

## Introduction to Portrait Drawing

Instructor: Timothy Smith

**Purpose of the Course:** This course is designed to give students an introduction to portrait drawing and build fundamental drawing skills. This is a studio course that provides various theoretical and technical approaches to drawing the human form with anatomical accuracy.

### Course Objectives:

- Develop a basic understanding of the materials and tools used to draw a portrait.
- Investigate the formal elements of art with a particular focus on light, value and form.
- Receive instruction on traditional ways of drawing.
- Expand his/her artistic vocabulary and ability to analyze a drawing.
- Introduce Andrew Loomis drawing method.
- Create a beautiful and accurate portrait using a photograph as reference.

**Outline:** Each class will begin with a lecture and technical demonstration followed by hands-on instruction where I offer one-on-one technical advice, constructive criticism and encouragement.

**Week 1:** This course will begin with an introduction to the drawing materials followed by a lecture on the elements of art, or basic building blocks for all traditional drawings. We will focus on line, value, form, texture and space as students work on a series of drawing exercises. I will also lecture on 1pt, 2pt, and 3pt perspective.

**Week 2:** Introduce the Andrew Loomis drawing method as a way of creating accurate portraits without using reference material. I will give technical demonstrations and guide students through drawing exercises.

**Week 3:** Learn tips and tricks on how to draw eyes, nose and lips. Discuss final projects and introduce a photo transfer method.

**Week 4:** Begin working on final portrait projects with one-on-one instruction.

**Week 5:** Finish final projects and participate in a group critique.

**Teaching Philosophy:** As an educator, I strive to meet each student's needs by developing a personal understanding of their aesthetic and artistic vision. This is achieved by creating a student centered classroom, emphasizing instruction through personal interaction. My goal is to increase awareness, understanding, and appreciation for fine art, while fostering a fun and educational environment that caters to a variety of different learning styles.

Material List: For the purpose of this course basic drawing pencils are recommended, but charcoal, conte crayons, or any other preferred drawing supplies are permitted.

- Pencils
  - 4B
  - 2B
  - HB
  - 2H
- Kneaded rubber eraser
- Blenders sticks
- Pencil sharpener
- Newsprint
  - A small pad will work
- One sheet of nice drawing paper for final project. We can discuss before purchasing.
- Optional: I recommend everyone buy a sketchbook so they can practice at home.