



Ringling College of Art + Design

Englewood Art Center

Fall/Spring Program | 2017 - 2018 Syllabus

Class Title: Portraits

Instructor: Maggie McClellan

Days: Fridays

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Dates: _____

Class Description:

Learn the fundamentals of drawing the human face in this six-week class. Students will begin with gestures to capture the essence of a subject to the formal elements of portraiture including composition, proportion, value and texture. Some classes will be taught from photographs and portrait studies and some will be taught with live figure models. Class price includes model fee.

Class structure/agenda:

Some classes will have “live model” sittings each week and some classes will use photographs for reference. The class will work in graphite and charcoal on quality sketch paper and/or pads and charcoal paper/pads.

Class 1:

Exploring the basics involved in drawing a portrait. Emphasis will be on posing, initial lay-in of proportions, and using the underlying skull to develop facial structure.

Class 2:

Understanding shading, its application and importance in developing exciting and emotional drawings.

Class 3:

Emphasis on what application (of your medium) will give your model’s hair, fabric (drapery), etc. that “look” you want.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

Understand the importance of studied fundamentals and their power to drive home the desired effects an artist is looking for in their work.

Required Materials:

Pencils (B2, B4, B6, & B8); sketch pad or paper (smooth textured); newsprint pad. Do not spend excessively on supplies that might not be needed and/or used. Check with the instructor to see if what you have is adequate to start with. Most often it is.

Note: Advanced portrait sessions will require charcoal supplies.

Purpose of this Syllabus: The purpose of this syllabus is to inform students of the goals, activities, and specific policies of the course, as well as outline the students' responsibilities in the learning process. It is the responsibility of the instructor to communicate this information in a clear and specific manner to students the first day of class. Since a syllabus is developed by an instructor before the class begins, it is considered a plan and is subject to revisions based on the judgment of the instructor. Course activities, projects and deadlines can be revised. It is the responsibility of the student to fully understand the requirements of the course after such information is presented by the instructor. This syllabus is a preliminary outline of the class/workshop and can be changed at the discretion of the instructor.

Health and Safety: Ringling College of Art and Design and its divisions are committed to providing students, faculty, instructors and staff with a safe and healthful learning and work environment and to comply will all applicable safety laws and regulations and safe work practices.