

**1. TITLE OF COURSE AND NUMBER:** Winter Session Plein Air Drawing in Florida, ARTS 5990

**2. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:** This course is a winter session 6 credit class, which requires travel. Students will travel to Florida during winter session to draw “en plein air” out in the landscape. Students will experience how a landscape artist approaches a new place with unfamiliar flora, pattern, light and color. They will tackle that challenge of deciphering a new environment through use of value, gesture, and perspective. Working representationally or abstractly, students will make a multitude of drawings, beginning with working in black and white, before moving to color. Students are expected to experiment with methods and materials in order to find the best venue for their personal expression of atmosphere and place. Students will keep a journal in which they record, on a daily basis, the descriptive details of the landscape they are discovering. Required reading is journal entries by Georgia O’Keefe, Pissaro and letters by Van Gogh. A research paper will be written on landscape journal writing. The expectation is for students to exhibit their works created during this 6 week course, in a group show curated by Professor Prince. This course will run through winter session and end Feb 15th.

**3. COURSE PREREQUISITE:** None

**4. COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The student will learn to:

- a. explore a new environment through drawing
- b. develop an individual process for self-expression
- c. decipher atmosphere and place through visual language

d. create a new personal visual vocabulary

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e. develop problem- solving skills

f. think critically

g. engage in critique discourse

h. develop an awareness of contemporary plein air drawing issues

i. create a body of work consistent in exploratory landscape practice

j. discover use of materials appropriate to their concerns

k. write descriptively about the landscape they are discovering

l. research landscape journal writing

m. exhibit their work created during course, curated by professor

**5. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

The student will learn to:

a. develop a visual vocabulary and technical skill

b. explore the limitless possibilities of the definition of drawing landscape

c. develop awareness of contemporary and master practices and artists

d. practice critical thinking and articulation

e. produce a consistent body of work based on exploration

f. experiment with materials

g. create quick small -scale studies

h. progress to a series of more detailed works

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i. write about the descriptive details of landscape space

j. research master artists' landscape journal writings

k. exhibit works in group show curated by professor that were created during winter session course

**6. TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE CONTENT:**

a. experience drawing outside creating plein air works

b. discovery and development of illusionistic landscape space techniques such as size change, value range, overlapping and perspective

c. application of technical skills

d. creation of quick, small-scale studies

e. progression to a series of more detailed drawings

f. experimentation with materials

g. expression of mood through varied light, time of day, weather

h. research of master landscape artists and issues

i. development of writing skills pertaining to landscape description

j. research paper on plein air journal writing

l. exhibition of works created during course

**7. SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHING METHODS AND STUDENT LEARNING ACTIVITIES:**

- a. approximately 5 hours a day of drawing outside
- b. discussions and critiques
- c. evaluation of artwork
- d. researching landscape artists' websites for works pertinent to the plein air process, suggestions made during class.
- e. production of studies then more developed works from those
- f. research on landscape journal entries of their own and master artists
- g. prepare works newly created for group exhibition

**8. GUIDELINES/SUGGESTIONS FOR METHODS OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT:**

- a. quality and quantity of work
- b. mature approach and commitment to development of work
- c. motivated participation
- d. willingness to take risks with ideas and methods
- e. contribution to and participation in critiques
- f. ability to complete a series of works
- g. successful completion of research paper on landscape writing

h. exhibition of student works created during course

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**9. SUGGESTED READINGS, TEXTS, OBJECTS OF STUDY:**

- a. Online viewing of landscape artists' works by suggestion
- b. *Dear Theo: The Autobiography of Vincent van Gogh*; Irving Stone, editor
- c. *Georgia O'Keeffe: Art and Letters*, Jack Cowart and Juan Hamilton, editor
- d. Camille Pissaro, *Letters to His Son Luciene*.

**10. BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

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Trenton, Patricia, editor. *Independent Spirits: Women Painters of the American West, 1890–1945* (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1995).

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Whitfield, Sara. *Bonnard* (New York: Abrams, 1998).

**11. PREPARER'S NAME AND DATE:** Lily Prince, Spring 2015

**12. REVISER'S NAME AND DATE:** Lily Prince, Spring 2015