



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: I'm a beginner and have no art talent, can I really learn how to draw?

Yes, these courses are designed for anyone whether you can draw or not. If you can hold a pencil, you can learn to draw. Some of the advanced students may progress quickly through the course, however, we recommend that all students stay with it in its entirety to use the drawing exercises utilizing Bargue plates in the program as designed to get the most benefit out of it.

Q: How long does the course last?

A: The Traditional Drawing Course is designed to last from 9 months to 1 year. You will progress at your own pace depending on the time and effort you put into it. However, you can stop at any time. The classes are paid monthly.

Q: Why is the Traditional Drawing course recommended to take as the first-class option?

A: A lot depends on how advanced the student is as well as other factors. Although taking this course first is not required, it will help you be successful if you pursue other courses such as Painting, Digital Art, Anatomy, etc. The fundamental to all these courses is that you can draw well.

Q: Will I receive Certification or a degree for taking these courses?

A: No, we do not offer certification. We do provide you with a Completion Certificate if you stick to the Drawing Course to complete the final drawing, Homer. This is not a college or university/accredited school; this is not a private school registered with the United States DoE; this is a professional mentorship program only.

Q: Will copying Bargue plates hurt my creative personal style?

A: At Ode 2 Art Academy we strive to get the students to first, learn to see and understand certain basic artistic concepts. We have learned from past masters that drawing in sight-size is an efficient approach to training one's eye to see correctly. Later, a student can move towards

creatively expressing their internal vision. Many abstract artists have benefited from the course since understanding tonal values and proportions is important in any art.

Q: Can you guarantee that I will be an artist by the time I finish the course?

A: No institution, whether accredited or not can promise you this. The only thing we are sure of is that you will walk away from the course with a better understanding of how this method works, and how it can help you. It will take time and practice to apply what you learn. By teaching the student through critiques of their work, we are very sure you will be equipped to go forward and be more aware of the world around you. This will be expressed and evident in your artwork. Not everyone will realize this, but it is our hope, that in the process of these drawing exercises, it will spark your creative self and you will enjoy drawing much more.

Q: How do the classes work utilizing Zoom?

A: By accessing our classes via Zoom, you will have face to face instruction, personal critiques of your assignment, and will receive immediate answers to your questions. You can connect from anywhere to your class if you have the internet to access Zoom. In a Zoom lesson you are free to ask questions and will benefit from this proven technique. This method will save you time, gas, and costs associated with attending other schools. Try to use a good connection to the internet to prevent being dropped by Zoom.

Q: How do I submit my homework for critique?

A: Before your class, email your completed or near completed assignment to your instructor. See the "How to Photograph Your Assignment" document provided to you at the beginning of your classes, to ensure the instructor can see your image without distortion. You take a picture of your drawing side by side to the original so that the instructor can compare your copy to it.

Q: How are the assignments critiqued?

A: The Ode 2 Art Academy instructor will evaluate your assignment utilizing a digital art program. The instructor shares their screen and highlights areas that could be improved and provides suggestions to accomplish that. They will 'red-line' your drawing assignment to show what you can work on in your next assignment. They may demonstrate techniques that are important to your grasping concepts in charcoal drawing.

Q: Will I be dropped if I cancel a class?

A: Ode 2 Art Academy instructors will do their best to accommodate a missed class. If they can, they will try to help you access one of their other times available in the month. However, if there are no other times you can mutually agree on, there is no refund. The best thing is to try your best not to miss your scheduled classes. If students chronically miss classes, the instructor will suggest that they cancel their class. There are no refunds for missed classes unless this is agreed up front with your instructor.

Q: I don't have charcoal; can I use graphite pencils?

A: Copying Bargue plates does require using charcoal pencils to achieve the level of dark tones needed to render the drawing correctly. If you struggle with it, you can discuss this with your instructor. They can help by giving you direction to get the best out of the charcoal. If they do agree to allow graphite pencils, please understand that you will never achieve the truest dark values that Bargue plates are known for.

Q: Can I get a refund if I don't like the classes?

A: Ode 2 Art Academy will do everything possible to make the classes work for you. There are times that classes are not what we expect and may prefer to cancel. We recommend sticking with it for 1-2 months to give it a good try. You can cancel your classes at any time, but you will not be refunded for the month you cancelled unless you hadn't taken any classes in that month. Each student progresses at their own pace, but with patience and time, you can learn to draw realistically.

Q: Are the images used for assignments the highest resolutions you have?

A: Keep in mind that Bargue plates are copies of copies. We do the best we can to get you an image with the best resolution. Some museums offer the highest resolutions, but you will need to access these on your own if you don't feel the image provided is adequate.

Q: Can I use my own photographic references to draw?

A: No, only assignments utilizing Bargue plates are accepted. Of the nearly 200 total plates, only a portion are used in our course. We have pre-selected the ones we feel will provide you an opportunity to learn the concepts needed to understand tonal value, proportions, and shapes. We do not utilize nudity in our assignments nor will we have any students submit such artwork since some classes have young students.

Q: Can I tour the school and observe instruction and if so, where is it located?

A: No, this is an on-line art school that utilizes Zoom to have face to face interaction with the instructor. We do not have a brick-and-mortar school to visit.

Q: What, if any, financial aid is available?

A: Ode 2 Art Academy does not offer financial aid.

Q: What book will I need to purchase for the class?

A: Ode 2 Art Academy will provide you the images to copy. If you wish to purchase the reference book we use, you can purchase on Ed Salazar's Amazon Store; you can find the link

on his website. The book is called, "*Charles Bargue and Jean-Leon Gerome, Drawing Course*". The only requirements for class are your drawing materials and a Zoom connection.

Q: How long is each class and how many students attend each class?

A: Most of the classes have between 4-5 students and last 30-45 minutes. This allows the instructor time to critique each student and make recommendations or suggestions. The time spent per student varies on the degree of difficulty on the assignment and the questions asked during the critique. If the class is going over, the instructor at their discretion will work with the student separately or reserve it for the next class.

Q: Why are classes every 2 weeks?

A: At Ode 2 Art Academy we want to set you up for success. Many of our students have jobs or have family responsibilities. 2 weeks allows enough time for the student to complete it. We encourage the students to spend time studying the original drawing and about the same amount of time in actual drawing time. By giving your drawing this amount of time, we feel the student will catch their own mistakes by improving in their observational skills.