FIELD SKETCHING
PLSC 167

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Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:
This course will focus on sketching techniques needed to portray landscape subjects. Students will learn a variety of techniques designed to build confidence and document their journey through Brazil.

Requirements & Grading:
Students will have 15 assignments to complete in their sketchbooks (as part of your reflective journal), which will be checked periodically throughout the program. Grades will be assigned based on completion by the due date and execution of assignment instructions (not on artistic skill).

Readings:
Students will be provided with photocopied chapters from several sketching texts. Some readings will be distributed at the December orientation meeting and should be read prior to our arrival in Brazil. Other readings will be distributed as we travel.

Required Supplies:
bound sketch book (a size that you are comfortable with)
#2 pencils
portable pencil sharpener
sketching pens (pilot v7)
kneaded, pink pearl and white erasers
portable pencil case to carry your material
eraser shield
sketching pencils ranging from 4H – 6B
sanding block for pencil pointing
charcoal sticks
graphite sticks
color oil pastels

Recommended Supplies:
camera
colored pencils

Optional Supplies:
watercolors and/or other paints

Two locations where these materials can be found are:

1. Findley's Art Supply on Rt. 273 in Newark (across from the new Lowes)
2. Wilmington Blueprint on 2nd Street in Wilmington (ask Chad for directions)

Class discussion/participation:

Students will be expected to participate in class discussions and critique each others work using constructive criticism. Peer evaluation will count toward the participation grade.

Class Policies:

Lateness: Lateness will not be tolerated. On time arrival is required for all activities, classes, events and departures. Each failure to be present and ready at the appointed time for any activity results in a 1/3 letter grade deduction in one course grade (e.g. for one lateness, a B becomes a B-; for two late appearances, a B becomes a C+). Penalties double with every five minutes of lateness. Note that letter grade penalties in courses are assessed for lateness to ANY activity, including meals or entertainment. Lateness that results in missing an activity (we will leave if we need to make our destination by a certain time) will result in a zero for that activity, reducing the course grade.
Appropriate Behavior:

Appropriate behavior is required at all times. Failure to behave appropriately in any instance has the same penalty as lateness. Examples of inappropriate behavior include talking or being disruptive while others are speaking in a formal setting (e.g., classes, meetings) and disruptive, loud behavior in the hotel. This includes respectful behavior with roommates.

Exercise Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Exercise</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>Seeing and observing project</td>
<td>Jardim Botanico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Describe the landscape</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Copying a drawing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>Sketching exercises</td>
<td>Jardim Botanico</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Observe tone</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Observe changing light</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 10</td>
<td>Abstracting texture</td>
<td>Jardim Botanico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contour drawing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
<td>Drawing plants and gesture</td>
<td>Pantanal Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Picture planes</td>
<td>Amazon Boat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 22</td>
<td>Individual leaf characteristics</td>
<td>Amazon Boat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>Composition: perspective drawing</td>
<td>Brasilia Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 26</td>
<td>Classic landscape composition</td>
<td>Brasilia Hotel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Group Art Critique

It is always difficult to look at someone else’s art work and offer solid critical criticism. However, learning how to do so is a valuable skill that will assist in building your understanding of the design principles and the art form in general. Don’t be afraid to be critical about someone’s work of art in a group critique setting, but understand that your comments may not be well received. Today, you should work on offering your classmates valuable critical feedback and graciously receiving their constructive criticism.

Giving Advice and Opinions

Remember that you are stating an opinion about ‘the art’ and not about the person who created the art. Follow some of the guidelines listed below to make sure that your critique is well received:

☐ Try to start with a positive statement before launching into the negative
☐ Keep your critique short, don’t belabor your point
Don’t be vague. Be as specific as possible so that the artist can relate to what you are saying.
☐ Listen to the artist’s reply and try to understand their work
☐ Don’t engage in a conflict with the artist. If someone does not receive criticism graciously while in a group setting, try to offer advice in private.

Receiving Constructive Criticism

In order to receive constructive criticism, you must remind yourself that the person who is looking at your art work is trying to help you or trying to understand your motives. Here are some tips for receiving constructive criticism.

☐ Welcome feedback.
☐ Listen to the criticism.
☐ Maintain eye contact and open body language as you listen.
☐ Restate the criticism to make sure you understand it.
☐ View the criticism as an attempt to fix a problem, not a personal attack.
☐ Focus on possible solutions to each criticism.