

DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT
PRINTMAKING 1
INSTUCTOR: BILL HARRIS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Printmaking 1 is a required course for all students in the visual arts department as part of the third year curriculum. This course provides the student with an introduction to the art of the traditional “hand pulled” printed image from plate to paper. Through this class the student will learn to produce multiple (identical) images from a single unique plate. Students will become familiar with four major printmaking methods of image development as well as proper use of the printing press. In addition, each student is required to produce a portfolio of a limited number of editioned print samples demonstrating a mastery of each of the four methods..

COURSE OUTLINE:

Each student will begin the course by participating in general “studio maintenance” tasks that are designed to teach them a bit about how the equipment, materials, and tools must be cared for throughout the school year. After “studio maintenance” is completed, the student is given two “plates” (plexiglas and metal) to begin work in the method of monotype (one of a kind) image development in watercolor transfer. Through this method, the student will become familiar with the operation of the printing press as well as the unique qualities of moistened 100 % cotton-rag paper. Oil-based monotypes are next in the progression in which the student begins to employ the subtractive method of image development in order to create the element of value in their work. Next comes the introduction of the linocut method of printmaking and the concept of the multiple prints being produced from a single plate. “Monoprinting (unique prints from a pre-existing matrix) is also introduced during this period. The student is then introduced to the “intaglio” method of image development followed by the concept/method of “embossment” which explores the idea of the sculptural aspects of printmaking.

CONTENT STANDARDS

Six DCPS visual art content standards make up the core skills, concepts, and knowledge for the Printmaking I course:

1. Techniques, Processes, and Media
2. Structures and Functions
3. History and Cultures
4. Reflecting and Assessing
5. Making Connections

ARTISTIC (SKILL DEVELOPMENT) OBJECTIVES:

1. To understand the four basic methods of printmaking and (plate) development
2. To sharpen the skills necessary for image development in printmaking.
3. To understand the use of the (subtractive) method of drawing and image development in (monotypes) to bring about halftones.
4. To refine the use of two-dimensional drawing and painting skills in image development for watercolor transfer (monotypes)
5. To sharpen the skills involved with the tools associated with the four different methods of printmaking
6. To be able to discern the relative quality of various kinds of prints (aesthetics)
7. To be able to produce prints in editions (limited number of identical copies of the same image) as well as be able to maintain a portfolio of different print samples.
8. To be able to utilize the concept of “registration” when plates are run through the press multiple times to create an image.
9. To be able to create prints utilizing more than one printmaking method as well as being able to employ (mixed media) techniques.
10. To become familiar with the use of the printing press in the development of prints

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Regular and prompt attendance, participation in (all) classroom assignments activities/projects. Completion of homework, attendance of class and/or department enrichment activities as well as participation in the departmental portfolio review process. Regular incremental improvement in skill development as noted through the maintenance of a classroom portfolio. (The previously mentioned requirements shall account for 75% of the student’s evaluated grade. Tests and quizzes/classroom critiques shall account for 25% of the student’s evaluated grade)

SUPPLY LIST (SUGGESTED)

- 3 Sharpies (black)
- 1 apron or (old) shirt or smock to be left in classroom/studio
- 1 (12 color) set of watercolors
- 4 regular #2 pencils
- 1 bar of soap and (old) wash cloth – to be left in classroom/studio
- 1 small container of hand lotion