

Field Illustration: Drawing on Alaskan Public Lands

ART F395 –F71 (3 credit hours)

June 28– August 6, Monday-Thursday, 6-9pm

Art Department Room 317, Fine Arts Complex

Jamie Smith, Instructor

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Office hours by appointment (907) 474-7530

Catalog Description

Advanced studio course on creating color illustrations based on direct observations and reference sketches made throughout the Interior community. Focus is on interpretation of diverse regional landscapes using representational imagery that depicts spaces and places unique to Alaska, conceptual problem-solving abilities, improvement of technical skills in rendering, and development of a self-expression in a personal style.

Course Description

A studio class for creating illustrations based on direct observations and reference sketches made on local public lands throughout the community. Focus is on conceptual problem-solving abilities, improvement of technical skills in rendering, and development of a self-expression in a personal style.

Emphasis is on interpretation of diverse regional landscapes interspersed with urban elements, focusing on representational imagery that depicts spaces and places unique to the Interior of Alaska. This is a studio class with expectations on producing work in a respectful and supportive atmosphere.

Prerequisite for F395: Completion of Beginning Drawing (ART F105) and Intermediate Drawing (ART F205), or by permission of the instructor.

Objectives

Students learn basic materials used in drawing, how to adapt works from reference sketches to finished pieces, and demonstrate a working understanding of a range of visual techniques with a variety of tools and media. Students also study the work of historical and contemporary creators, and be exposed to a series of guest presenters working in this field. Students utilize basic principles of drawing such as linear and atmospheric perspective to depict space and revised Field Illustration depth on the picture plane, and employ other aesthetic criteria to compose a well-designed drawing.

Students set a professional example by demonstrating a consistent level of output, skill & presentation. Students create a cohesive body of work **in color** with added emphasis placed on experimentation in a variety of techniques and media (ex: watercolor, pastel, colored pencil, digital). They will additionally be required to post completed works online (on either personal website or blog, or through hosted social network site such as Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, Imgur, Picasa, Deviant Art, MySpace or Facebook).

Grading Policy

Weekly critiques will be held in addition to daily review of works in progress and students are expected to provide commentary, insight and guidance on work from others in the class. These will be group critiques with an individual participation component that counts toward final grade. Attendance is mandatory. Any type of absence for a critique is a rare exception and must be worked out well in advance with the instructor. Students not having required work by specified deadlines will suffer a deduction in points due to lateness. Reworks are strongly encouraged. Each class session pieces are late after review/critique/due date = loss of point. Emailing the instructor with works-in-progress for feedback is highly recommended.

Course will be letter graded. Studio art classes may not be audited or graded pass/fail. Evaluations will be made on demonstrated understanding of concepts, quality and quantity of work, and relative improvement.

Students are evaluated on the basis of the following:

60% Portfolio Twelve finished primary pieces total; with twelve accompanying sets of completed preparatory roughs and requisite sketchbook studies.

20% Presentation and Participation Works must be of professional caliber and contributions to classroom discussions are expected.

20% Attendance Attendance is mandatory, and will factor overall for final grade. Due to the compressed nature of summer sessions, there will be a maximum of one excused absence, after that course grades will drop by one letter grade per absence (ex: 2 absences = A to a B; 3 = C; 4 = D; 5 absences = failure). Repeated lateness and/or leaving class early will accumulate in loss of points as well.

I will work with the Office of Disability Services to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

Student protections statement: UAF embraces and grows a culture of respect, diversity, inclusion, and caring. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX). Faculty members are designated as responsible employees which means they are required to report sexual misconduct. Graduate teaching assistants do not share the same reporting obligations. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go to the following site: <https://catalog.uaf.edu/academicsregulations/students-rights-responsibilities/>.

COVID-19 statement: Students should keep up-to-date on the university's policies, practices, and mandates related to COVID-19 by regularly checking this website: <https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/coronavirus/uaf/uafstudents?authuser=0>

Further, students are expected to adhere to the university's policies, practices, and mandates and are subject to disciplinary actions if they do not comply.

Materials List

One large pad (50 sheets) inexpensive drawing paper and/or newsprint, 18x24"
One large pad (25 sheets) of high-quality, heavier stock drawing paper (Strathmore or equivalent), 18x24"

Bristol Board pad (smooth – not vellum), 9x12" or 11x14"

Watercolor paper and/or Mixed Media pad, 9x12" or 11x14"

Sketchbook (drawing paper, wirebound), 5.5x8.5" and/or 8x10" Moleskin

Felt-tip pens (Sharpies – Fine & Ultra-Fine, Flair, Razor Point, etc.)

Assortment of misc. ball-point pens (black ink)

Set of Micron Pens (ranging from thin 01 to thick 08) or PITT/Faber-Castell etc.

India Inks: permanent water-proof (ex: Dr. Ph. Martin's, Winsor & Newton etc.)

Dip-pens: large + crow-quill nibs

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Brushes (#0 or #1 rounds, synthetic blend) *optional Pentel Pocket Brush

Whiteout (ex: Dr. Phil Martin's Bleed Proof White) or opaque white acrylic paint

Derwent Sketching water-soluble pencils (medium or heavy wash)

Drawing pencils and/or graphite sticks pencils, full range of hard > soft lead

Charcoal: compressed (soft/medium/hard) and/or vine + charcoal pencils

Sets of colored pencils + pastels (soft and/or oil)

Sets of watercolor wash pencils (ex: Derwent Inktense, Graphitint, Aquatone etc.)

Color Inks: permanent water-proof

Erasers: kneaded, gum, plastic (Magic Rub, Pink Pearl)

Straight edge (cork-backed 18" or longer)

Drafting/low-tack masking tape

Workable Fixative

Drawing board

Portfolio

Tacklebox or rollup carrier for storing supplies

Studio setup with adequate lighting and good posture

Field Illustration/Drawing on Alaska's Public Lands

2021 Schedule

Week One "Campus"

Mon: intro/overview, safety, principles of Urban Sketching

Tue: Georgeson Botanical Gardens

Wed: Smith Lake + summer trails (West Ridge/North campus)

Thu: Large Animal Research Station

Week Two "City"

Mon: review, lecture, work-in-progress, critique

Tue: Morris Thompson Center + Griffin Park

Wed: Downtown Fairbanks + Golden Heart Plaza

Thu: Fountainhead Wedgewood Wildlife Sanctuary

Week Three "Borough"

Mon: review, lecture, work-in-progress, critique

Tue: Pioneer Park

Wed: Murphy Dome

Thu: Chena Lakes Recreation Area

Week Four "State"

Mon: review, lecture, work-in-progress, critique

Tue: Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge

Wed: Chena River State Recreation Site (Chena Wayside)

Thu: Chena River State Recreation Area (Tors Trail Campground)

Week Five "National"

Mon: review, lecture, work-in-progress, critique

Tue: BLM/White Mountains Nat. Rec. Area (Nome Creek/Steese Highway)

Wed: BLM/White Mountains (Wickersham Dome/Summit Trail/Elliott Highway) +

Thu: NPS/Denali National Park (Parks Highway)

Week Six

Mon - Weds: open studios, guest artists

Thu: final critique/portfolio due

**exhibit*