

Nicolas Chen

VAS Introduction to drawing

This course is designed to introduce to the student an array of tools in a gradual way to help simplify and make accessible various approaches to drawing. Students will first begin with copying a print of a drawing and eventually move on to working from a cast or still life, learning to translate the round to flat.

Week 1

Prud'hon copy (pencil A4 size)

Learning points - Proportion, gesture, envelope, vertical and horizontal alignments, negative and positive shapes

Week 2

Prud'hon copy - continued

Learning points - Value relationships, light shape vs shadow shape, anatomy of light

Week 3

Working from a cast or still life

Learning points - Translating the round to flat, foreshortening, planes

Week 4

Working from a cast or still life - continued

Week 5

Working from a model - portrait

(Putting it altogether)

Maybe trying some different materials, toned paper, etc.

Week 6

Working from a model - continued

Materials:

White paper A3 size (We will use A4 for the Prud'hon copy, you can just fold the A3 paper for this exercise)

Sandpaper block (homemade; sandpaper taped to board/cardboard is also fine. You may not need the sandpaper block and knife if you're using a standard pencil sharpener.)

Graphite pencils HB (If you have other grades of graphite, feel free to bring them too, but you should at least have an HB)

Knife (Or pencil sharpener)

Kneadable eraser

Paper stumps (Or you can use folded paper towels)

Masking tape (Or bulldog clips, to clip paper to drawing board)

Mechanical pencil (I recommend a mechanical pencil with HB lead for getting into small areas of the drawing)