

Jane Frost - Teaching Philosophy

Everyone can learn to draw. I combine exercises that teach the fundamental skills with activities that relax everyone and eliminate the fear of failing. Everyone learns best in a positive and encouraging atmosphere.

PROGRAM TEACHING PLAN

Program Title: Everyone Can Draw!

Discipline: Visual Arts

Program Summary

It's a fact! Everyone can learn to draw. I offer an 8-week program of lessons that cover the basic drawing skills of using line, shape and value. Through a series of warm-up exercises each session, you'll see your hand and eye become a remarkable team that will enable you to draw any object. Expect to enjoy yourself while making solid progress.

WEEK 1

Class Objective

- Getting acquainted

- Developing individual confidence and mutual support

- Learning the components of a good drawing

Sequential Activities

- An informal warm-up line drawing with drawing hand covered

- Finding simple geometric shapes within complex shapes

- Analyzing angles, shapes and sizes within objects

- Drawing a simple still life containing geometric shapes and a recognizable object

Social Engagement Activity

- The comparison of everyone's drawings done with their hand covered brings lots of laughter and relaxes the atmosphere.

WEEK 2

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Class Objective

To further build individual confidence by turning off the negative voice about individual abilities

Learning to recognize the main shapes within objects and their directionality

Sequential Activities

Demonstration of gesture drawing

Practice identifying major shapes and their directionality using art prints

Gesture drawings using charcoal taped to dowels, on paper taped to floor

Gesture drawings using student models

Contour lines and details added to a selected drawing

Social Engagement Activity

Gesture drawings using long dowels produce imprecise drawings, and using student models enlivens the atmosphere

WEEK 3

Class Objective

Learning to use contour lines to create shapes

Sequential Activities

Students view a variety of line drawings in books and prints

Blind contour drawings done with sealing wax, using the “opposite” hand

“Upside down drawing” from *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain*

Still life of an animal specimen or another large object

Social Engagement Activity

Comparison of everyone’s blind contour drawings, using the opposite hand, produces lots of laughs

WEEK 4

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Class Objective

Introduction to value and shading to create 3-dimensionality

Sequential Activities

How does shading create depth and value changes?

Demonstration of shading techniques

Practice using smudging, “tornado” scribbling and cross-hatching

Create gray scales using shading techniques

Shading both curved and straight-edged shapes

Drawing a simple still life composed of both curved and straight-edged forms

Social Engagement Activity

Discussion of positive critiques: no one is required to show their work, but everyone must offer positive comments about others’ work, which may include suggestions for improvement.

WEEK 5

Class Objective

Greater skill in using shading to create depth

Sequential activities

Quick review of smudging and “tornado” shading techniques

Seurat’s charcoal drawings

Class grids a Seurat drawing and assembles a large-scale version

Social Engagement Activity

The process of combining the individual sections of the large drawing is informal and fun!

WEEK 6

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Class Objective

The basics of composition: cropping a subject, creating a center of interest, balance

Sequential activities

Discuss the elements of good composition using art prints

Study how size, color, complexity or location can create a center of interest

Create compositions using provided geometric shapes in varying colors and sizes

Social Engagement Activity

Informal critique of the compositions by students

WEEK 7

Class Objective

Beginning to put it all together

Sequential activities

Warm-up with directed line drawing

Students isolate and sketch one or two objects within a still life

Instructor checks basic elements of each drawing before students proceed with finished drawing

Social Engagement Activity

Informal critique of finished drawings

WEEK 8 - Culminating event

Class Objective

Simple presentation of a finished drawing

Learning how to hang a group show of artwork

Planning for an intergenerational community art show

Sequential activities

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Learning and using techniques for matting a drawing

Class chooses location and age group to help with the show

Assigning tasks for publicity, refreshments and mounting artwork