

Art 031a, Beginning Drawing, Sec #84356  
Mon/Wed. 2:10.p.m. – 5:20 p.m.  
ARTLAB 9  
{Plus 1 hour to be arranged/week  
See handout for hours/loc./on-line activities}

Instructor: Jason Challas  
jason\_challas@westvalley.edu  
Office: Art31; Phone: (408) 741-2542  
Office Hours: M/W 12:30 – 1:45 p.m.  
Thursday 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

### Course Description

Acceptable for credit: University of California, California State University.

Beginning drawing course for students with no former drawing experience. Drawing natural and man-made forms from observation directed toward realistic rendering of objects; introduction to pictorial composition and perspective; introduction to drawing media: pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, pastels and chalk. Studio practice emphasizes basic shading principles, techniques and development of “line” qualities of graphic presentation. Skills will be taught which enable students to develop an aesthetic vocabulary leading to independent critical judgment. Credit/No Credit Option

### Student Responsibilities

The student is responsible for all of the material presented in class, which should be demonstrated in the work produced and the critiques of the assignments. All assignments to be CRITIQUED must be submitted on the due date for critique.

A final portfolio will be submitted at the end of the semester for review. It will be cumulative, so KEEP ALL OF YOUR WORK. Keep a sketchbook/notebook\* for your in-class warm-ups, homework, ideas and class discussion notes and make it available during class time. Keep it organized and **keep separate sections for the homework and warmups.**

**Regular attendance** is crucial to develop proficiency and ensure the dissemination of information. You are expected to be set up and ready to draw by 2:10, and stay in class the full time, as this is a “laboratory”/studio class. If you should miss an assignment or demonstration, it is your responsibility to obtain that information from a classmate. E-mail or phone me if you have an excused absence (medical, etc.).

Student Attendance Policy (from the WVC Catalog, p. 182)

Students are expected to attend all sessions of each class. Instructors may drop students from the class if they fail to attend the first class meeting, or when accumulated unexcused hours of absences exceed ten percent of the total number of hours the class meets during the semester (9.8 hours in our case). Moreover, an instructor may drop from the class any student who fails to attend at least one class session during the first three weeks of instruction.

Participation in class discussions and critiques is essential and will be noted in your grade.

Set the goal to do the absolute best work you can. Not everyone will finish the class doing “A” work, but the goal is to improve your skill level by the end of the course.

Clean up your work area at the end of class. Please be courteous to the next person who will sit down in this classroom.

Students are required to spend at least 1 independent lab hours/homework time each week, out of class. Activities may be on-line via the Angel Learning system available from westvalley.edu. Faculty will be available by arrangement if you need assistance. There is an open art lab on Friday afternoons in Art 38.

### Assignments

Daily “warm-ups” and in-class drawings to demonstrate and teach particular techniques. Longer studies of 1 hour to several days and other major projects will be handed in periodically and graded and returned so that you can monitor your progress. There will be several ongoing homework projects which will have a finite due date.

### Grading

Assignments will be evaluated based upon technical proficiency, implementation, and aesthetic achievement.

**Quantity** will be required; **quality** (craftsmanship) and **effort** will be expected. It is expected that drawings be completed ON THE DAY they are assigned, as most of the drawings will be done in-class from set-ups.

Participation & in-class warm-ups	10 %
Sketchbook Homework & Supplemental exercises	10 %
First “midterm” portfolio	30 %
Second “midterm” portfolio	30 %
Final project and (cumulative!) review	20 %

### Final Exam

Our scheduled final exam time (Wed, May 26, 2–4:00 p.m.) will be a final critique and return of portfolios.

Final portfolios (may include *all* work except the final project) will be due Wed., May 12<sup>th</sup>. So, KEEP EVERYTHING! They will be returned at our scheduled final exam time when there will also be a small pot-luck.

## Drop/Withdrawal Policy

If you wish to drop the class, you must initiate the drop process at the admissions and records office within the first four weeks. After that one a “W” grade will be recorded. Excessive absences will result in an instructor initiated drop.

## Reading:

Handouts will be distributed periodically. They will also be made available on <http://instruct.westvalley.edu/challas>

Materials Listed below are available as a “KIT” at the WVC college bookstore. Ask for CHALLAS, kit ART9

## REQUIRED Materials List

**Immediately:** Pencil #2B SOFT or Ebony “General”  
Design pencil Charcoal Pencil (soft - B or softer) Pencil  
Sharpener  
Eraser, **kneaded** (gray “design” brand is best)

### **Every day bring to class:**

Drawing board  
Sketchbook  
Pads (*always* newsprint; drawing paper later)  
Current media (charcoal, pencils, erasers, etc.) and whatever else noted on that day on class schedule.

Black **Compressed** Charcoal: (AlphaColor “CharKole” or NuPastel or Generals– not graphite) *3 pack or 12 pack.*  
20” x 23” drawing board with clips (masonite or wood)  
18” x 24” newsprint pad – at least (2) 50 sheet pads (we’ll go through about 100 sheets probably).  
~9” x 12” sketchbook or pad of some sort (must be somehow bound) for in-class exercises and homework

## Later:

### **By Week 4:**

AlphaColor, Generals or NuPastel White Pastel (*not* Conte crayon!) ~\$2.00 /3 sticks  
18” x 24” drawing pad, Strathmore 400 or similar (~24 sheets) or white “Sketch” drawing paper  
Fixative spray (recommended)  
A piece of cardboard for use as a sighting frame at least 12” x 9”

### **By Week 6:**

18” (or longer) ruler with a good straight-edge  
Two pieces of cardboard (~1”–2” x 9” long or so) and one paper fastener to make an angle finder  
(Inexpensive) Portfolio – red rope or black cardboard (at least 16” x 20” *but not larger than 22” x 26”!*)

### **By Week 13:**

CHEAP set of colored oil OR chalk pastels (9-12 quantity)  
Optional: India Ink – NON-waterproof BLACK (Sanford “higgins”)  
Cheap ink brush (round – at least 1/4” in diameter, at least a #6 round)  
Scissors, glue, old magazines to cut up  
Other materials may be assigned later.

**Lockers** are provided outside of Art lab 9. You must supply your own combination lock.  
The lock must be removed **PROMPTLY** after the end of the semester or it will be cut.

## Resources:

WVC Bookstore – everything you need for the class is in the art supply section, to the left front as you enter.  
University Art, San Jose – 456 Meridian Ave (between Park St. and 280), 947-1444  
Aaron Bros. Art – 1730 Bascom Av. Campbell, 879-3800; (other various locations), or Michael’s crafts, etc.

## Plagiarism Policy

While good artists observe the world around them and often “borrow” ideas from existing designs, there is a distinct difference between borrowing and stealing! (Like the difference between paraphrasing and quotation.) Direct plagiarism will not be tolerated.

## Important Phone Numbers

Emergency: 911      College district police: 741-2092      Health services: 741-2027  
WVC makes reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. College materials may be made available in alternate formats if requested (Braille, audio, electronic or large print). For assistance, please contact the Disability and Educational Support Program at 741-2010 or 741-2658 (TTY).

*The instructor may make changes to the syllabus during the semester. It is the student’s responsibility to stay informed of these changes. Students may contact the instructor during office hours and before/after class, time permitting. Students may also wish to have a study partner whom they can contact if they miss class.*