Drawing and Painting Syllabus

Course Description:

This course is an exploration of two-dimensional media and design. Students will discover the aesthetic qualities that make drawing and painting interesting, create their own works with various drawing and painting materials, and learn to critique their own work and the work of others. The course will also include themes from art history and a look at the ties between art and faith.

The plan for studio work:

- Black and white drawing media (graphite, pencil, charcoal, ink): Approx. 4 weeks, 3-4 projects + studies. Emphasis on observation, use of materials, value, texture
- Color drawing media (conte, oil pastel, chalk pastel): 3-4 weeks, 2-3 projects + studies. Emphasis on color theory, use of materials, expressive use of color
- Acrylic painting: 3-4 weeks, 2 projects. Emphasis on media techniques and process, color schemes, composition, subjects and themes
- Watercolor: 1-2 weeks, 1 project + studies. Emphasis on composition and watercolor painting methods and effects
- Oil painting (end of semester, if time): 1-2 weeks, 1 project. Emphasis on use of material and creative expression

In addition to these units, we will be looking at themes and subjects in art history in relation to drawing and painting as well as reading and talking about faith, aesthetics and other interesting things about the kinds of art you're studying. Specific assignments and due dates will be on the calendar for this course. A sketchbook will be kept throughout the course, and will be due at the end of each week.

A Word About Grades:

Yes, it is possible to be graded on your art, and you will have homework in art. However, you do not have to be a talented artist to do well in this class. Your grade is largely based on things other than talent. Pay attention, follow directions, complete assignments and participate, and you'll do fine. "Bigger" projects will be graded with the art project rubric.

Student Objectives:

Responsible Learning: In art class you will learn facts about various art media, techniques and processes, make connections between art and history/culture, be able to evaluate your own work and others', and practice your skills with a commitment to excellence.

Discerning Thinking: This course will help you connect art processes, products, themes and history with Christian values and ideas, and will stretch your creative thinking skills.

Productive Collaboration: Respect for your own and others' artwork is important in this class, as well as the ability to work with others on group projects and evaluations.

Effective Communication: The visual arts are very important forms of communication, and are often integrated with writing and other communication methods. In this class you will have a chance to practice communication in various forms.

Faithful Caretaking: In art class you will have opportunities to help and encourage your fellow students and practice responsible stewardship by caring for the materials with which you are entrusted.