



Summer 2024

Course Title: Contemporary Paris Illustration

Instructor's Name: Jessie Kanelos Weiner

Meeting Times and Days: July 1 – July 12, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course develops the basic knowledge of contemporary drawing with an acute Paris angle, through demonstrations, workshops, field trips and studio sessions. We will dissect Paris through the lens of drawing: its distinct urban energy, the storied clichés, the rich art culture and food culture. We will also incorporate personal narrative to visually understand the student's personal relationship to the city while also improving core drawing technique and building student's portfolio. Museum visits, visiting lectures by professional artists and hands-on assignments will create rich research opportunities to develop a strong artistic practice and sketchbook. The first week will include morning sessions focused on technique and studio work which will then be taken to the streets of Paris in independent drawing in the afternoon. The second week will introduce the final project, an intensive research project in a specific street or neighborhood in Paris. Students are encouraged to explore different techniques and mediums (including sound recording, Instagram Stories, video, gifs, collage, etc) to create a densely researched final project that can be shared through social media.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Completion of all in-class and homework drawing assignments. Documentation of research and influences in sketchbook. Participation in class and individual and group critiques. Preparedness and willingness to learn the subject and improve one's self in drawing and visual research.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, a student should be able to:

- Obtain invaluable information about how to become a professional artist (how to launch a career, build a portfolio, find and retain clients, find a voice)
- Learn insider information about life in France (the customs, traditions, pastimes) not otherwise available to tourists
- Demonstrate the basic knowledge of materials necessary to allow progress into the next level in drawing
- Understand the importance of and how to conduct basic artistic research and documentation
- Actively participate in individual and group critiques
- Express individual direction
- Retain information regarding a variety of current and past artists and their techniques
- Think broadly and open-mindedly about what drawing is



ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed on the following criteria:

Class and critique participation & preparedness	20%
Attendance	20%
In-class assignments	20%
Homework assignments	20%
Research sketchbook	20%

Grades for in-class projects, home projects and sketchbook will be assigned based on individual progress and creativity, understanding/completion of the assignments, and technical execution.

Students will be given a grade based on the following descriptions:

A	= Work of exceptional quality which goes beyond the stated goals of the course
A-	= Work of very high quality
B+	= Work of high quality
B	= Very good work
B-	= Good work
C+	= Above average work
C	= Average work, passable
C-	= Passing but below average
D	= Below average indicating that the student did not fully understand or complete assignment
F	= Failure, no effort shown, no credit received

ATTENDANCE:

Students are expected to fully participate in every session to be sure not the miss important information which will lead to the successful completion of the course.

Substantial absences are factored into grades. Please note the following:

- 2 late arrivals (more than 15 minutes) or early departures (= one full absence)
- 2 absences = considered excessive absence for a course
- 3 absences are grounds for failure in the course

SCHOOL POLICIES

1. No mobile phones, radios, MP3 players, computers, or game consoles are allowed in class, unless otherwise specified by the instructor.
2. No emailing, web surfing, or instant messaging, etc. is allowed during class time, unless otherwise specified by instructor.
3. Classrooms are community space. Please leave them clean, tidy and respect the opinions of others.
4. Plagiarism is a serious offence and will not be tolerated. All research, text, and image sources must be cited using Chicago (Turabian) style. See you instructor or the Student Handbook if you are unclear about what constitutes plagiarism.
5. You are required to attend and participate in class critiques and other presentations. Be respectful of your fellow classmates and professor.
6. All PCA buildings are NON SMOKING. You must go outside to smoke.



MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

- 1 sketchbook with multimedia-friendly paper, minimum size A3
- 1 pair of scissors
- Glue and double-stick tapes
- Medium of choice (if you have one): watercolor, markers, colored pencils, etc.
- Drawing pencils: minimum 4B, HB, 2H
- Smartphone with updated Instagram application

Students will also go to art store Le Geant des Beaux Arts on the first day of class to purchase materials.

COURSE SCHEDULE

DAY 1

- 9:00 AM PCA presentation
- 10:00 AM Class intros
- 10:30 Jessie Kanelos Weiner introduction and intro to work. Review of syllabus and materials
- 11:00 Still life 101: tips, tricks and intro to drawing
- 12:00 Lunch break
- 1:00 Project 1: Paris self-portrait. Create a self-portrait of what brought you to Paris thinking deeply about visual storytelling, narrative and symbolism.
- 1:15-1:45 Brainstorming with partner
- 1:45-2:30 Sketching (1 on 1 critiques)
- 2:30-4:15 Drawing large-scale self-portrait using India Ink
- 4:15 Visit to art supply store Le Geant des Beaux Arts

Homework: Create 20-minute daily practise.

-Classroom needed on this day.

-Materials: drawing paper, charcoal, india ink, plastic cups, paper towels, video projector, computer, drawing boards and easels, stools

DAY 2

- 9:00 Live nude model workshop with an emphasis on line quality, light and observation
- 12:00 Paris self-portrait critiques
- 12:30 Lunch
- 1:30PM Introduction to afternoon activity: Visit to Musee de la Chasse et la Nature. Sketch.
- 2:00PM Musée de la Chasse et la Nature
- 3:30-4:00PM Solo café sensorial postcard exercise. Spend 1 hour still in the same spot and create a sensorial postcard of experience and prepare 5-10 minutes presentation for following day.

Homework: 20-minute daily practice. Create 3 drawings which will be turned into a gif.



- Classroom needed for the morning session.
- Materials needed: large scale drawing paper, charcoal, india ink, sidewalk chalk, brushes, sketchbooks (students' own), drawing boards and easels, video projector, computer, stools

DAY 3

- 9:00 Color ink exploration "Petit-dejeuner français" still life
- 10:00 Guest artist speaker
- 11:00 "Paris postcard" presentations & sharing animation ideas
- 12:30 Lunch
- 1:30 Palais Royale. 20-minute sketch time
- 2:30 Musee des art décoratif "sketch" treasure hunt. "Sketch a masterpiece" etc...

- Homework: find 5 artists who explore a spatial component in their work.
- Classroom needed for the morning session.
- Materials: Sketchbooks (students' own), video projector, computer

DAY 4

- 9:00 Meetup with cafe/art book class at Le Rostand, iconic Parisian café. Create a map based on your experience at the cafe, thinking about all the senses.
- 1:00 Cafe reflections
- 2:00 Gif 101. How to clean up images in Photoshop, making a gif etc. (see handout)
- Homework: 20 minute daily practise
- Classroom and computer lab needed for afternoon
- Materials: Sketchbooks (students' own)

DAY 5

- 9:00 Presentation by guest speaker about storytelling.
- 10:00 marché saint-quentin field trip. "Buy 1 thing you'd like to eat" for the still life.
- 11:00 Still life watercolor workshop outside in PCA garden. Watercolor tips. 20-minute sketch and 1 hour watercolor.
- 1:00 Illustration 101. Why illustration? 10-minute clip from Abstract episode "Christophe Neimann". Talk about working with the New Yorker. Presentation of exercise. Give out prompts for illustration assignment.

Each student is assigned a challenge:

- Create a surface pattern for Mothers Day for a famed French pastry shop
- Illustrate the cover for the book "Bonjour Paris: Love, Loss & Croissants", how a women quit her high-powered job to move to Paris and start a French bakery
- Editorial illustration for The New York Times representing the "Frexit"
- Postcard for a famous French perfume brand's new scent "orange blossom, jasmine and vanilla"
- Draw a map of the Marais for a travel magazine
- Create a wine label for a rosé called "La Parisienne" for an American audience
- Parisian do's & don'ts for a travel magazine "Do eat the pigeon" Don't feed the pigeons"
- Illustrate a menu for a farm-to-table restaurant in the 11e arrondissement



2:30 Buttes Chaumont. Group brainstorming and sketch time till 5pm. Aperero

-Homework: Continue work in sketchbook. Finish illustration project.
Materials: fruits and vegetables and other personal objects, drawing boards and stools, construction paper, drawing paper, scissors, glue sticks, aperero stuff.

DAY 6

9:00 Illustration challenge presentations and critiques. Continue working on illustrations.

10:00 Artist talk (documentation, sketchbooks, working as an artist)

11:00 Still life drawing exercises: conte crayon white on black

1:30 Presentation of Pompidou scavenger hunt (see handout). Draw as many things as possible from the sheet. The winner will receive a prize.

2:00 Pompidou Museum.

-Materials: conte crayons, stools, still life objects, paper etc

DAY 7

-Pompidou reflections and presentation of sketches

-“experimental still life” Poses include: draw with opposite hand, drawing relay race (2-minute poses for 15 minutes using Beatles songs), 10 minute India Ink pose.

-Sharing personal comic project (bring comic books for reference). Break everyone into pairs for 1 hour, encouraged to work elsewhere. Assignment: tell other person’s story “a moment where everything changed” through a comic book (using at least 6 frames). Classroom time to finish assignment.

-Homework: finish comic strip

-Classroom needed for the morning session.

-Materials needed: sketchbooks (students’ own)

DAY 8

-Guest speaker

-Presentation of comics

-Wendy McNaughton video about process. Final project presentation. Create a sensory map of a certain place, street or neighborhood in Paris. Students are encouraged to have lunch in neighborhood and spend the rest of the day doing ground work (see handout).

-Materials needed: sketchbooks (students’ own), paper, pens, charcoal and other art supplies



DAY 9

- Full-day to work on final projects. Research, editing development etc.
- Individual one-on-one critiques of course work, evaluation of sketchbooks, discussion about final project.

Materials needed: students' own supplies, classroom, computer lab

DAY 10

- Continue working on final map project. Individual critiques.
 - Students are encouraged to hang and present work in their own way.
- All assignments, in-class work, homework, research and sketchbooks etc, due for final individual critiques. End-of-session apero and cleanup.