

MONSERRAT COLLEGE OF ART

Optical and Conceptual Perception in Drawing

Drawing, as a way of seeing, thinking, feeling and communicating, is necessary to all art disciplines.

The workshop is designed to develop your beginning drawing skills to perceive and draw reality as seen, and express conceptual images that originate in your imagination. Using a wide range of drawing media, you will explore how optical and conceptual perception techniques will evolve in expressing the natural, real, semi-abstract and abstract through drawings.

In addition, the study of structural elements of art (line, shape, value, texture and color), how to create the illusion of three-dimensional forms and the principles of organization will help in the creation of organic unity, developing your own personal style. The subject matter will not always be the starting point. In some instances, you will start by exploring light and shadows, spatial relationships and shape, discovering meaning as you work. Through reflection, you will be able to communicate your perceptions and concepts, as well as how they link to further studies in the disciplines of drawing, painting and sculpture.

Course Objectives

- Explore optical and conceptual perception for inspiration and imagination
- Learn to use a wide range of drawing media and techniques for creative expression
- Understand to integrate components of perception (line, positive and negative space, relationships (perspective), light and shadow (logic of light), and formal visual elements (line, shape, (two-dimensional, three-dimensional), value, texture, color (limited), in a picture plane to create spatial illusions
- Explore, experience and learn the evolution of form manipulating the principles of organization (harmony, variety, balance, proportion, dominance, movement, economy) to produce pictorial unity
- Understand the components of art and the interrelationship of organic unity (subject, form and content), in objective drawing
- Promote creative thinking through oral and written reflections and the exchange of ideas for problem solving and decision-making
- Promote skills for self-evaluation and the evaluation of others
- Understand experimentation, perception and reflections necessary for the active participation in the creative process

Teaching Methods

- Short-Lectures-Demonstrations: Lectures will be presented and practical demonstrations provided on the theoretical and technical aspects to be covered in the workshop.
- Exercises: These are in and out of class warm-ups drawing.
- Projects: These are assigned comprehensive drawings evolving from conceptual to finished products.
- Reflections: Sections devoted to 1) the expression of diverse cultural experience of participants and how these relate to their artwork, and 2) the description of challenges related to the art making process.
- Audio-Visual Presentations: Power Point presentations and videos about techniques and styles
- Readings: Reading of assigned material

Material

1. 18"x24" newsprint pad
2. 18"x24" all purpose drawing pad or single white bond paper
3. Sketchbook for daily inspirational studies (drawings, make notes, take notes, vocabulary, reflections, ideas, planning preliminary studies, etc.
4. B-6B pencils
5. Pencil sharpener
6. Charcoal pencils
7. Conte crayons of all colors
8. Markers, brushes, India ink and or black and white acrylic paint, pastels of all colors
9. Masking tape, large clips to hold paper to board or pushpins
10. Portfolio for storing and transporting drawing (design and build your own)
11. Kneaded and pink erasers.