Course Title: **Drawing Inspiration: Developing a Creative Practice** (ART 119 W)
Course Dates: January 9 – February 10 (5 weeks)
Instructor: Trevor Tubelle, MFA

**Summary**
*Drawing Inspiration: Developing a Creative Practice* is an online art course that focuses on bringing creativity into our everyday lives by developing, practicing and examining various basic principles and methods of creativity through the lens of a regular drawing routine.

*Please see course page for full description and additional details. This syllabus is subject to change. Students will receive an updated syllabus on the first day of class.*

**Objectives**
- To bring creativity into ordinary, everyday life
- To develop a regular drawing habit as an outlet for creativity
- To take part in a supportive online community of artists
- To enjoy the challenging and nuanced process of drawing

**Methods**
- Practice & repetition
- Experimentation & play
- Observation (inner & outer)
- Creative Synthesis
- Mutual support & feedback

**Requirements/Grading/Guidelines**
Please make a *commitment* to the work we’re going to do together. Students who want to get the most out of this class should complete all prompts and be active participants in online discussion groups.

**Grading options:**
- Letter Grades: **Not offered**
- No Grade Requested (NGR): Default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of completion can be provided.
- Credit/No Credit* (CR/NC): A passing grade (for "Credit") = at least 70% of expectations accomplished (e.g., prompts completed, active participation in online discussions, solicitation of instructor feedback on two drawings, etc.).

*Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose Credit/No Credit. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.*
Guidelines:

- Do actively participate in online discussions and “live” office hours.
- Do follow the instructions of the teacher and complete all prompts.
- Do follow Stanford’s terms of use and guidelines for etiquette and acceptable online behavior.
- Do not be mean, rude, condescending or disrespectful to anyone in class.
- Students who cannot follow the instructions of the teacher and/or the guidelines of Stanford University might be asked to leave the class.

Structure

Each weekday there will be an email prompt that is intended to inspire students to practice, play and/or experiment with various creative ideas and methods. Most of the prompts will involve drawing, but there will also be ones that involve various activities such as writing, reading, observing, thinking and taking trips to view art (or experience other creative forms). Some of the prompts will include links, images, and/or videos intended to demonstrate or comment on particular drawing methods or ideas. There will also be discussion groups for students who desire frequent support or feedback, and students have the option of submitting up to two drawings during the course for light feedback from the instructor. Additionally, the instructor will hold a “live” online office hour once a week where students have the opportunity to ask questions, share experiences and get support. Attendance in the live sessions is optional, but encouraged.

Materials

Portable Art Kit (PAK):

- A PAK is a small, portable container with supplies and a small sketchbook. The key aspect of the PAK is that it is truly portable—it must fit in a backpack, pocket, or purse. Use it to write down ideas, plan, sketch on the fly, and brainstorm freely without judgment (among other uses). You can complete all your prompts in your PAK, if desired. For your PAK you will need:
  - Sketchbook: Must be 5” x 7” or smaller.
  - Pencils and/or Pens: A small assortment of your choosing.
  - Container: A small and portable box/bag for supplies.

Optional:

- Optional: Portable watercolor kit, various drawing tools (e.g., colored pencils, pastels, charcoal, crayons, collage tools, etc.), larger pad/sketchbook, gloves, good quality paper (140 lb. or heavier watercolor or printmaking paper such as Arches, BFK Rives, etc.), etc.

Where to buy supplies near Stanford:

- Accent Arts (Palo Alto): 392 California Ave. @ Ash St.
- University Art (Redwood City): 2550 El Camino Real @ Center St.
- University Art (SJ): 456 Meridian Ave. @ Saddle Rack St.
- Michael’s (Sunnyvale): 818 W El Camino Real @ S. Pastoria Ave.
- Michael’s (Mountain View): 2415 Charleston Rd @ Independence Ave.
- Michael’s (Cupertino): 20640 Homestead Rd @ Forge Way
- Michael’s (San Mateo): 1750 S Delaware St. near Concar Dr.
- Maido Fine Stationery & Gifts (SJ): 378 Santana Row, St. 1125, @ Olsen Dr.

Please contact the Stanford Continuing Studies office with any questions
365 Lasuen St. Stanford, CA 94305
650-725-2650, continuingstudies@stanford.edu
Where to buy supplies online:
- Dick Blick: http://www.dickblick.com/
- Jet Pens: http://www.jetpens.com/
- Daniel Smith: http://www.danielsmith.com/
- Maida: https://mymaido.com/
- Clever Hands: https://www.etsy.com/shop/cleverhands

**Preliminary Outline**

**Week 1: Establishing a Practice and Jump-starting Creativity**
- Day 1: Setting Up Your PAK & Doodler’s Delight
- Day 2: Carving Out Creative Time & Space
- Day 3: Worst Drawing Ever!
- Day 4: Your Own Definition of Creativity
- Day 5: Your Sources of Inspiration/Heroes/Mentors & Mission: Inspiration

**Week 2: Circumventing Inhibitions and Critical Tendencies**
- Day 6: Eliminate the Blank Page
- Day 7: Creative Dump
- Day 8: Drawing Faster Than Your Brain
- Day 9: Serendipitous Mistakes
- Day 10: Attention Training

**Week 3: Experimenting With Marks**
- Day 11: Your Metaphorical Tool Belt
- Day 12: Pencil Basics
- Day 13: Pen Basics
- Day 14: Flavors of Crosshatching
- Day 15: Balancing Structure & Spontaneity

**Week 4: Observation (Inner and Outer)**
- Day 16: Commute Task
- Day 17: 100 Hands
- Day 18: Mapping Your Lifescape
- Day 19: Sensorial Perceptions
- Day 20: Anti-Self-Portrait

**Week 5: Practice and Innovation**
- Day 21: Anatomy of a Drawing
- Day 22: Chance, Systems & Procedures
- Day 23: Creative Synthesis
- Day 24: Strategies for Getting Un-Stuck
- Day 25: Maintaining a Creative Practice