

ADULT LEARNING OBSERVATIONAL LIFE-DRAWING



Course Outline

AUCKLAND
ART GALLERY
TOI OTAMAKI

COURSE BRIEF

This course will introduce students to observational life drawing, with an emphasis on accuracy and individuality. Using a range of traditional and contemporary techniques and materials such as graphite and charcoal, students will study and draw professional life models in a range of poses to develop their knowledge of anatomy, proportion and most importantly, how to draw the human form.

All technical drawing skills, such as human anatomy and proportion, will be taught alongside life models.

One-on-one feedback will be given to students during each session to help them develop their drawing skills and create their own personalised approach to life drawing.

COURSE OUTLINE

Sessions 1–3 **Mon 2, 9, 16 October**

Students will meet the tutor and be introduced to life drawing. We will discuss the different skills we will be developing: how to accurately draw from life and the importance of observational drawing in creating our own individual style.

Working with a life model, students will learn the basics of life drawing, including human anatomy and proportion. We will learn techniques and approaches from Old Master paintings and contemporary artists and ways we can apply these techniques to our own work. We will explore ways to use materials to their full potential.

Sessions 4–6 **Mon 30 October (No class on Labour Day 23rd October), Mon 6 & 13 November**

Students will learn how to approach different timed poses ranging from 30 seconds to 30 minutes. We will reinforce and test our knowledge of anatomy and proportion and explore what our own individual styles might look like.

Students will be introduced to shading, perspective and foreshortening. We will explore poses that challenge our knowledge and instinct of anatomy and proportion.

Sessions 7–10 **Mon 20, 27 November, 4 & 11 December**

In the final weeks, students will work on a range of poses with an emphasis on developing knowledge of shading and how to define musculature through shadow and light. We will also reinforce how we can employ different approaches and styles of drawing to maximise the potential of each pose and its duration.

At the end of the course, students will have a solid understanding of anatomy and proportion and will feel confident drawing a range of poses. They will have developed a personal life-drawing style, and there will be discussion about how they can keep practising after the end of the course.

***Please note that some activities may take place at different times during the course due to staff availability and class requirements**