

Life drawing and sketching

Level: Middle and High School, 10-12 students

Description: Improve your life drawing and sketching skills by breaking down the subject and learning about different techniques of drawing with pencil and graphite.

Objectives:

- Improve your observation skills
- Learn to break down objects into their basic shapes
- Observe shading and form
- Learn the basics of line drawing as applied to sketching.

Supply list:

- 11" x 14" sketchbook
- 1 pad 8.5" x 11" tracing paper
- pencils: 2H, HB, 2B, 4B
- blending tortillions
- kneaded eraser
- hard eraser
- items for a long term still life

Day 1: 2 hrs

Learning about gesture drawings – the warm up to sketching
4 types of line: light, dark, thick and thin and when to use each one
drawing from observations – breaking down the forms
1 hour long still life drawing

Day 2: 2 hrs

Gesture drawing warm up – 30 minutes
shadows and light
observing accurate outlines and shapes
1 hour long still life drawing

Day 3: 2 hrs

Gesture drawing warm up – 30 minutes
Building layers with different hardness of pencils
1 hour long still life drawing

Day 4: 2 hrs

Gesture drawing warm up – 30 minutes
observing details
1 hour long still life drawing

Day 5 + 6: 2 hrs each

Gesture drawing warm up for day 5
preparing for a long still life

thumbnail sketches – viewing from different angles
initial sketches, when to use tracing paper
base layers