

- **Course Title:** *Drawing Inspiration: Developing a Creative Practice* (ART 119 W)
- **Course Dates:** June 26-July 28 (5 weeks)
- **Instructor:** Trevor Tubelle, MFA  
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## 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.*

## 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 discussion groups.

## Grading Info:

- 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 75% of expectations accomplished. This would mean at least 19 of the prompts completed and active participation (posting and responding to the posts of others) in at least 19 of the daily discussions threads.
- You can log into your Continuing Studies student account and change your grading status at any point before the final day of class. Grades are not posted in Canvas; you will find them in your Continuing Studies student account two weeks after the end of class.

*\*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 (by posting) 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 drawings, links, images, and/or videos intended to demonstrate or comment on particular drawing methods or ideas. There will also be voluntary discussion groups for students who desire frequent support or feedback. Additionally, the instructor will hold a “live” Zoom 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.

## Zoom Schedule

The weekly “live” Zoom online office hour will be at 1:00 PM PST on Thursdays. Also, we might hold a session on a Wednesday (at 1:00 PM PST) for students who can’t attend on Thursdays.

## 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 around 5” x 7” or smaller.** My preferred brand is Hand Book Journal Co., but this isn’t a cheap brand, so if you’re on a budget any type or brand of sketchbook could work (even a cheap composition book or pad). Basically, get the sketchbook that has the best quality paper (thick, soft, acid free) that you can afford.
  - Pencils and/or Pens: A small assortment of your choosing.
  - Container: A small and portable box/bag for supplies.

### Other Materials:

- Optional: Portable watercolor kit, various drawing tools (e.g., colored pencils, pastels, charcoal, crayons, collage tools, etc.), larger pad/sketchbook, 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): 421 Jacaranda Lane @ Ash St.
- University Art (Redwood City): 2550 El Camino Real @ Center St.
- University Art (San Jose): 456 Meridian Ave. @ Saddle Rack St.
- Flax (San Mateo): 3600 S El Camino Real
- 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 (San Jose): 378 Santana Row, St. 1125, @ Olsen Dr.

**Where to buy supplies online:**

- Dick Blick: <http://www.dickblick.com>
- Jet Pens: <http://www.jetpens.com>
- Daniel Smith: <http://www.danielsmith.com>
- Maido: <https://mymaido.com>
- Clever Hands: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/cleverhands> (For getting a Journal Bandolier)

**Outline**

**Week 1:** *Establishing a Practice and Examining Creativity*

- Day 1: Setting Up Your PAK
- Day 2: Doodler's Delight
- Day 3: Carving Out Creative Time & Space
- Day 4: Your Own Definition of Creativity
- Day 5: Inspiration - Places

**Week 2:** *Circumventing Inhibitions and Critical Tendencies*

- Day 6: Monday Doodle - Ugly
- Day 7: Drawing Faster Than Your Brain
- Day 8: Creative Flow
- Day 9: Attention Training
- Day 10: Inspiration - People

**Week 3:** *Experimenting With Marks*

- Day 11: Monday Doodle - Crosshatching
- Day 12: Sensorial Perceptions
- Day 13: Experimenting with Pencils
- Day 14: Serendipitous Mistakes
- Day 15: Inspiration - Things

**Week 4:** *Observation - Inner and Outer*

- Day 16: Monday Doodle - Feelings
- Day 17: Commute Task
- Day 18: Your Metaphorical Tool Belt
- Day 19: Experimenting with Pens
- Day 20: Inspiration - Works of Art

**Week 5:** *Synthesis and Self-Reliance*

- Day 21: Monday Doodle - Layers
- Day 22: Anatomy of a Drawing
- Day 23: Creative Synthesis
- Day 24: Strategies for Getting Un-Stuck
- Day 25: Maintaining a Creative Practice