



MANIFEST DRAWING CENTER

MATERIALS LISTS

Observational Drawing I

Instructor: Ryan Kerr

Dates: Tuesdays, 6 -9 PM

September 23 - November 11, 2025

Course Description

Observational Drawing is all about learning to see—really see—and translate that visual experience onto the page with accuracy and clarity. This course introduces traditional, time-tested methods for drawing from life, giving you the tools to capture what's in front of you with confidence. You'll learn how to use sighting and measuring techniques to judge proportion and placement, how to apply one- and two-point perspective to create believable space, and how to draw more precisely by observing shape, angle, and alignment. Each class builds on the last, guiding you through a series of structured exercises that train both the hand and the eye. You'll work from simple still life setups, interior spaces, and other real-world subjects, gradually building up the visual logic and spatial awareness that form the backbone of strong drawing. This course is ideal for beginners as well as those looking to refresh their fundamentals. Whether your goal is to move into figure drawing, painting, design, or just gain more control over your drawings, Observational Drawing offers a solid and reliable foundation—one that emphasizes careful seeing, deliberate mark-making, and a deep respect for the visual world around you.

Materials List:

Staedtler/General's/Faber-Castell graphite pencils - 8B, 6B, 4B, 2B, HB, 2H

Kneaded eraser

Retractable eraser: Tombow Mono Zero or Factis retractable eraser

X-Acto Knife with #11 blade or snap-off blade

Pencil sharpener

Mars plastic eraser

Black lithography crayon

2 sheets white drawing paper (18x24"): Strathmore 400 Series Drawing Paper or Canson XL Drawing Paper or Bristol board

Sketchbook: Strathmore 400 Series Field Sketchbook (9x12", 70 pages) or Strathmore Recycled Sketch Pad (14x17", 100 sheets)

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