson's Paint (Downers Grove)

Dick Blick Art Supplies

Cheap Joe's (On Line)

Dick Blick (On Line)

Textbook

None Required

Assessment Criteria: All students will complete a portfolio of drawings as assigned by the instructor
Value study in pencil of buildings

Contour line drawing of buildings
On location study of Chicago skyline
Colored pencil rendering of Chicago (Collage Composition)
Landscape Drawing Chicago
Marker rendering of personal residence
Colored pencil drawing of architectural ornamentation
Chicago Interior

In addition to the following:

(A1A) Student is required to select four master draughtsmen who Use the urban landscape as a subject matter. They may be old masters such as Canaletto or Pissaro or they may be contemporary artists such as Wayne Thiebaud and Richard Estes. Student will analyze the works carefully for unique characteristics and create a drawing including the ideas of the master artist into their own finished drawings. (Example: some artists will draw every detail. Others may only draw the details of one or two buildings and suggest the others. Incorporate those concepts into your drawing.

Required: Write a paper analyzing the work of four or more artists who use the built environment as their subject matter. You may use draughtsmen and/or painters. Discuss the subject matter, composition and special effects they use to enhance their drawings or paintings. Be sure to include images and documentation. This is in addition to your five written pages.

(A1B) Student will submit a drawing of a famous building (museum, Historic home, government building, church or synagogue) that they used as a reference for their drawing. The drawing should be done using one of the media explored in class. Student should use original subject matter and may opt to focus on a portion of the building such as an architectural element.

Required: Finished drawing of a famous building in Chicago with documentation of the historical value of the building attached to the drawing.

(A2A) Student will submit a portfolio of drawings done in class plus one additional drawings that shows significant effort and is related to the urban landscape.

Required: One additional drawing (student's choice, but selected in consultation with instructor).

(A5) Students will develop a sketchbook of recorded details and drawings, written journal comments and visual resources to be used as reference and to demonstrate their involvement with the subject. A sample will be provided. Will include architectural details identified on Chicago buildings. Will include famous Chicago buildings with brief descriptions. Will include at least three famous Chicago architects.

Course Outline:

March 30 - Introduction to the course; Slide lecture on drawing the urban landscape; Explanation of competency requirements; Review of materials list

April 6 -Drawing Buildings Using Basic Shapes (Project #1); Using your resource file to complete a contour line drawing.; Demonstration: Understanding How Value; Creates Three Dimensions; Lecture: Elements of Architecture

April 13 -Value Study of Buildings (Project #2); Introduction to one and two point perspective; Video

April 20 - One and Two Point Perspective Drawings (Project #3); Introduction to Pen and Ink Residential Rendering; Group Critique

April 27 -Studio Session: Pen & Ink Rendering

May 4 - Pen and Ink Drawing of Your Home Due (Project #4)

May 11-Drawing An Elevation of A Chicago Street (Project #5); Working with Colored Pencils

May 18 -Pen and Ink Rendering Due; Studio Session; Lecture on Chicago Architecture

May 25 -Collage and Drawing Rendering of Historic Home (Project # 6)

June 1 - Portfolio Review and Individual Conferences

June 8 -Last Day To Submit Projects