

MIDTERM PROJECT FIGURE DRAWING: SELF-PORTRAIT

Due April 3, 2017 at the beginning of class for 10% of Course Grade

DESCRIPTION

For your midterm project in ART130, create a representative self-portrait drawing from life in charcoal on 18" x 24" charcoal paper. This portrait must incorporate at least your head and shoulders, but can show more of your body if you wish. Present yourself from any angle, but be aware that ¾" or frontal views typically have more visual depth. You can, of course, be clothed.

As noted, your self-portrait must be drawn from life rather than from a photograph. Utilize techniques you have learned in class including but not limited to gesture for layout, visual measurement, establishing envelopes, perspective, contour and value blocking. You should also establish a background that complements or enhances the portrait. This can be a realistic rendering of the room or something more subjective or expressive.

Although your self-portrait will be generally realistic in proportion, perspective and value, you are encouraged to add a personal stamp, thus pushing your drawing beyond technical exercise into the realm of art. You might alter pose, expression, environment (see above), lighting (strong, directional light is recommended) or markmaking (hatching, cross hatching, textured marks, blending, etc.). Composition also plays a significant role in establishing mood and meaning.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Your midterm project is an outside assignment that must be completed as homework. We will follow a step-by-step procedure, and it is crucial that you stay on track. Skipping steps negatively impacts your grade. In addition, procrastinating results in an incorrect or rushed drawing.

DUE DATE AND CRITIQUE

The midterm project in ART130 is due at 5:20 p.m. on Monday, April 3, 2017. We will have a brief group critique on that date. Come on time prepared to discuss how you built your drawing: what you feel is successful and what challenged you.

Please be aware that missing critique results in an automatic lowering of your project grade by one letter, and you must still submit your project on time by e-mailing a photograph. No late work is accepted in ART130. If you do not turn in the midterm on time, you will get zero credit, which will significantly hurt your overall course grade, since it accounts for 10%.

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Your midterm project is worth 10% of your course grade. Specific criteria for evaluation include:

- Timely completion of all related steps.
- Use of visual measurement to establish correct perspective and proportions.
- Establishment of a full range of values in order to suggest the three-dimensional forms of the face/body and a convincing sense of light and shadow.
- Use of materials demonstrated by appropriate value build-up, blending and markmaking in charcoal.
- Composition, including the total use of the drawing space (foreground and background, figure and environment).
- Establishment of a personalized sensibility through composition and style.
- Overall quality of the drawing.
- Active, thoughtful participation in critique.